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JURNAL BAHASA, SAstra, DAN STUDI AMERIKA
diterbitkan dua kali dua kali setahun pada bulan Maret dan September Secara umum,
jurnal ini berusaha memuat paper mengenai kajian linguistik, penerjemahan,
kesusasteraan, dan kajian wilayah Amerika.
Untuk itu, kami mengundang para penulis dari perguruan tinggi lain untuk
berpartisipasi dalam tukar-menukar informasi. Dengan demikian, jurnal ini dapat
menjadi media yang baik untuk saling melengkapi ilmu pengetahuan kita.
PREFACE

After one year lapse, finally comes out the lecture edition of our department journal. This edition contains twelve articles with one article from a fellow contributor from another university. Some lecturers of all the four mainstreams—Linguistics, Literature, Translation, and American Studies—in our department contribute articles in this edition.

This edition begins with four Linguistics articles. The first article discusses matters that should be considered when the process of language teaching or language learning is also expected to maintain as well as build the character of the students. The second article is concerned with thematication and Theme-Rheme patterning in journal articles written in Indonesian. The third paper is English for Specific Purposes theme-based. It deals with English for Public Relations by addressing the issue of personal image building efforts and how this is realized linguistically as expressions of promotional rhetoric. The fourth article investigates semantic change and shift in Indonesian borrowing words taken from Arabic.

The next two articles are from Literature mainstream. The first article is the only article coming from a fellow contributor from another university. Applying Sigmund Freud’s theory of personality, the article, entitled Elio’s Personality in André Aciman’s Call Me By Your Name, intends to reveal some aspects of personality of the main character. In the second article, the writer discusses how we need a great leap for Indonesian Literature if we want ours are in the same level as the others in any parts of the world and what issues to solve first before we come to the ideal objective we have been longing for.

Translation mainstream contributes the next two articles. This first discusses the strategy in translating direct speech with the main focus on the reporting clause. This second is aimed at investigating the ability of two online Machine Translations in terms of the adequacy in preserving the original content of a text and effectiveness in providing users with the overview of a translated text.

The last four articles are from American Studies mainstream. In the first article, the writer discusses how the characters of Juna Barnes’ Nightwood search for their voice and how they influence each other as the agents who construct reality. The second article is aimed at discussing the personal consequences of “yellow peril” stereotyping experienced by the main characters of David Gutterson’s novel Snow Falling on Cedar to get a clear picture of how a negative stereotype
attached to a minority group can have a damaging, and even life-threatening effect. The third article discusses two American Indian poems to show how contemporary American Indian poem continues the Indian tradition of storytelling of which main function is to preserve the knowledge of the interconnection between man and nature (land and places). Last, but not least, the fourth aims to explain the public diplomacy of the United States as a part of containment policy during the Cold War to fight the communism ideology brought by Soviet Union—how Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe (RFE) as forms of public diplomacy were proven effective in influencing the European citizen to embrace the US democracy.

Finally, we invite readers to give academic inputs and suggestions to every article that has been presented. It is then expected that the articles give contribution to our academic atmosphere, internally and externally.

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THEMATIZATION AND THEME-RHEME PATTERNING IN INDONESIAN JOURNAL ARTICLES

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Abstract

This paper is concerned with thematization and Theme-Rheme patterning in journal articles written in Indonesian. Eight journal articles in the fields of biology, economics, social science, and language were analyzed to find out how their textual meaning was built from the points of view of Theme selection and Theme development. From Theme selection, it is evident that the distribution of Theme types does contribute to the texts’ textual meaning, but it also contributes peripherally to their ideational meaning. Whereas ideationally, Theme selection in the texts shows the mapping of the domains of knowledge presented, textually, it shows the characteristics of written texts. Similarly, the texts tend to be more oriented to connecting events at the clause level rather than organizing ideas at the discourse level. On the other hand, from Theme development, it can be identified that the patterns of Theme-Rheme ideationally border the scope of knowledge in the texts under discussion, and textually create cohesiveness.

Key words: thematization, theme, rheme, textual, ideational

1 Introduction

Research on the field of periodicity covering Theme, thematization, and Theme development has been done in many languages and has been reported elsewhere (e.g. in Caffarel, Martin & Matthiessen, Eds., 2004). This paper reports the analysis of thematization and Theme-Rheme patterning in eight Indonesian journal articles in the fields of biology, economics, social science, and language. It was aimed at finding out how Theme selection and Theme development build their textual meaning. The approach used in the analysis was Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) developed by Halliday (1985), Martin (1992), Matthiessen (1995), Halliday & Matthiessen (2004), and Martin & Rose (2003). It was assumed that the way Theme types were chosen and the way Theme-Rheme patterns were constructed would give a unique contribution to the textual meaning of the analyzed texts.

2 Literature Review

The central theory used in analyzing the chosen texts is that of Theme and Rheme discussed under textual meaning, which is one of three dimensions of metafunctional meaning. The other two are interpersonal meaning and ideational meaning. They are associated with what Halliday calls functional components of language.

… functional components … are the components of the language system which correspond to the abstract functions of language—to what I have called ‘meta-functions’, areas of meaning potential which are inherently involved in all uses of language. These are what I am referring to as ideational, interpersonal, and textual; generalized functions which have as it were become built

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1 This paper is a revised version of one presented in The 39th International Systemic Functional Congress held in University of Technology Sydney, 12-19 July 2012.
On the other hand, Textual Theme in the selected texts is mainly realized by both external and internal conjunctions. External conjunctions are used to organize events within clauses, like the one printed in bold type in Example (4) showing a paratactic relation, and internal conjunctions are used to organize interclausal ideas, like the one printed in bold type in Example (5) showing an interclausal relation.

Textual Theme realized by internal conjunctions in all texts ranges from 15 % to 47 %, less than that realized by external conjunctions, ranging from 53 % to 85 %. It indicates that the texts analyzed tend to be oriented to arranging events at the clause level rather than organizing ideas at the discourse level (Martin & Rose, 2003), meaning that clauses tend not to be tied by internal conjunctions in building the whole texts.

4.2 Theme-Rheme Patterning

Theme development by means of Theme–Rheme organization in the selected texts falls into three patterns, namely Pattern 1: Theme–Theme, Pattern 2: Theme–Rheme–Theme, and Pattern 3: Theme–Rheme–Theme–Theme or Theme–Theme–Rheme–Theme. The patterns show the way Theme progresses in the clauses which build paragraphs, and in this analysis paragraphs that do not follow one of the three patterns are considered to be Pattern 4, which are actually ones having no pattern. It should be clarified that a paragraph with no pattern is (1) that consisting of only one clause simplex (when it is not a connecting paragraph), and (2) that containing a minor clause in it. Both types of paragraphs cannot be analyzed in terms of Theme development.

Figure 1. Pattern 1: Theme–Theme

Figure 2. Pattern 2: Theme–Rheme–Theme
5 Conclusion
It is evident that the way theme is selected contributes not only to the textual meaning of the analyzed texts, but also to their ideational meaning. Ideationally, Unmarked Topical Theme realized by mostly nonhuman nominal groups shows that the texts put Subject as the focus of discussion, and Marked Topical Theme mostly realized by time and place circumstances means that the texts map the domains of knowledge discussed. Textually, these kinds of Unmarked and Marked Topical Theme with no Interpersonal Theme show written characteristics. In addition, Textual Theme in the texts tends to be realized by external conjunctions to connect events within clauses rather than by internal conjunctions to organize ideas at the discourse level. The cohesiveness of the texts is partly achieved by varied Theme-Rheme patterning in most of the paragraphs.

References