Invisible Meaning in News about Face-to-Face Polemic for Children during Covid-19 Pandemic in Jakarta Post: SFL Approach

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Abstract: *many previous researches mostly investigated the implementation of online learning strategy but have not conducted research about the face-to-face polemic found in news text that is analyzed with systemic functional linguistics as gap of this research. This research limits the area only to find the appreciation form in valuation by using documentary analysis added with domain, taxonomy, componential and cultural theme analysis. Findings show that the form of appreciation in valuation mostly dominated in positive valuation that inclines to show consideration vaccine of Covid-19 for children before reopening schools while the fact shows that many children have not got it yet. The refusal and demand to give suggestion is written in implicit way through words used.*

Keywords: *Invisible Meaning, News, Face to Face Polemic for Children, Covid-19 Pandemic, SFL*

Abstrak: banyak penelitian terdahulu yang meneliti implementasi strategi pembelajaran online tetapi belum melakukan penelitian tentang polemik pembelajaran tatap muka yang ditemukan dalam teks berita yang dianalisa dengan menggunakan linguistik sistemik fungsional sebagai celah penelitian. Penelitian ini terbatas pada area untuk menemukan bentuk evaluasi *appreciation* dengan menggunakan analisis dokumen yang ditambahkan dengan analisis domain, taksonomi, komponensial dan tema budaya. Hasil temuan menunjukkan bahwa bentuk evaluasi *appreciation* banyak didominasi dalam bentuk *positive valuation* yang cenderung menunjukkan pertimbangan pemberian vaksin Covid-19 untuk anak-anak sebelum membuka kembali sekolah sedangkan fakta menunjukkan bahwa banyak anak-anak yang belum mendapatkannya. Penolakan dan keinginan untuk memberikan saran tertulis secara implisit melalui kata-kata yang digunakan.

Kata kunci: Makna Tersembunyi, Berita, Polemik Tatap Muka untuk Anak-Anak, Pandemi Covid-19, SFL

1. INTRODUCTION

Global problems, especially in education field have appeared during Covid-19 pandemic. Many researchers have investigated how the implementation of teaching and learning process and its impact during pandemic such as found in Aini (2020), Alchamdani, et.al. (2020), Dwi, et.al. (2020), Dewi (2020), Efriana (2021), Engko & Usmany (2020), Marlina & Hazizah 2020), O. Stephen & J. Omonyemen (2020), Sari (2020), Tedja (2020), Wulandari & Agustika (2020). There are also researches about strategy in distance learning in Nuraini (2020), education policy in Robandi (2020) and perception on online learning (Rahayu & Wirza, 2020). The previous mentioned have shown that they have not investigated the face-to-face polemic found in news text analyzed with systemic functional linguistics as gap of this research.

Objective of this research is to find the valuation form found in Jakarta Post which provides news about face-to-face polemic during Covid-19 pandemic. This research can contribute in the field of linguistics to understand the hidden meaning of news text provides given to the readers by inputting the lexis to the type of positive valuation or negative valuation (Martin & Rose, 2007: 67-70) which fills the gap of the previous researches to give valuation whether the

lexis shows meaning of something worthwhile to do. The appreciation form interprets value recognition in worthiness. There are three kinds of appreciation, namely: reaction, composition, and valuation. Reaction is divided into two types in the form of reaction in impact and reaction in quality, composition is divided into two types in the form of composition in balance and composition in complexity, and valuation is seen based on the positive or negative worthiness. This research is limited on finding the appreciation in valuation.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research applies documentary analysis of news text. Data are analyzed by using appraisal as one of language evaluation in systemic functional linguistics which has an objection to investigate social change related with issues in critical discourse. The data are also analyzed in domain analysis, taxonomy analysis, componential analysis and cultural theme. Research setting is online news itself about issue on face-to-face polemic during Covid-19 pandemic written in Jakarta Post. Purposive sampling is taken to get research objective to find out the valuation of words in news text. Document analysis technique in theory of appraisal in systemic functional linguistics is used to keep truth worthiness. Data collection is conducted by analyzing the text. Domain analysis is seen from the text that belongs to recount as macro genre and discussion as micro genre. Taxonomy analysis is seen from the data of attitude in valuation. Componential analysis is shown in data of lexis with positive valuation or negative valuation. Cultural theme analysis is seen from relation of componential analysis in situational context.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This table shows findings in valuation form in news text about face to face polemic taken from the online news https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/12/21/expert-warns-about-reopening-schools-without-covid-19-vaccines-for-children.html.

Table 1. Valuation Form

No.	Data	Transitivity	Appreciation in Valuation	
			Positive	Negative
1	experts **warns** (reopening schools without Covid-19 vaccines)	verbal behavioral process	√	
2	Indonesia **seeks ways** (to reopen schools)	mental behavioral process		√
3	an expert **has reminded**	verbal behavioral process	√	
4	**carries** (the high risk of Covid-19 transmission)	material process	√	
5	children **are not prioritized** (in the upcoming vaccination drive)	attributive relational process		√
6	(vaccination-program) **prioritizes** recipients aged between 18 and 59 years old.	identifying relational process	√	
7	(those aged under 17 years) **will not receive** (Covid-19 vaccine)	material process		√
8	it **is** age group (will be expected to return to school)	attributive relational process		√
9	the government has to **consider** (children's immunity)	mental process	√	
10	Education and Culture Minister Nadiem Makarim **announced**	verbal behavioral process	√	

No.	Data	Transitivity	Appreciation in Valuation	
			Positive	Negative
	(the government would give the power)			
11	school reopening **can be done immediately (**or in stages)	material process		√
12	the schools wanting to reopen **must fulfill** the checklist (requirements)	material process	√	
13	the policy **is a major departure**	attributive relational process	√	
14	(only schools in green or yellow zones) **were allowed**	mental behavioral process	√	
15	(new policy) **allows (**schools in red zones to reopen)	mental behavioral process		√
16	(Kupang city) **is mulling a plan to reopen schools**	mental process		√
17	(schools) **are ready** (health protocols)	attributive relational process		√
18	(the city) **is planning** (a trial opening 25% of students)	mental behavioral process		√
19	(if succeeds) **will be allowed to increase**	mental behavioral process		√
20	(elsewhere) **are still considering**	mental process	√	
21	**was still studying the plan**	mental behavioral process	√	
22	**did not want** (new cases)	mental process	√	
23	(cases) **had happened** in other countries	material process		√
24	(Jakarta) **was preparing supporting facilities** (online education)	material process	√	
25	**hoped** can run	mental process	√	
26	(Palembang) **is reluctant** (reopen schools as red zone)	attributive relational process	√	

Table above shows that positive valuation more dominates the data (58%) than negative valuation (42%) which are expressed in forms of mental behavioural process (23%), material process (23%), attributive relational process (19%), mental process (19%), verbal behavioural process (12%) and identifying relational process (4%). Positive valuation shows reconsideration to find out solution for children before reopening schools because they have not got vaccine of Covid-19.

Seeing from genre perspective, there are some supporting ideas and opposing ideas. The supporting ideas in reopening schools can be seen from the lexis *seeks ways (to reopen schools), announced (the government would give the power), can be done immediately (or in stages), must fulfill the checklist (requirements)*, *(the policy) is a major departure*, *(new policy) allows (schools in red zones to reopen), (Kupang city) is mulling a plan to reopen schools, (schools) are ready (health protocols)*, *(the city) is planning (a trial opening 25% of students)*, *(if succeeds) will be allowed to increase*. The opposing ideas in reopening schools can be seen from the lexis *(experts) warns, has reminded*, *carries (the high risk of Covid-19 transmission), (children) are not prioritized in the upcoming vaccination drive*, *prioritizes recipients aged between 18 and 59 years old*, *(those aged under 17 years) will not receive (Covid-19 vaccine)*,

it is age group (will be expected to return to school), *has to consider (children's immunity)*, *(only schools in green or yellow zones) were allowed*, *are still considering, was still studying the plan, did not want (new cases)*, *(cases) had happened in other countries*, *(Jakarta) was preparing supporting facilities (online education)*, *hoped can run*, *(Palembang) is reluctant.*

The result above supports the ground theory stated by Martin & Rose (2007: 67-70) that lexis can help readers to understand the invisible meaning mentioned by the writer. The lexis also helps the writer to keep safe in exploring opinions to receive or reject a new policy related with reopening school in Covid-19 pandemic.

4. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Positive valuation dominates to warn every policy related with reopening schools by reconsidering the impact to the children which are mostly expressed in mental behavioural process and material process. This research still has the lack that has not been investigated, namely affect and judgment in news about reopening schools for children.

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