AN ANALYSIS OF SEMANTIC ROLES OF TITLES
IN THE JAKARTA POST

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AN ANALYSIS OF SEMANTIC ROLES OF TITLES IN THE JAKARTA POST

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ABSTRACT

This research aims at describing the roles as in NP construction of the title in the Jakarta Post and describing the denotative and connotative meaning of the title in the Jakarta Post. The research conducted by the writer is descriptive qualitative research. The data of this research are simple declarative sentence of the title in the Jakarta Post newspaper, while the data source is taken from the Jakarta Post newspaper published January 2014. The method used by the writer in collecting the data is documentation with the steps: reading, selecting, collecting, and coding the data. In analyzing the data, the writer describes the role played by NP by referring to the theory of thematic role by O’Grady (1987) and describes the meaning of the sentence found in title of the Jakarta Post newspaper by referring to the denotative and connotative meaning. The result of this research shows that there are twenty one patterns that are classified into three roles in the starting sentence. They are agent (88 data/85,45 %), theme (4 data/3,88 %), and experiencer (11 data/10,67 %). NPs 1 functioning as agent and experiencer when the type of simple declarative sentence is active sentence, while NPs1 functioning as theme when the type of simple declarative sentence is passive sentence. The writer analyzes the meaning by referring to the denotative and connotative meaning. The denotative meaning is analyzed by paraphrasing or re-construction, while connotative meaning is analyzed by using personal aspect and intercontextuality of the sentence. The result of data analysis in the case of denotative and connotative meaning by using paraphrasing or reconstruction is that the meaning of the titles in the Jakarta Post is more clearly and comprehensive, not only the meaning of the words but also show the aspect of personal and intercontextuality.

Keywords: Semantic Role, Denotative Meaning, Connotative Meaning
A. Introduction

As a printed media, newspaper sometimes provides wrong information. It contains issues and facts. Newspaper can give information for the readers, but sometimes it just provides issue to the readers. Reading an English newspaper can gain vocabularies for the readers. The Jakarta Post is an English newspaper.

As the student of English Department, reading the Jakarta Post newspaper can not only get information, but also get the data source of the research, for example research in linguistics. In linguistic theories, noun phrase has a role that is called thematic role. There is simple declarative sentence found in title of the Jakarta Post newspaper that can be analyzed based on theory thematic role.

There are some previous studies related to the research. The first research is done by Ningsih (UMS, 2013) which entitled *A Semiotic Analysis of Satirical Cartoon in The Jakarta Post Newspaper Published in December 2012 – February 2013*. She analyzed the meanings and the reasons of satirical cartoon in the Jakarta Post Newspaper published in December 2012 – February 2013. The type of this study is qualitative interpretative type. In collecting the data, the writer applied the documentation and observation method. The results of this study show the variety of the meanings and the reasons of the satirical cartoon in the Jakarta Post Newspaper published in December 2012 – February 2013.

The second research was *A Descriptive Analysis of Newspaper Leads in The Jakarta Post Using Frame Theory* by Haristmawan (2013). He identified frame elements to configure the discourse of newspaper leads in The Jakarta Post newspaper. The data of this study are in the form of written discourse of
newspaper leads in The Jakarta Post newspaper which includes expression of words. The result of this study has shown that the frame elements to configure the discourse of newspaper leads are 5 metaphors, 5 catchphrases, 5 exemplar, 5 the depictions, 1 visual images, 5 the euphemism, 5 the roots, 5 the appeal to principle.

The writer uses theory of O’Grady (1987) as her theoretical framework. O’Grady explained thematic role or semantic role is used to describe the part played by a particular entity in an event. There are some roles in thematic role: agent, theme, source, goal, instrument, experiencer, stimulus, location and time.

In analyzing the meaning of the sentence, the writer uses the denotative and connotative meaning from Kreidler. Denotation is a literal meaning of the word. For example, the word “woman”, it has a denotation “adult female”. While connotation refers to the personal aspect of meaning, the emotional associations that the word arouses (Kreidler, 1998:45).

From the explanation, the writer formulates the problem statement of this research, those are: (1) What are the roles played by NP of title in the Jakarta Post? (2) What are the denotation and connotation meaning of title in the Jakarta Post? The writer also formulates the objective of the research, those are: (1) To describe the roles played by NP of title in the Jakarta Post. (2) To describe the denotation and connotation meaning of title in the Jakarta Post.

B. Research Method

This part deals with method of the writer to analysis semantic roles of titles in the Jakarta Post. It is divided into five parts, those are: (1) type of
research, (2) object of research, (3) data and data source, (4) method of collecting data, (5) technique of analyzing data.

The type of research is descriptive qualitative, because the writer describe the role played by NP and describe the meaning of the data. The object of the research is semantic role found in the title of the Jakarta Post. The data of the research are simple declarative sentence, while the sources of the data are the Jakarta Post newspaper published in January 2014. The method used by the writer in collecting the data is documentation, with the steps: reading, selecting, collecting, and coding. The technique of analyzing the data is descriptive qualitative.

C. Research Finding

The writer explains the research finding of this research below:

1. The role played by NP

The researcher finds twenty one patterns from all the data. Those pattern can be started by agent, theme, even experience. They are presented in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Rules or pattern</th>
<th>Type of Sentence</th>
<th>Samples</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Number of Data</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Agent – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Indonesian banks brace</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5, 14, 25, 56, 65, 70,</td>
<td>6,79 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agent – theme – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>for challenging 2014.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dennis Rodman names team for exhibition.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>3, 7, 18, 23, 28, 29, 30, 32, 35, 37, 45, 54, 57, 58, 60, 63, 69, 71, 73, 82, 83, 94, 95, 100, 102</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>24.29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agent – location</th>
<th>Active sentence</th>
<th>Thousands of Boeing jobs stay in Seattle.</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6, 53, 66, 76</td>
<td>3.88%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agent – theme</th>
<th>Active sentence</th>
<th>Lazio confirms Petcovic sacking.</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 39, 46, 47, 50, 52, 68, 79, 80, 81, 84, 86, 88, 89</td>
<td>21.35%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agent – theme – instrument</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Pop icon Rain makes comeback with new album.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9, 67, 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Agent – theme – time</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Migrants workers sent home Rp 88.6t in 2013.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12, 43, 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Agent – theme – location</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Consumers face higher utility bills in the U.S.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19, 24, 26, 33, 41, 42, 55, 62, 72, 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Agent – time</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Senior diplomat Thayeb dies at 91.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Agent – theme – source</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Malaysian wins removal from UN ‘no fly’ list.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>34, 51, 64, 75, 78, 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Agent – instrument</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Inter Milan problems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>36, 48, 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agent – theme – location – goal – time</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>VW passes GM in China for first time in nine years.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Agent – source – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Maulid Nabi observed from Solo to Gorontalo.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Agent – theme – goal – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Activists seek justice for RI worker in HK ‘slavery’ case.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Agent – theme – source - goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Phillipine bonds slip from best to worst.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Theme – location</td>
<td>Passive sentence</td>
<td>Classes reopen in typhoon zone.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theme – agent</td>
<td>Passive sentence</td>
<td>2nd listing is planned by the owner of Uniqlo.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>96, 97, 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Experiencer – stimulus – location</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Islamic parties find a home in Tasikmalaya.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Experiencer – stimulus</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>India’s higher import duty hurts RI exports.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20, 27, 38, 49, 59, 103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Experiencer – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>Chong Wei hints at retirement.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Experiencer – stimulus – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>PLN gets Standard chartered loans for two power plants.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Experiencer – stimulus – time</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td>JPMorgan CEO gets 74 percent raise</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Experiencer – goal</td>
<td>Active sentence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on the table above, the result of the role played by NP is that there are eighty eight data are started by agent (85.45 %), four data are started by theme (3.88 %), and eleven data are started by experiencer (10.67 %). So, the total of the whole data found in the *Jakarta Post published January* 2014 are one hundred and three data (100 %). NPs 1 functioning as agent and experiencer when the type of simple declarative sentence is active sentence, while NP s 1 functioning as theme when the type of simple declarative sentence is passive sentence.

2. The denotative and connotative meaning

1/JP/p3/060114

*Islamic parties find a home in Tasikmalaya.*

The meaning of that sentence denotatively is in Tasikmalaya a place called home is found by Islamic parties. Connotatively, Islamic parties are having supporter called home that located in Tasikmalaya.

18/JP/p1/100114

*Jokowi promises full support for Halim reopening.*
The meaning of that sentence denotatively, Jokowi gives his full support for reopening of Halim airport. Connotatively, Jokowi just gives his support for Halim reopening, not another.

101/JP/p15/280114

2\textsuperscript{nd} listing is planned by the owner of Uniqlo.

The meaning of that sentence denotatively, the owner of Uniqlo plans 2\textsuperscript{nd} listing. 2\textsuperscript{nd} listing is planned to improve the last version.

Based on the analysis, the researcher analyzes the denotative meaning by using either paraphrasing or re-construction. However, in analyzing the connotative meaning the researcher uses personal aspect and intercontextuality of the sentence. The result of data analysis in the case of denotative and connotative meaning by using paraphrasing or reconstruction is that the meaning of the titles in the Jakarta Post is more clearly and comprehensive, not only the meaning of the words but also show the aspect of personal and intercontextuality.

D. Conclusion and Suggestion

The writer explains the conclusion and suggestion in these following paragraphs below:

1. Conclusion

There are twenty one patterns that are found by the writer in the titles of the Jakarta Post newspaper published January 2014. Those twenty one patterns are classified into three that are starting by agent, theme and
experiencer. They are agent (88 data/85.45 %), theme (4 data/3.88 %), and experiencer (11/10.67 %).

The denotative meaning can be analyzed by paraphrasing or reconstruction, while connotatively meaning can be analyzed by using personal aspect and intercontextuality of the sentence.

2. **Suggestion**

   Followings are some suggestions given by the writer based on the title and the analysis of this chapter:

   a. The result of this research can be used as a reference for the students, especially for English Department in studying Semantics.

   b. For the readers especially the next researchers, the writer suggests them to analyze semantic role in other works such as in articles, magazines, novels, and in drama scripts.
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