

# **THE LEXICO GRAMMATICAL FEATURES OF THE POLITICAL REGISTER ANALYSIS IN THE EDITORIAL OF THE JAKARTA POST NEWSPAPER**

**Dewi Yana**

(Dosen Tetap Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris FKIP Universitas Riau Kepulauan Batam)

## **Abstract**

The registers are the arrangement of meaning which is characteristic by changes in relation to the condition of use. Thus the researcher is also interest to analyze what are actually the meanings of political register based on the context or situation. There are two types of meaning found in the sentences written in the editorial of The Jakarta Post Newspaper. Those two types of meaning are conceptual meaning and reflective meaning. There were no connotative, stylistic, affective, collocative and thematic types of meaning found in this research.

**Key Words: Register, Politics, and Newspaper**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

English has been widely use by many countries as an International language. Soepomo (2001: 33) says that English has become one of the higher level languages. It can be prove the almost all people in the word know English although not all of them may use it well. English has also been determined as the formal language in science, technology, economy social, and politics.

Usually, people in certain fields have special glossary. The glossary is just understood well by those who stand on the same field. In politic, politician and their colleagues use English to communicate each other in international meeting or in textbook. Of course, the language in politics also uses certain glossary. People who do not belong to the politician or people do not always monitor the political event cannot understand the meanings of the political glossary well.

Hudson (1996: 45) assert that the term register is widely used in sociolinguistics to refer to varieties according to user. Moreover, Hudson explains that the same person may use different linguistics items to express more or less the same meaning on different

occasions and the concept of dialect cannot reasonably be extended to include such variations. Based on Hudson's opinion, we may conclude that the language used to convey that aims by special glossary and by the specific ways in politics, could be considered a register. Suparno (2002: 74) also asserts that in sociolinguistics, the use of the language with the specific topic and the specific modus or way is called register.

Suparno's opinion shows that a register has relation to sociolinguistics. It means that the study of language must also be related to the social context. Hickerson in Chaer (1995: 6) states "sociolinguistics" is a developing subfield of linguistics with takes speech variation as its focus, viewing variation in its social context. Sociolinguistics is concerned with the correlation among such social factors and linguistic variations.

According to Halliday (1978: 31) the types of linguistics or contexts are different from one to another. He asserts that broadly speaking, there are three aspects: first, what is actually taking place; secondly, who is talking part; thirdly, what part of the language is playing.

Thus language variation in X occupation is different from language variation in Z occupation. It means that the use of register involves the members of certain profession in certain occupation. For example, in the doctor's field, there are some terms, such as **diagnose, coma, and infection.**

Then the meaning of register may not be interpreted as we want. It depends on the context or the situation. This statement is relevant to the Halliday opinion (1978: 185) that the registers are the arrangement of meaning which is characteristic by changes in relation to the condition of use. Thus the researcher is also interested to analyze what are actually the meanings of political register based on the context or situation.

While the factors of the embracing of the register are also related to the context; whether the formal context or informal context. And we also need to consider what is actually taking place, who is taking part, and what part of language is playing (Halliday, 1978: 18).

The last but not the least, the effects of register may influence the users (speakers, hearers or writers), because Halliday (1978: 32) says that it can predict the social context. Thus, the researcher considers that it can be used to predict the future of the social context from the political register and its context.

In social activities, people communicate to convey messages. The messages will be received and understood the meaning. The discussion about meaning will be found in the semantic study. Because in relation to the semantic theory, Verhaar (2001: 13) defines

semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies about meaning. Another perception, Leech (2003:1) explains that semantics is also the study about human thought, that is, the thought process, cognition and conceptualization. All of those have relationship to the way of how we classifying and express out the experiences about the real words through the language .

Harlow (1996: 273) divides meaning into connotation and denotation meaning. Fries in Tarigan, (1985: 11) also divides it into linguistic and cultural meaning. Heatherington in Tarigan (1985: 11) also divides it into lexical and lexico structural meaning. Meanwhile Leech (2003: 19), divides seven types of meaning (conceptual meaning< connotative meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning); the researcher wants to discuss the lexemes and the type meaning. This discussion is very interesting and important in order to act as a bridge in the process of communication between the politician and the common society on the interpretation of each political register.

## **2. Underlying Theory**

The term register is widely used in sociolinguistics as a part of language varieties. Hudson (1996: 45) assert that the term register is widely used in sociolinguistics to refer to varieties according to use, in contrast with dialects, defined as varieties according to user. Moreover, Hudson explains that the same meaning on different occasion and the concept of dialect cannot reasonably be extended to include such variations. The explanation above is the reason why distinction is needed.

Maclin (1996: 360) says that special register shows acceptable user of special groups such as those working in engineering, music, medicine, and sports, Maclin adds that words from special register which is not understood by the general public is called jargon.

Register according to Hartmann and Stork (Chedar, 1985: 63) is a variety of language used for specific purpose as apposed to a social or regional dialect which varies by speakers. Register may be more narrowly defined by reference to subject matter ( FIELD OF DISCOURSE, e.g the jargon of fishing, gambling, etc.), to medium (MODE OF DISCOURSE), e.g. formal, casual, intimate, etc.

From those explanations, we may conclude that the registers here describe the language used in specific group and register is parallel to dialect. But register emphasizes on the function while dialect emphasizes on the speakers.

To get clearer understanding, Halliday (1978: 35) differs dialect from register such in the table that follows:

<b>Dialect</b>	<b>Register</b>
A dialect is what you speak (habitually) determined by whom you are (socio-region of origin/or adoption), and expressing diversity of social hierarchy)	A register is: what you are speaking 9at the time) determined by what you are doing (nature or social activity being engaged in), and expressing diversity of social process (social division of labor)
In principles, dialects are: different ways of saying the same things and tend to differ in phonetics, lexico grammar (but not in semantics	In principles, register are a ways of saying different things and tend to differ in semantics (and hence in lexico grammar , and sometimes phonology, as realization of this)
Extreme cases: anti languages, mother-in-law languages	Extreme cases: restricted languages, languages for specific purposes
Typical instances: sub cultural varieties (standard/nonstandard)	Typical instances: occupational Varieties (technical, semi technical)
Principles controlling variables: Social class, caste, provenance (rural/urban); generation; age; sex	Principal controlling variables: field (type of social action); tenor (role relationship); mode (symbolic organization)
Characterized by: strongly-held attitudes toward dialect as symbol of social diversity	Characterized by: major distinction of spoken/written language in action/language in reflection

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The research object in this research is the registers in the editorials of The Jakarta post newspaper. A data source can be in the form of thing, person, and place. Suharsimi (2000: 116) points of generally, the data source can be classified into be three kinds, that is; (1) person (20 paper and (3) place. Thus, the data of this research is in the form of paper namely The Jakarta Post newspaper.

Data collecting technique is a technique to get and collect to get and to collect the data. It can be done by making a dialogue, watching the television, or listening to the radio. It can also be form written media, such as a book, newspaper, magazine, etc. We may apply some technique to collect the data. According to Sudaryanto (1986: 33), there are five techniques to collect the data, that is, (1) recording technique ( the technique to collect the data using recording), (2) nothing technique (the technique to collect the data using note or writing), (3) separating technique (the way to separate the similarities and the differences of the data), (4) transferring technique ( the way to transfer the data to other data), (5) changing technique (the technique the change the data to words needed.

From those techniques the researcher uses the noting techniques by taking a note. The procedures for collecting the data are as follow: (1) The researcher collects the editorials of the Jakarta Post Newspaper in March-May which contains political news or events (2) The researcher selects the words which frequently appear and seem to be register. Then the researcher writes those words in another note book (3) finally, the researches analyzes the data.

#### **4. DISCUSSIONS**

In this research, the researcher finds that there are 64 political register with the frequency of occurring 324 times, and all of them are in the lexeme of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.

The researcher also finds the meaning types based on the seven types of meaning by Leech. The types of meaning which are found in the sentences written in the editorial of the JP are two types meaning. Conceptual meaning is the higher appearance compared with other types of meaning.

The researcher groups the lexemes of words which are appropriate to the political registers and discusses them in this research based on the theoretical frame work. Specially, the researcher discuses the lexemes of political register which are found in the sentences of the editorials of the JP which convey the political issues.

Based on the data in the research findings, there are 4 lexemes of political register, Verbs, nouns, adjectives, and adverb lexemes.

There are 11 lexemes of verb with frequency 28 times (see the table 1). The word “claim” appears frequency at the verb lexeme, its frequency is 1.85%. The verb

lexeme occurs to indicate what politicians or government or political activists do in relation to the political activities.

There are 44 words of noun lexeme found in this research with frequency of occurring 83% (table 2). The noun lexeme functions as the subject or object of a verb lexeme. It may occur in the beginning, in the middle, and in the end of sentences. The word "government" mostly occurs in the editorial The Jakarta Post newspaper, with the frequency 14.5%.

3). It occurs in the adverb forms. It occurs to describe nouns which are relevant to the political events. The words most occurs is "free" mostly occurs with frequency 2.1% of the whole political registers found in the editorials of the JP.

The table four shows that the word "democratically" is just the only word which occurs in the adverb forms. The researcher categories it as a political register for it is a descendant word of "democracy" word which has close relationship to the political language in republic country certainly democratic country.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

The general conclusion is drawn as follows: the data analyzing above, there are four lexemes which are found in the editorial of the Jakarta Post Newspaper March- May 2005. There are 11 words of verb lexeme with the frequency of occurring 28 times or 8.16%, 44 words of noun lexeme with the frequency of occurring 269 times or 83 %, 8 words of adjective lexemes with the frequency of occurring 26 times or 8.2 %., and there is only one word of adverb lexeme with frequency of occurring one time or 0.3% So, there are 64 item 2. There are two types of meaning found in the sentences written in the editorial of the Jakarta Post Newspaper. Those two types of meaning are conceptual meaning and reflective meaning. There were no connotative, stylistic, affective, collocative and thematic types of meaning found in this research. Because those five types of meaning do not fulfill the criteria needed to express something in relation to the political language aims.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Arikunto, Suharsisni. 2006. *Prosedur Penelitian : Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*. Jakarta: PT Rineka Cipta.

- Biber, Douglas and Finegan, Edward. 1994. *Sociolinguistics Perspective on Register*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Holmes, Janet. 2002. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Endiburg: Person Education Limited.
- Hymes, Dell. 1973. *Foundations in Sociolinguistics: An Ethnographic Approach*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- Halliday, MAK and Hasan, Ruqoiyah. 1978. *Language Context and Text*. Melbourne, Victoria Deakin University.
- Soeparno. 2002 *Dasar- Dasar Linguistik Umum*. Yogyakarta: PT. Tiara Wacana.
- Sudaryanto. 1986. Metode Linguistic. *Bagian Kedua Metode & aneka Teknik Pengumpulan Data*. Yogyakarta: Gadjja Mada University Press.
- Wardhaugh, Ronald. 2006 . *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Blacwell. Cambridge (oxford: Cambirdge Blackwell)