



METAFUNCTION ANALYSIS IN NEWS ITEM: A SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTIC STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This research is aimed at identifying the generic structure in the news item and lexico grammatical drawn in the news item. The analysis is intended to reveal meaning contained in the text by employing systemic functional linguistics approach. This study was conducted by qualitative descriptive method to analyze and describe the data. The data of this research an article about the governor of Yogyakarta, Sri Sultan HB X who made the decision to appoint his daughter as his successor. This article was taken on 10 May 2015 from <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2015/05/08/sultan-half-brothers-discussuccession.html>. The result of the analysis showed that: the generic structure of news item can be newsworthy event, background event and comment. The lexico grammatical of this genre are mostly used verbal, material and attributive process, mostly used circumstantial of time and place, used past tense and used nominal group (six half brothers, Suryodiningrat and Sri Sultan HB X) as the main subject.

Keywords: *SFL study, Metafunction, Generic Structure, Lexico grammatical, News Item*

I. INTRODUCTION

This study intended to analyze an article about the governor of Yogyakarta, Sri Sultan HB X who made the decision to appoint his daughter as his successor. This article was taken on 10 May 2015 from <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2015/05/08/sultan-half-brothers-discuss-succession.html>. The articles have been selected topics taken enough to attract attention, because in the present situation the discourse about the appointment of Sri Sultan's daughter as his successor were busy discussed. Besides the public spotlight Sri Sultan statement which revealed that he was getting *sabdaraja*. In a word, there is one point in it that discussed renaming the first daughter GKR Pembayun becomes GKR Mangkubumi, as well as lifting GKR Pembayun become Crown Princess the Palace of Yogyakarta. A series of "*sabda Tama*" and the "*sabdaraja*" issued by the Sultan that had caused the pros and cons among the royal family. The reason for this in the history of the kings of Mataram, has never appointed women as leaders.

Therefore, the systemic functional grammar is used as a tool to answer the question of what is the generic structure of that news item? and what are lexico grammatical drawn in the news item?. Regarding this, Derewianka (1946: 3) elaborates that functional approach looks at how language enable us to do things, to share information, to enquire, to express attitude,



to order our experience and make sense of the world. The analysis is intended to reveal meaning contained in the text by employing systemic functional linguistics approach. This paper analyzing based on Halliday's theory (2004) that analyze lexicogrammar into three metafunctions: ideational, interpersonal and textual. Each of the three metafunctions discussed about different aspects found in the world, and focus on a different meaning in each clause.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Systemic Functional Grammar

The systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), first presented by M.A.K Halliday, provides a new perspective to analyze language while offering a new method to see into its meaning based on its function. In Systemic Functional Grammar, language use is considered functional and the function is to make meanings. Meanings are influenced by the social and cultural context in which they are exchanged. While Gerot and Wignell (1994: 6) say that Functional grammar attempts to explain language in actual use and so focus on text and their contexts. Functional grammar concerns not only with structure but also how those structures construct meaning. In functional grammar, clause is the most important unit rather than sentences.

In SFG's perspective, clause is the most important unit rather than sentences. In relation to the importance of clause in the analysis, Bloor and Bloor (2004) point out that clause has a special place in expressing meaning because with clause we can begin to talk about how things exist, how things happen and how people feel in the world around us. Additionally, people usually use language to interact with others at the rank of clause.

In the light of Functional Grammar, three types of meanings are simultaneously constructed within the text itself: (1) ideational meanings, which include experiential and logical meanings; (2) interpersonal meaning; (3) and textual meaning (Halliday, 1985; Eggins, 1994; Gerot and Wignell, 1994). Concerning this, Bloor and Bloor (2014) state that this happens since certain aspects of grammar support ideational metafunction, other aspects realize interpersonal metafunction yet others recognize the textual one. Although there are three types of meaning as pointed out earlier, this paper focuses only in ideational meaning and textual.

B. Ideational Metafunction

The term transitivity is probably familiar as a way of distinguishing between verbs according to whether they have an object or not. According to Thompson (1996: 78) "Transitivity refers to a system for describing the whole clauses, rather than just the verb and its object". Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 170) also say that transitivity system belongs to experiential metafunctions". When it looked at the experiential metafunctions, that mean looked at the grammar of the clause as representation. It is called so because the clause in its experiential functions is a way of representing pattern of experience.



Doing transitivity analysis starts from a classification of the different kinds of processes. It agrees to Gerot and Wignell (1995: 54) that “process is central to transitivity”. Participant and circumstance are incumbent upon process. It indicates different processes suggest different participants in varying circumstances.

C. Interpersonal Metafunction

This metafunction tells how to make an utterance on interactive event inherently involving a speaker or writer and an addressee (listener or reader). This metafunction consists of mood element and residue.

The Subject, when it first appears, may be any nominal group. The Finite element is one of a small number of verbal operators expressing tense (e.g. *is, has*) or modality (e.g. *can, must*). Subject and Finite are closely linked together, and combine to form one constituent which we call the Mood. The Mood is the element that realizes the selection of mood in the clause. It has sometimes been called the ‘Modal’ element; but the difficulty with this is that the term ‘modal’ is ambiguous, since it corresponds both to mood and to modality (Halliday, 2004: 113).

The remainder of the clause called the residue. It has sometimes been labelled ‘Proposition’, but this term is also not very appropriate; partly because, as has been mentioned, the concept of proposition applies only to the exchange of information, not to the exchange of goods-and-services, and partly because, even in the exchange of information, if anything it is the Mood element that embodies the proposition rather than the remainder of the clause (Halliday, 2004: 114).

D. Textual Metafunction

Textual metafunction is what role language is playing in the interaction how the text is organized, what kind of text is being made, what the channel of communication (Gerot & Wignell, 1994 : 14). Textual metafunction is realized by theme-rheme system. According to Halliday, (1985 : 38) theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message; it is which locates and orients the clause within its context. It is meant from Halliday about theme is element which starts in first sentence in the message. There are three types of textual theme like topical, interpersonal and structural theme.

Topical theme is usually but not always the first nominal group in the clause (Gerot & Wignell, 1994 : 104). Interpersonal theme is the elements occurring before the topical theme are also thematic. They may modal adjuncts, vocatives, finite or wh-elements (Gerot & Wignell, 1994 : 107). Textual theme is related to the clause to its context. They are continuatives, conjunctive adjuncts and conjunctions. The line between conjunctions and conjunctive adjuncts is often a fine one. One difference is that conjunctive adjuncts are more free to move in a clause whereas conjunctions are pretty well restricted to being at the beginning. Conjunctions tend to provide textual themes within a clause complex and are called



structural themes. Conjunctive adjuncts, on the other hand, tend to (but don't always) join text outside of clause complexes. They tend to have more of a text-organising function.

E. Genre

The notion genre and grammar are closely linked. Different genre deploy the resources for meaning-making through the grammar in different ways. Genre includes the more general idea of what the interactants are doing through language and how they are organize the language event, typically in recognizable stages, in order to achieve that purpose (Thompson, 2004: 43). There are some kinds of genres taken from Gerot and Wignell (1994):

Genre	Social function	Generic structure	Significant lexicogrammatical feature
Spoof	To retell an event with a humorous twist	Orientation, event(s) and twist	Focus on individual participants, use material processes, circumstances time and place, use past tense
Recount	To retell events for the purpose of informing or entertaining	Orientation, event(s) and re-orientation	Focus on specific participants, use material processes, circumstances time and place, use past tense, focus on temporal sequence
Reports	To describe the way things are with reference to a range of natural, man-made and social phenomena in our environment	General classification, description	Focus on generic participants, use of relational processes, , use simple present tense, no temporal sequences
Analytical exposition	To persuade the reader or listener that something is in the case	Thesis (position, preview), arguments (point, elaboration), reiteration	Focus on generic human and non- human participants, use of relational processes, , use simple present tense, use internal conjunction to stage the argument and reasoning.
News item	To inform readers or listeners or viewer about events of the day which are	Newsworthy event(s), background event(s), sources	Telegraphic information captured in headline, use material processes, use projecting verbal processes and focus on circumstances



	considered newsworthy		
Anecdote	To share with others an account of an unusual or amusing incident	Abstract, orientation, crisis, reaction, coda	Use exclamations, theoretical questions and intensifiers, use material processes, use temporal conjunction
Narrative	To amuse, entertain and to deal with actual or vicarious experience in different ways	Orientation, evaluation, complication, resolution, re-orientation	Focus on specific and usually individualized participants, use material processes, use relational and mental process, use temporal conjunction and temporal circumstance and use past tense.
Procedure	To describe how something is accomplished through sequences of actions or steps.	Goal, material, steps 1-n	Use generalized human agents, use simple present tense, mainly temporal conjunction and material processes
Description	To describe a particular person, place or thing	Identification, description	Focus on specific participants, use attributive and identifying processes, frequent use of epithet and classifier in nominal group, use simple present tense.
Hortatory exposition/ argumentation/ persuasion	To persuade the reader or the listener that something should or should not be the case	Thesis, argument, recommendation	Focus on generic human and non- human participants, use material, mental and relational processes, use simple present tense.
Explanation	To explain the processes involved in the formation or workings of natural or socio-cultural phenomena	General statement, a sequenced explanation	Focus on generic human and non- human participants, use mainly material and relational processes, use simple present tense, use mainly temporal and causal circumstances and conjunction, some use of passive voice to get theme right.
Discussion	To present (at least) two points	Issue (statement, preview),	Focus on generic human and non- human participants, use



	of view about an issue	arguments for and against or statements of differing points of view (point, elaboration), conclusion or recommendation	material, relational, mental processes, use comparative: contrastive and consequential conjunctions, reasoning expressed as verbs and nouns.
Review	To critique an art work or event for a public audience	Orientation, interpretative recount, evaluation, evaluative summation	Focus on particular participant, direct expression or opinion through use of attitudinal lexis, use elaborating and extending clause and group complexes to package the information, use metaphorical language

III. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

I. What is the generic structure of that news item?

The article which is analyzed can be called as news item. As drawn by Gerot & Wignell (1994: 200) the function of news item is to inform readers, listeners or viewers about events of the day which are considered newsworthy or important. It means that the writer wants to tell the reader about the process of naming his daughter and about sabdaraja. The incident was crowded as previously discussed, Sri Sultan held a meeting with community leaders and told that he got sabdaraja so he made the decision to make her as a leader. Therefore the authors try to explain the naming procession and reason.

Firstly, the writer tells the event in summary form. He summarize in the beginning of the text that Sri Sultan made a decision to name the eldest of his five daughters as the crown princess. Then, the writer elaborate what happened to Sri Sultan that he choose her daughter as the crown princess. Because of the unusual decision, the public becomes excited and not a few who deplore the decision. Thus, at the end the writer gave a comment from another participants about his disagreement which said that the governor actually should be a king not a queen.

Text	Generic structure
Yogyakarta Sultan Hamengkubuwono X met with his six younger half brothers from Jakarta on Thursday afternoon to explain his decision to name the eldest of his five daughters as the crown princess on Tuesday.	Newsworthy Event
The six half brothers are the sons of their father, former sultan Hamengkubuwono IX, and wife Kanjeng Raden Ayu Cipto Murti.	Background Event



<p>They are Gusti Bendoro Pangeran Haryo (GBPH) Pakuningrat, GBPH Cakraningrat, GBPH Suryodiningrat, GBPH Suryomentaram, GBPH Hadinegoro and GBPH Suryonegoro. The meeting took place at the Kraton Kilen (West Palace) and lasted about two hours. Suryodiningrat said the meeting was a relaxed and ordinary discussion between brothers. Accompanying the sultan was his eldest daughter Gusti Kanjeng Ratu Pembayun, who has been given the new title of Gusti Kanjeng Ratu Mangkubumi after being named the crown princess. Suryodiningrat, however, declined to reveal the details of the meeting and said they first needed to share them with their other brothers. "I am sorry I cannot tell you more about the meeting," Suryodiningrat told <i>The Jakarta Post</i> after the meeting. He added that the meeting was more like a forum of clarification, in which the sultan explained his actions and the six brothers listened and clarified matters. "We will have a meeting first before we decide on anything," Suryodiningrat said. Tensions intensified between the sultan and his half brothers following his decision to name his eldest daughter his heir. None of his brothers were reportedly present during the naming of the crown princess on Tuesday, which was conducted only five days after he issued a <i>sabdaraja</i> (king's proclamation) that many considered was a move to smooth the way for his daughter to take the reins. This internal palace affair is also a matter of public interest, since Law No. 13/2012 on Yogyakarta's special status stipulates that the ruling sultan is also the governor of the province. To help collect input from the public, the sultan's brothers established a post at Ndalem Yudonegaran to give people the opportunity to convey their aspirations regarding the issue. The post was officially opened at 10:30 a.m. and until late afternoon groups of people were still seen arriving there.</p>	
<p>Activist Beny Susanto of the Yogyakarta NGO Forum, who was among the visitors, said those who highlighted gender in respect of this issue were not being fair. "I'm not talking about the internal regulation at the palace but the Yogyakarta Special Status Law, which implies that the governor is the sultan, not a queen," Beny said.</p>	<p>Comment</p>

II. What are lexico grammatical drawn in the news item?

It can be proved by seen the language features of news item. In news item, the process used are verbal and material, beside that circumstantial of place also used in this genre. From the data, the most dominant process type in this article are verbal process with 16 frequency or 37,2 % and material process with 13 frequency or 30,2 %. It can be seen in the table below :

Process Type	Frequency	Percentage
The Use of Material Process	13	30,2 %
The Use of Behavioral Process	0	0 %



The Use of Mental Process	2	4,6 %
The Use of Verbal Process	16	37,2 %
The Use of Attributive Process	10	23,2 %
The use of Identifying Process	2	4,6 %
The Use of Existential Process	0	0 %
Frequency	43	100 %

Verbal process is used more predominantly used because the author wanted to express what was said by Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X about *sabdaraja*. And the circumstances mostly used is circumstance of place with 9 frequency or 37,5 %. It proved that the writer tend to give the explanation where that event took place. The table below will give information about the circumstantial in this article :

Circumstances	Frequency	Percentage
The Use of Circumstances of Time	8	33,3 %
The Use of Circumstances of Place	9	37,5 %
The Use of Circumstances of Manner	1	4,2 %
The Use of Circumstances of Cause	1	4,2 %
The Use of Circumstances of Quality	0	0
The Use of Circumstances of Behalf	0	0
The Use of Circumstances of Accompaniment	2	8,3 %
The Use of Circumstances of Matter	2	8,3 %
The Use of Circumstances of Role	1	4,2 %
Total	24	100

The tenses mostly used is past tense with 23 frequencies or 70 %. It told that news item happened in the past, and the writer tend to give information about something's happend in Yogyakarta. The main subject of this article are six half brothers, Suryodiningrat and Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X. It can be proven by the title "Sultan, half brother discuss succession". It can be seen at the following table :

Tenses	Frequency	Percentage
Present Tenses	11	33,3 %
Past Tenses	22	66,7 %
TOTAL	33	100 %



Subject	Frequency	Percentage
Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X	5	17,8 %
He (refer to Sri Sultan HB X)	1	3,6 %
Six Half Brothers	2	7,2 %
They (refer to six brothers)	3	10,7 %
We (refer to six brothers)	2	7,2 %
The meeting	2	7,2 %
Suryodiningrat	4	14,2 %
I (refer to Suryodiningrat)	2	7,2 %
He (refer to Suryodiningrat)	1	3,6 %
Gusti Kanjeng Ratu Pembayun	1	3,6 %
Beny Susanto	3	10,7 %
I (refer to Beny Susanto)	1	3,6 %
The governor	1	3,6 %
Total	28	100 %

The subject mostly used is topical theme. It means that the subject used is nominal group and it can be said the generic human. Gerot & Wignell (1994 : 104) elaborated that topical theme is usually but not always the first nominal group in the clause. The following table is the frequency of textual theme :

Type of Themes	Frequency	Percentage
Textual	3	8 %
Interpersonal	1	3 %
Topical	33	89 %
TOTAL	37	100

IV. CONCLUSION

The analysis of data showed that the generic structure of news item can be newsworthy event, background event and comment. Firstly, the writer give a conclusion of the event happened and tell the readers about the whole event in short. Then, the writer give the explanation clearly about the background of the event. At the end, the source information



or adding information is put in that article. The lexico grammatical of this genre are mostly used verbal, material and attributive process, mostly used circumstantial of time and place, used past tense and used nominal group (six half brothers, Suryodiningrat and Sri Sultan HB X) as the main subject.

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