A Transitivity Analysis on Epic Rap Battle of Presidency Song

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Abstract

The aim of this research is to analyze the Transitivity System of Epic Rap Battle of Presidency, a song by SkinnyIndonesian24, which was popular in 2019. To reveal the constituents of Transitivity System, it was considered to use theory by M.A.K. Halliday about Systemic Functional Linguistics in the branch of Ideational Metafunction, and the data were analyzed by using composite qualitative descriptive method where numbers and percentage were also involved. This research shows that the song is dominated by Material Process type for about 37 occurrences (40.2%) and it is followed by 33 Relational (35.9%), 12 Mental (13.0%), 7 Behavioral (7.6%), 2 Verbal (2.2%), and 1 Existential Process (1.1%). The dominance of Material Process indicates that the Epic Rap Battle of Presidency song is on the state of Material Process where the song is mainly talk about action and event.

Keywords: Transitivity, Material Process, Systemic Functional Linguistics.

1. INTRODUCTION

Music video entitled "SkinnyIndonesian24 | Prabowo VS Jokowi – Epic Rap Battle of Presidency" was released on SkinnyIndonesian24's Youtube channel on April 8, 2019, a week before Indonesia presidential election was held. The author, whose real names are Andovi da Lopez and Jovial da Lopez, represented social conditions in Indonesia in the song.

SkinnyIndonesian24 responded to Indonesian political tension by creating social-politic conflict representation discourse, which was constructed in the lyric of a song. They illustrated Andovi as JokoWidodo, known as Jokowi, and Jovial as PrabowoSubianto, singing rap songs with a striking verse to attack each other. The lyrics were based on strengths, weaknesses, political narrations, and personalities of both candidates who pursued the presidential position. Having Andovi and Jovial, the music video also featured comedians Tretan Muslim and CokiPardede, who played the Role of Soekarno and Mohammad Hatta. Coki and Tretan were there to reprimand Jokowi and Prabowo, whose parties were conflicted and

making a commotion in public. Nevertheless, in the end, they delivered unity ideas in their verse that persuades the two parties to return to peace and arouses young people's interest to vote.

Epic Rap Battle of Presidency went viral on social media. It accepted attention from Indonesian netizens who felt saturated with the issues. Furthermore, it was proven by the number of viewers, which has reached 51 million. 2019 Epic Rap Battle of Presidency is not the first Epic Rap Battle that SkinnyIndonesian24 created. They had one in 2014 with the same illustrated figure. In making the content, SkinnyIndonesian24 was inspired by ERB, which is Youtuber that firstly introduced Epic Rap Battle on their channel.

Political tension that was occurred in 2019 was worrying. Because of having different political choices and views, supporters of each party overthrew each other. It was not only in public, but the conflict was also happening inside a family. Moreover, the polarization became increasingly visible when people started to use the terms "Cebong" and "Kampret," which they call their opposition.

Song lyrics are a form of discourse. Discourse refers to a complete language unit; in the grammatical hierarchy, it is the highest or most prominent grammatical unit(Kridalaksana, 1982, p. 179). It can be realized in other forms, for instance, books, novels, and the rest. Writings or works are not created arbitrarily, but some goals and motives underlie in the process of their making. Social conditions or phenomena can be respects that influence the writer to create a discourse. For example, Epic Rap Battle of Presidency was inspired by the political conflict that Indonesian people had experienced at the time. That social phenomenon made the song stand out, and it was quickly accepted by society.

Lyrics of songs often attract researchers' attention in linguistics study. The strategy of songwriters, which is shown in unique writing styles and dictions, has been the research object so far. Hence, aspects of linguistics are used as a set of tools in the process. In terms of its type of study, linguistics is divided into several fields. Moreover, to analyze discourse in a song, people use the study of discourse analysis. Discourse analysis itself has some approaches. One of them is Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) that Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday coins.

Most of the literarture review of this research comes from Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics. SFL has been contributing to the linguistics world. Systemic functional linguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies the form of language selection in the context of its use. Halliday introduced three meta-functions of language through SFL: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. These three functions became the basis of language research. The ideational is the main subject of this research where ideational metafunction has sub-network called Transitivity. Transitivity is a system that represents the encoding of experiential meanings: meanings about the world, about the experience, about how we perceive and

experience what is going on (Eggins, 2004, p. 249). Thus, in this research, writer tried to identify the dominant type of transitivity system in Epic Rap Battle of Presidency song by SkinnyIndonesian24.

Halliday introduced six types of processes in Transitivity System (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004), they are: Material Process, Relational Process, Mental Process, Behavioral Process, Verbal Process, and Existential Process. (i) Material processes are the doing and happening of things. An intransitive Material clause represents what is *happening*, while a transitive Material clause represents what is *doing*. (ii) Relational processes involve states of being and having. They are classified based on whether they are used to identify something or to assign a quality to something. Identifying Processes establish identity, while Attributive Processes assign a quality. (iii) A mental process involves feeling, thinking, and perceiving. There are four types of Mental Processes: perception (seeing, hearing, noticing, feeling, and smelling), affection (liking, loving, fearing, hating, admiring, and missing), cognition (thinking, knowing, believing, doubting, remembering, forgetting, and understanding), and volition (wanting, needing, desiring, hoping, and wishing) (Lock, 1996, p. 105). (iv) The behavioral process is between mental and material processes, the process of physiological and psychological. *Breathing, dreaming, snoring, smiling, hiccupping, looking, watching, listening, and pondering* are examples of physiological and psychological behavior processes (Gerot & Wignell, 1994, p. 47). (v) The verbal process is the act of saying something, while (vi) Existential Process represents something that exists or happens (Matthiessen & Halliday, 2014, p. 307).

To support the discussion of the research, the writer read some articles about transitivity which are written by variety of researchers. There are two previous study related to this research. The first study was written by YichaoZang(2017) entitled "Transitivity Analysis of Hillary Clinton's and Donald Trump's First Television Debate," which was published in the International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature. The research analyses the first television debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. The main findings show that material processes, relational processes, and mental processes are relatively dominant in both candidates' speeches; while compared with Hillary, Trump tends to use more existential processes. The conducted research used Transitivity and Mood system, whereas the third study only used the Transitivity system. The third study contributed to enriching insight and become a reference of the Transitivity system study.

The second study was researched by NyomanSupadmi(2020) entitled "Transitivity in The Text of Indonesia President Speech," which was published by Growingsholar Publisher, USA. Text of Indonesian President JokoWidodo's speech of 75th Indonesian independent day celebration indicated that the government never gave up on facing the situation caused by Covid-19. The text was dominated by the

material process (88 usages) and the relational process (85 usages). The usage of the relational process indicated conditions happening in Indonesia. Existential process clauses were also found in the text as many as 35 in use. The conducted research utilized both Transitivity and Mood systems, whereas the fourth previous study only focused on the Transitivity system. The contribution of the fourth study is to enrich the conducted research writer's knowledge of the Transitivity system and to be a reference for analyzing the Transitivity system in the Indonesian language.

Based on the explanation, the researcher tried to conduct Transitivity Analysis on Epic Rap Battle of Presidency song. This research is expected to to increase knowledge about discourse analysis by looking at its implication to other fields, in this case, is music works, and to increase insight about how to analyze text to find out the structures that it contains and to give a preview of transitivity analysis on the lyric of a song based on Systemic Functional Linguistics theory.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The descriptive qualitative method was used in this study. The qualitative descriptive method, according to Sugiyono(2016) is a research method based on the philosophy of post-positivism that is used to examine the condition of natural objects (as opposed to experimenting) with the researcher as the primary instrument. The goal of qualitative descriptive research is to describe, explain, and answer in greater detail the problems to be studied by studying an individual, a group, or an event as thoroughly as possible. The descriptive qualitative method is also accompanied by composite research design where numbers such as percentages and occurrences are involved. This study was conducted in two ways: the writer conducted library research to find publications related to the topic and the writer gathered data by note-taking and listening the song Epic Rap Battle of Presidency by SkinnyIndonesian24.

The aim of this research is to identify the Transitivity System in Epic Rap Battle of Presidency by SkinnyIndonesian24, which was released in 2019. The object of the research is the types of Transitivity System which are divided into 6 types, namely: Material, Relational, Mental, Behavioral, Verbal, and Existential Process. The source of this research's data is lyrics in the video of the song called Epic Rap Battle of Presidency produced by SkinnyIndonesian24.

The source of the data is taken by doing five steps as follow: (1) Searching Epic Rap Battle of Presidency video on Youtube platform. (2) Listening and taking note of the lyrics of the song. (3) Shorting the data based on Clause. (4) Identifying parts of Transitivity and Mood that exist in the lyrics. (5) Classifying and presenting all the clauses in the form of table.

After gathering the data, writer analyze the data by using three concurrent activities: data condensation (reduction), data display, and drawing and verifying conclusions (Miles & Huberman, 1994). Data reduction is the process of selecting, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming data that appears in written-up fields or notes. With Data Reduction, the writer reduces the lyrics of the song Epic Rap Battle of Presidency into clauses. From the song Epic Rap Battle of Presidency, it was found that there were 92 clauses. The 92 clauses will be divided according to transitivity system. Furthermore, the second flow of data analysis is Data Display. Generally, Data Display is an organized and compressed assembly of information that permits conclusion drawing and action (Miles & Huberman, 1994, p. 11). After reducing the data obtained, the writer displays and sorts the data. Transitivity analysis data are shown and sorted from the highest and lowest numbers by using $\frac{N}{92} x\ 100$ formula to find the percentage of the data. Lastly, writer drawn and verified the conclusion. The drawing and verification of conclusions is the third stream of analysis activity (Miles & Huberman, 1994, p. 11). The qualitative analyst interprets what things mean by noting patterns, explanations, causal flows, and propositions from the start of data collection. Therefore, based on the analysis of the data that has been sorted and shown, the writer draw and verify conclusions from the data results.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

There are six types of Processes found in the text. Analysis of Transitivity of the Epic Rap Battle of Presidency is summarized in the following table:

Table 1. Summary of Transitivity Analysis of Epic Rap Battle of Presidency

No.	Process Type	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Material	37	40.2%
2.	Relational	33	35.9%
3.	Mental	12	13.0%
4.	Behavioral	7	7.6%
5.	Verbal	2	2.2%
6.	Existential	1	1.1%
	TOTAL:	**92**	**100%**

As shown in table, Material and Relational are the dominant process types in the text of the song Epic Rap Battle of Presidency. Material Process has the highest number of occurrences with a percentage of 40.2% and followed by Relational Process as much as 35.9%. The other types of process have lower occurrences: Mental 13.0%, Behavioral 7.6%, Verbal 2.2%, Existential 1.1%.

The following section will elaborate on each category and the specific application of process type in the song lyrics (Bloor & Bloor, 2004).

3.1 Material Process

The Material Process is a process of doing and happening (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004, p. 179). An intransitive Material clause represents what is *happening*, while a transitive Material clause represents what is *doing*. The Material Process has 37 occurrences in the song and takes 40.2% of 92 clauses. The following table will show the example of Material Process:

Table 2. Example of "Doing" Material Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
1.	2019	(Kita)	**ganti**	Presiden	
2.	Untung kali ini,	kita	enggakusah**bawa**	wakilkita	
3.	Tapi kali ini,	saya	akan**lawan**		
4.	Di pasar	saya	**beli**	terompet	

Table 3. Example of "Happening" Material Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
1.		Bapak	**kerja**	untukdirisendiriatauuntuknegara?	
2.		(Bapak)	**vlog**		samaRicis
3.		(Bapak)	**foto**		bareng Atta
4.		(Anda)	telah**mengabdi**	untukbangsa	

3.2 Relational Process

Relational Process involves state of having and being (Gerot & Wignell, 1994, p. 54). It relates to the property of an entity or the relation between participants. Relational Process analysis can help readers to understand the quality and identification of each figure represented in the text. Relational Process is the second dominating process type in the text that takes 35.9% occurrences of 92 clauses. There are two types of Relational Process that occurred in the text: Attributive and Identifying. Processes which establish an identity are called Identifying Processes and Processes which assign a quality are called Attributive Processes (Gerot & Wignell, 1994, p. 54). Here are the example of relational processes.

Table 4. Example of Relational Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
			Attributing		
1.		(Bapak	**adalah**	orang yang) tetapsemangat.	
2.		(Bapak	**adalah**	orang yang) pantangmenyerah	
			Identifying		
5.		Dasar	**adalah)**	boneka PDI	

		(Jokowi			
6.		Yang maunyoblos	**(adalah)**	siapa?	

3.3 Mental Process

Mental Process involves perception, affection, cognition, and volition (Lock, 1996). The activity for this process is done consciously because the activity is related to one's ability, desire, and view (Eggins, 2004). The occurrences of Mental Process is the third after Relational Process with percentage of 13%. From those four different types of Mental Process, Cognition appears to be the dominating one. The example of mental process can be seen in the following table:

Table 5. Example of Mental Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
			Cognition		
1.	Walau	Bapak	**tahu**	pastiakankalah	
			Volition		
2.		(Kalian)	**pingin**	meraihsu-aramilenialdanibu-ibumuda	
			Perception		
3.		Mereka	**belumdeng-ar**	flow saya yang jaman now	
			Affection		
4.		Saya	**kagum**	dengankar-akterBapak	

3.4 Behavioral Process

Behavioral Process is the fourth process after Mental Process with 7 occurrences (7.6%) of 92 clauses. The behavioral process is a process of physiological and psychological. The behavioral process exists somewhere between the material and mental process. Here are the examples of Behavioral Process.

Table 6. Example of Behavioral Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
1.		(Pak Jokowi)	**jangansakit**		(karena) urusnegara
2.	Dari kecil	(Bapak)	**hidup**	enak	(karena) anakmenteri
3.		Saya	**diam**		bareng Atta
4.		Bung,	**stay**		in Character!

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3.5 Verbal Process

The verbal process involves act of saying something. Verbal Process occurs 2 times (2.2%) of 92 clauses. Here are the findings of verbal process:

Table 7. Example of Verbal Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
1.			**Terimakasih,**	JK	
2.		(Kalian)	**kasihtahu**	pendukung kalian	dewasalahdalamber-demokrasi

3.6 Existential Process

The Existential Process is the least type process which occurred in the text with only one occurrence. The Existential Process is a process of existing that expresses existence and entity without predicting anything else (Zhang, 2017, p. 68). Here is the finding of Existential Process:

Table 8. Example of Existential Process

No.	Cirumstance	Participant	Process	Participant	Circumstance
1.		Nih	(ada)	BPJS	

4. CONCLUSION

The Based on the analysis that has been conducted, Epic Rap Battle of Presidency a song by SkinnyIndonesian 24 is on the state of Material Process. Material Process has the highest occurrences in the text for about 40.2% and it is followed by the other types of process: Relational 35.9%, Mental 13.0%, Behavioral 7.6%, Verbal 2.2%, and Existential 1.1%. The dominance of Material Process in the song can indicate that the song is mainly discuss about action and event. In the other hand, the second dominant process, which is Relational, means that the text also described and identified the participant which are involved in the text. Furthermore, text tried to unveil what participant sense correspond to the third process, which is Mental. Behavioral, Verbal, and Existential are considered to be minor process since Material, Relational, and Mental process are found to be dominance (Supatmiwati et al., 2020).

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