

PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTATION IN NEWS ABOUT INDONESIA IN BBC WORLD WEBNEWS*)

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ABSTRACT

News is a specific text of media discourse that has attracted special interest. This study gains insight into how linguistic choices shape the representation of information in news stories. Because they involve decision by definition, choices have an impact on the news angles and consequentially on the content and the message conveyed in an article. Specific structures, such as passive sentences, are not only determined by simple stylistic preference, but are also the fruit of linguistic choices. The choice of such constructions in place of factually equivalent or similar ones, gives a sentence a particular direction and indicates a linguistic strategy in the (re)presentation of the facts and the speaker's attitude. A study on an integral aspect of language use such as linguistic choices applied to news stories is of particular interest because of the essential role language plays in media and communication in general. More specifically, the present thesis is situated in the particular context of foreign news reporting, which involves also editorial choices. The main theoretical framework of this study lies on systemic functional linguistics, from which the concept of linguistic choices originates, and discourse analysis, in its particular application to news texts. This study investigates linguistic choices through the systemic functional linguistic analysis of News about Indonesia in BBC International webnews. The selected web news consists in set BBC world news. The news contains an Indonesia News. The general purpose is to observe how Indonesian was portrayed in the BBC International Website or it can be said how Indonesian is portrayed by the world

Keywords: *Critical discourse analysis, systemic functional linguistics, participant*

1. INTRODUCTION

Online News is a specific text of media discourse that has attracted special interest. Web news Media has grown rapidly and spreading information around the world, getting everyone in the world to be able to update everything that happens and engage them in discussions about all kinds of world issues in real time. The function of web news is to provide information to the readers or audiences, about the events of the day that are considered feasible to be reported or important. An event of news can be presented in a number of perspectives, it is called angles, which clarify the purpose of the story and focus on a particular aspect.

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) is a system of meaning, which makes it a relevant grammatical model for this research since the „grammar“ of the language which the writer/speaker selects within this system is not in a vacuum but in the context of speech situations. Also Systemic Functional Linguistics perceives language as a social activity. SFL regards languages as constituting ‘social semiotic’ systems or ‘meaning potentials’ that have evolved to enable human beings to exchange three fundamental types of meaning: ideational meaning (the representation and identification of people,

things and events); interpersonal meaning (the expression social roles and attitudes); and textual meaning (the coordination of texts both internally and with respect to their contexts of production and reception). In SFL theory, language is viewed as being divided into a three hierarchically interrelated dimensions. Firstly, there is the expression, which is the material surface of language, either as speech or writing. This is the physical 'realization' of the second, that of the lexicogrammar, which corresponds to the conceptual level of the simple sentence or clause. The lexicogrammatical itself is the realization of the third dimension, that of the discourse semantics, which corresponds to the patterning of larger-scale textual structures above the level of the clause. These three dimensions in turn are related to three hierarchically arranged the context: the context of situation (the immediate situation in which a particular text is produced or consumed); the context of culture (the wider institutional and societal context of the text); and ideology. (Haig)

BBC International website is presented in English as a site that focuses on providing international news as well as about Indonesian news from a world perspective. A preliminary observation of the BBC website showed there are some news relate to Indonesia issues. The rubrics of the site were politics, economy, science and technology, miscellaneous, sport, weather and special files. And usually the political topics received most of the attention and updating. Here I am interested to know the representation of participants in the stories published by the BBC website on its English website, with the general purpose to observe how Indonesian was portrayed in the BBC International Website, or it can be said how is Indonesian portrayed by the world. Perspective in producing news is the ideology of the news, ideology has always functioned as an 'invisible hand' and the fact there are factors which influence on text, not only of a linguistic nature, but also representing the transmission of ideology between different nations and countries (Yan 2007:63).

The research question will be derive from the view of a connection between news and linguistics and how a linguistic analysis can help explain and clarify perspective (ideology) of a news text, the numerous linguistic devices used in news texts, the linguistic choices made to create a text appeared to be a significant angle. What focus of information do the linguistic choices in the selected text reveal?

2. METODOLOGI

This research is based mainly on qualitative analysis, the data collected depends on news Articles as discourse text to be analysed. This part will be divided in three parts: The first part is data collecting, it will describe the chosen news website, the second part explains the coding of selection criteria of the chosen articles, and the third part presents the methods used in the analysis.

In the context of this study, the process of gathering relevant information and data involved library research. The primary data for analysis consists of news articles/texts which taken from BBC International, the article/texts belong to the period in January 2017 to December 2017. the news articles posted on the BBC International website in English. The selected texts vary in length and number of sentences. Each of the texts will be studied for identification of extracts that project representation of participants in the texts. The preliminary data were gathered from the website as follows:

data	Number of texts
BBC International	51 articles/ texts

The methods will be employed in the analysis to look at the representational choices made in the articles draw mostly from Halliday's systemic functional linguistics. Each articles will be classified and assigned a letter that indicates the date (day and month. The articles were thus selected from the online platforms of news Website in consideration of their significance in the timeframe of the events and covered the events that occurred within the month immediately. News articles related to the Indonesian issue were collected, printed out and coded.

A selected number of articles/texts will be taken as examples for an in-depth analysis. For this purpose, I will take a limited number of articles that deal with different types of topics from the corpus of articles collected. I will select identical articles both in English and Indonesian version articles that treat the same event of news, posted on the same day and contain similar information. I will also divided the analysis into three parts: a word level, a grammatical level, and the interpersonal dimension in the texts. The result of the analyzing is presented informally (Sudaryanto 1992:63) grouped on the basis of ideational, interpersonal and textual dimension of the texts in which the ideology are examined.

3. DISCUSSION

The text '**Indonesia's Orang Rimba: Forced to renounce their faith**, posted in BBC world on 17 November 2017 is about 2234 words in total (including the headline). Written by Rebecca Henschke, the articles is about the the conversion of orang rimba to Islam. The article argues that conversion is because of the force of the circumstances in Administrative area of Indonesia. They usually get administrative discrimination because of their religion which not officially Indonesian religions. The article ends with the hope of village leader for better life for their children. This article headline and the rest of the story shown the corelative information

Word choice

The table below shows the results of the analysis on word level for the frequencies of central referent chains in the *text*. The totals refer to the overall number of elements and the total percentage (which therefore amounts to 100).

Table 1 – Central Referent Chains

Participants	N.	%
<i>Orang Rimba</i>	59	64,1
Officials	21	23
Others	7	7,6
Religious men	5	5,4
	92	100

From the table above it can be noticed that the selected stories from BBC use more *Orang Rimba* as the sources. The percentages show what the news focus on the angle of *orang rimba*. The majority of participants present in news stories are *Orang Rimba*, at 64,1%, followed by Official sources at 22,8%, followed by religious men with percentage of 5,4% and others 7,7%. The fact that the uses of *Orang Rimba* are dominant, it means that BBC emphasizes on *Orang Rimba* angle. It reveals a certain “stylistic agenda” and reflects the type of main audience. The participants most referenced in the selected *text* are:

- *Orang Rimba*: *Orang Rimba* people of the jungle – many – group of children – Celitai tribe of *Orang Rimba* – Kubu – His tribe – Indigenous Peoples – endangered indigenous tribes – Miyak – Kubu’s Child - Sigungang's family – Ngantap .
- Officials : Village Leader – Muhamad Yusuf – Country – Police officer – Local Government – Officials – officer Budi Jayapura – Ministry of Forestry -- social affairs minister Khofifah Parawansa – Government – President Joko Widodo.
- Others : Butet Manuru ng – Landowners – Rukka Sombolinggi association leader
- Religious men: Islamic defender – *Ustad* Reyhan.

Table 2 – Central word Chains

words	N.	%
forest	29	54,7
islam	11	20,8
Convert	9	17
force	4	7,5
	53	100

These are further stressed words by the frequency; forest is the most dominant words chain in the text at 54, 7% and followed by Islam at 20,8% and the word convert at 17% and the last rank is force at 7,5%. The fact that the uses of forest are dominant related to Orang Rimba where forest is home of Orang Rimba and Islam is the second dominant word in the text, show that Orang Rimba convert their belief to Islam

As it is evident from the chains, the “*Orang Rimba*” participants have various names in the text. They are repeated a lot throughout the text, and used in different combinations. The articles seem to almost underline the fact that they are endangered indigenous tribes, it can be seen from the word choice the most used are Orang Rimba and Forest the home of orang Rimba, those words represent in the text repeatedly, thereby suggesting attention to the readers. Moreover, the fact that the text stresses the force and convert to Islam can also be interpreted as a way to separate them clearly

Table 3 – Social Participants

Pronouns	<i>Orang Rimba</i>	32
	Officials	1
	Others	0
	Religious men	2
Nouns	<i>Orang Rimba</i>	21
	Officials	14
	Others	1
	Religious men	1
name	<i>Orang Rimba</i>	6
	Officials	6
	Others	6
	Religious men	2
Sum		92

In this category, the highest frequency of pronouns in the text is 32 occurrences; more pronouns are used to refer to Orang Rimba, it leads to the conclusion that the main focus of information from the referential point of view is Orang Rimba. Results from the analysis on processes show that the most frequent types are Verbal processes. The focus or lack of focus on agents was also clear in the results for nominalizations and passive sentences.

Moreover, in the text the pronoun 'we' is pronoun of inclusion/exclusion depends on the identity and/or subjective interpretation of the reader. In the articles analyzed, 'we' is sometimes used in contrast with 'they' and at times 'you' to create a clear opposition between the group that recognizes itself as 'we' and the 'other', represented by the other two pronouns. The oppositions have different levels of intensity. Some are simply representing a statement of the participants' roles in determining the position. Overall, the linguistic choices used in the text reveal a clear focus on the people involved in the event, Orang Rimba in particular.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the participants have active roles in clauses as the Actors and Sayers of Material and Verbal processes. These two process types are the most common, accompanied by Relational, which give a more complete description of the scale of activities reported by the verbs. Indeed, the Phenomenon participant from Mental processes appears the most in the articles, showing a preference for less active participants. These results point to a certain balance between a more descriptive focus and a more personal focus. The two foci are marked by the use of more active Participants in the descriptive instances, whereas their thoughts or feelings are presented in a less direct manner. In other cases, agency is completely concealed in nominalizations and many instances of passive constructions, indicating choices towards the omission of the 'doer' and a more vague effect. Finally, the use of the pronoun 'we' pervades the articles and shows an intricate interplay between strategies of inclusion and exclusion of participants, including the readers. In this sense, the frequent use of 'we' points to a similar strategy employed in the articles in order to connect with the readers

note

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