The Discourse Structure of 2020 America Presidential Election Editorial News

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Abstract. News is necessary for human life in order to know the recent happening around human. American presidential election is one of phenomena which the event is something we have to know. This research attempts to identify the text news about 2020 American presidential election. Data of this study is structural sentences found in the discourse about American presidential election which is taken from The Jakarta Post online newspaper. Collecting data were by using observation and documentation methods. The data analysis uses theory of superstructure by Teun A. van Dijk. It is found that there are eight elements found in the news. The result shows that editorial news does not have specific generic structure and it has its own structure and style.

INTRODUCTION

The existence of an online newspaper has become a necessity for human life in the era of modern, when technology has advanced. Newspapers are one type of media that is used to quickly distribute news to the general population. Furthermore, newspapers give a wealth of information that the public requires in order to keep up with recent events. According to Wahyudi (as mentioned in Badara, 2012), news is a report of significant facts and opinions that are of public or citizen interest and must be made public. It is one of the discourses that disproportionately fill the newspaper. As a source of human science, the news plays a vital role. Publicity, periodicity, universality, actuality, and continuity are among the requirements of news, according to Karl Baschwittz (as cited in Wahyudi, 1991). The newspaper discourse is separated into numerous products, such as reader letters, corner, caricature, article, and editorial, based on the brief description above.

Editorials contain the editorial staff of a news organization's view on a current issue or occurrence (Hikmat, 2018). Written editorials are supposed to be the reflection of editorial staffs, reflecting their view and official stance on current occurrences, problems, or controversies in society. The election in Uncle Sam's land is a worldwide phenomenon that is affecting the general people, not just in the United States but throughout the world because the outcome of this election has global implications. The American Presidential Election, also known as the 2020 United States Presidential Election, has become a hot topic for the public, whether it is for Americans or for people all over the world. In this election, incumbent US President Donald Trump is seeking re-election for the second time. The Democratic Party's candidates, former Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, beat the Republican Party's incumbent President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence in the election conducted on November 3, 2020. This year's election got more than 74 million votes, breaking Barrack Obama's 2008 record of 69.5 million votes. More than 81 million votes were cast for Joe Biden.

In linguistic terms, discourse is closely linked to the use of language, whether spoken or written. A newspaper discourse is defined as a written piece with features of a news item structure that comprises a published event via newspaper (Badara, 2012). According to Celce-Murcia & Olshtain (2000), discourse categorized as written or spoken language which has in-depth relation of form and meaning connect to the purpose of communication and

interlocutor of audiences. Meanwhile, according to Van Dijk (1988), Discourse Analysis is the study that emerged from literary studies, linguistics, semiotics, anthropology, communication of speech, sociology, and psychology.

Furthermore, discourse is commonly employed as a research object in a variety of contexts, including novel (Kazemi & Dalaee, 2017), demo banner (Sarasawati & Sartini, 2017), and news (Ardiansyah, 2020). Tampubolon, S., et al (2017) identified how the discourse analysis proceed in local newspaper. The analysis was using the CDA theory by Norman Fairclough. It was found that three dimensional structures, they are micro analysis, macro analysis, and meso analysis have function in presenting and delivering the news. Nurfadilah, A. (2017) analyzed the structure, social analysis, and social cognition of text news using the concept of CDA by Teun A. van Dijk. The result found that the CDA concept showed the relation between ideology and language.

The writer attempts to determine the editorial news on the 2020 United States Presidential Election based on the foregoing brief background using the theory of superstructure by Teun A. van Dijk. With this research, the researcher formulates the research question as follow: What are the editorial news structures in The Jakarta Post newspaper for the 2020 United States Presidential Election?. This study is to identify the editorial news structures in The Jakarta Post newspaper for the 2020 United States Presidential Election.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study is descriptive qualitative study. Object of this study is discourse about American presidential election. Data are written utterances taken from The Jakarta Post online newspaper. Data consist of two editorial news text entitled 'Desperate Appeal' for edition on January 20 and 'Trumpeting Donald Trump' on February 11. Data were collected by methods of observation and documentation with the processes are reading the news about American election, identifying the structures, and making code for the data found. Technique of analyzing data uses the theory of superstructure by Teun A. van Dijk. The writer identifies discourse structure and elaborates sub-structure usage.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The text structures found can be seen as follows:

Desperate Appeal

Table 1. Editorial 'Desperate Appeal'

Super-structure	Sub-structure	Meaning/ Function	Text
Summary	Headline	Title of news	Desperate Appeal
	Lead	-	-
Story	Main event	To narrate the news idea	United States president-elect Joe Biden is to be sworn into office at a very inauspicious time, as the world approaches a breaking point in the fight against COVID-19. **(p.1)**
	Sequences	Series of events	…, Biden has already been forced to rebuke a promise by outgoing President Donald Trump on the easing of travel bans after he steps down, … **(p.5)**
			…, the US still looks intent on stirring tensions in its rivalry with China. **(p.6)**

			… that the US will "outcompete" China at his confirmation hearing after Biden's inauguration, according to his prepared remarks. **(p.7)**
			He will do so at the risk of reigniting a troubling trade war and an unnecessary escalation of conflict, at a time when the pandemic has battered most of the world's economies. **(p.8)**
Circumstance	To denote actual events		For Indonesia, that means being stern to both China and the US about the consequences of escalating their rivalry. **(p.11)**
Conclusion	To conclude news events		So if there is one message that President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo can slip into his congratulatory message to Biden, let it be a desperate appeal to stop fighting China. **(p.16)**

Editorials 'Desperate Appeal' was published on the day of Biden's inauguration on January 20th 2021. The headline element inferred a despairing occurrence after in the moment of turnover of new president. Element main event in the paragraph 1 explained that Biden will be sworn on the moment where the world is still fighting against corona virus. Because of the virus, many sectors are in a trouble especially economics.

Moreover in paragraph 5 until 8 present sequences that are the series of event. Biden is already asked to accomplish the problems faced by the U.S. The trade war between America and China is one of thing which should be resolved. The economic relation between U.S. and China is still in strained situation. For the new politics, U.S. will defeat China with the risk of making trade war continue in the middle of economic problems during pandemic.

For the circumstances which is to denote actual situation, paragraph 11 showed country like Indonesia, whose still need economic bilateral with both countries, just can play in the back with serious hope. In paragraph 16, the journalist then makes a conclusion that President Joko Widodo should put a congratulatory letter which includes a hopeless earnest request to Biden.

Trumpeting Donald Trump

Table 2. Editorial 'Trumpeting Donald Trump'

Super-structure	Sub-structure	Meaning/ Function	Text
Summary	Headline	Title of news	Trumpeting Donald Trump
	Lead	-	-
Story	Main event	To narrate the news idea	…, Trump will continue to divide America and haunt US politics. **(p.1)**
	Sequences	Series of events	Especially after the Senate failed to convict him, Trump will continue to play an antagonistic role not both on US soil and in many parts of the world. **(p.3; s.1)**

		The Senate acquitted Trump in both impeachment trials. **(p.6; s.1)**
		He was acquitted on Saturday, or 25 days after Joe Biden officially assumed power. **(p.6; s.3)**
Previous event	To remind events happened before	…, he will also be remembered as the only former president who has to face various criminal charges, ranging from tax fraud to abuse of power. **(p.5; s.2)**
Verbal reaction	Comment of participants	"Our historic, patriotic and beautiful movement to make America great again has only just begun. In the months ahead, I have much to share with you, and I look forward to continuing our incredible journey together to achieve American greatness for all of our people. There has never been anything like it," Trump responded to the acquittal. **(p.8)**
		"Even those opposed to the conviction, like Senate Minority Leader McConnell, believe Donald Trump was guilty of a 'disgraceful dereliction of duty' and 'practically and morally responsible for provoking' the violence unleashed on the Capitol," President Biden said. **(p.10)**
Expectation	To predict future	They will be more than happy to trumpet Trump's obsession to "make America great again". **(p.12; s.2)**

'Trumpeting Donald Trump' was editorials published on February 11th 2021. Headline of this news refers to the whole content describing Trump's remaining power and his supporters. Paragraph 1 is identified as main event. It presents the main statement that even Donald Trump was not the president, he would not stop to interfere the U.S. politics. In the sequences, it showed that Donald Trump was clarified lose on the U.S. presidential election which was held on November 3rd 2020. Since the losing, some riots happened in the Capitol triggered by Trump's insurrection. Because of his behaviours, he was acquitted by the Senate but failed. Paragraph 5 showed previous event which depict Trump's problems and controversies such as tax fraud and abuse of power while he was a president. Then in paragraph 8, Trump states that nothing could stop his ambition. He boasted on how he will continue to make his slogan, 'to make America great again' alive. Related to the failed acquittal, President Joe Biden

gave comment on it that Trump was guilty of neglect duty and provocation. From the journalist view in paragraph 12, Trump's supporters will always cheer up for him and encourage Trump's ambition.

The theory of superstructure is used for analysing the text structure in order to understand the schema of the text. It also can be used for the readers to proceed their schemata while reading the text news or story. Tampubolon (2017) uses the theory by Fairclough which is similar to van Dijk's in the case of analysis concept which it is claimed that it can investigate the relation between ideology, language, and hegemony. On the other hand, Nurfadilah (2017) has similar analysis with this research. In her research, she only analyzed the big point of the superstructure that is news summary headline and lead. In this research, the structure and the sub-structure is searched and it found out that editorial news does not have lead element.

CONCLUSION

The uniqueness of editorial news is reflected in the news. It has different structures in each news. Editorial news is made by the editorial staff based and depended on their view and opinion toward the phenomenon or occurrence happened in the society. The use of language style is also different from the ordinary news such as headline. In this research, two news were presented and its news has different structures. From this research, it can be found that eight sub-structures were found for example headline, main event, sequence, previous event, circumstance, verbal reaction, conclusion, and expectation.

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