INTERPERSONAL MEANING IN THE SHORT STORIES OF WILLEM ISKANDER'S *SI BULUS-BULUS SI RUMBUK-RUMBUK*

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Abstract

This study aimed to analyze the mood and modality used in the short stories of Willem Iskander's Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk, elaborating and explaining the interpersonal meaning realized in each short story. The source of data was taken from a book authored by Willem Iskander, entitled "Si Bulus- Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk". This research showed that : (1) there were 157 clauses in the short stories with three mood types and two degrees of modality. (2) interpersonal meaning is realized based on the order of the subject and the finite. (3) the reason why the interpersonal meaning is realized in the way they are is that the author wants to share his thoughts and experiences of Mandailingnese by classifying each clause and finding the dominant use of declarative mood as the most direct and soft way of conveying the author's thought.

Keywords*: Interpersonal Meaning, Mood, Modality,Short Stories, Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk*

INTRODUCTION

Language is the key to human beings' communication and interaction and has the leading role in daily human activities. Wood and Kroger (2000:4) believe that language is taken to be not simply a tool for description and a medium of communication but as a social practice, a way of doing things.

Talking about the function of language in communication, there is a theory of language in which language function becomes the center of discussion where all language functions are arranged. Halliday developed this theory, and it is named Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). In the scope of SFL, there are fundamental meanings called metafunction. According to Halliday, the functional components are ideational meaning, textual meaning, and interpersonal meaning (1985:13).

This research focuses on the interpersonal relationship that can be seen through the interpersonal meaning realized in the text. In this case, the researcher takes short stories taken from the book *Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk- Rumbuk* as the form of literary work as the object of the thesis. In this study, the researcher intends to analyze the study's object under the scope of interpersonal meaning realized by describing the mood types, and the modality, elaborating interpersonal meaning realized, and explaining the use of interpersonal meaning realized in the short stories from the book S*i Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk.*

The researcher chooses the short stories of Si Bulus-Bulus Si RumbukRumbuk as the study's object because of two reasons. The first reason is that the short stories of Si Bulus-Bulus are one of the North Sumatera's local wisdom unfamiliar to the young generation, so the researcher wants to bring back and preserve the local wisdom that has not been explored and analyzed. The second reason is that the researcher is attracted to deepen her knowledge about the local wisdom of North Sumatera because it is one of the citizen duties to conserve the local wisdom. The short stories are taken from literary work as one a local wisdom in North Sumatera, and the researcher wants to know further about the author's thoughts about the reflection of some experiences such as education, culture, and religion of Mandailingnese in the past that is interesting to be analyzed and explored more.

Halliday (1985) states that interpersonal meaning is a form of action: the speaker or researcher doing something to the listener or reader using language. The elements of interpersonal meaning are mood and residue (mood system). Mood systems can be realized as mood types in the text or articles; it can be novel, short story, song lyrics, poem, Etc. Another system of grammar that has to do with interpersonal meaning is modality. Modality refers to a complex area of English grammar that concerns the different ways in which a language user can intrude on his/her message, expressing attitudes and judgments of various kinds (Eggins. 1994). Based on the phenomenon above, the research is conducted to analyze interpersonal meaning in the short stories of Willem Iskander's Si *Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk..*

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. **Systemic Functional Linguistics**

    Systemic Functional Linguistics (S.F.L.) is an approach of language that focuses on language, meaning resourceM.A.K introduced this theoryA.K. Halliday in the 1960s by using discourse analysis. It is usually used to find language interpretation in different ways, such as text or analyzing text as a form of discourse. It views language primarily as a resource for exploring and understanding the meaning in discourse (Halliday, 1994, xiv).

    Halliday (2002:198) introduces three functional modes of meanings of language from the point of the semantic system that is called metafunction: (1) ideational, (2) interpersonal, and (3) textual. These terms are the modes of meaning presented in every use of language in every social context.

    Gerot and Wignell (1994:12) state that ideational meanings are meanings about phenomena about things (living and non-living, abstract and concrete), about goings-on (what the things are or do). The circumstances surrounding these happenings and doings, these meanings are realized in wordings through participants, processes, and circumstances. On the other hand, to analyze a text of ideational meaning, it uses a transitivity system. Interpersonal meaning is used to explain how the researcher expresses his mind and his feelings. It focuses on the interactivity of the language and concerns how we act upon one another through language. The textual meaning expresses the relation between language and its environment, about how speaker or researcher organizes their messages in a particular situation in the case of written or spoken language (Halliday, 1994:34).

2. **Interpersonal Meaning**

    Interpersonal meaning plays the role of setting up and maintaining social relations and indicates the participants' role in the communication (Halliday, 2002). Halliday also states that through interpersonal means, people establish, negotiate, and assume their position in social relationships, and it is concerned with clauses as exchange. The systems of grammar that have to do with the interpersonal meaning are mood and modality.

    a) **Mood**

    Mood element and residue element are how interpersonal meanings are realized. The mood element bears the responsibility for the interactive event realized in the clause (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2002:120). The mood element includes subject, finite, and or mood adjunct; while the Residue consists of predicator, complement, and some adjuncts; while the Residue consists of predicator, complement, and some adjuncts such as mood, polarity, comment, vocative or circumstantial adjunct (Suzanne Eggins, 1994:154-169).

    Halliday in Eggins defines the subject as realizing the thing by reference in which the proposition can be affirmed or denied (Eggins, 1994: 156). It is relied on to change

information. The second constituent of the mood element is finite. Halliday (1982a:75) defines the finite in terms of its function in the clause to make the proposition definite, to anchor the proposition so that people can argue about it. It gives tenses to the finite, whether it is present, past, or future. The explanation of the subject and the finite operator can be seen in table 2.1.

The other component is called the Residue. The Residue consists of three elements: predicator, complement, and adjunct (Gerot and Wignell. 1995:31-36). Predicator is the verb part of the clause to gives details to the actual event, action, and process being discussed. Halliday (1994:80) states that a complement is an element within the Residue that can be the subject. It is realized by a nominal group and a participant who does not give influence in a clause. The adjunct is realized by adverbial group or prepositional phrase. Adjuncts have some subtypes: circumstantial, mood, polarity, comment, vocative, conjunctive, and continuity. It is a component of the clause that contributes to giving additional information without influencing the clause itself. The explanation of the residue operator can be seen in the example below:

The mood system is expressed by choices between different roles which a speaker can select for himself and his hearer (Berrt, 1975:166). It is expressed by choices between indicative (declarative and interrogative) and imperative mood. According to Gerot and Wignell(1994:38), Subject and Finite's order determines the type of mood within the clause, whether it is *declarative, interrogative, or negative.*

1) Declarative

The first mood types is declarative, it is realized by unmarked subject and finite. Declarative mood consist of statement, to declare or inform something from the speaker to the hearer.

2) Interrogative

The interrogatives mood is realized through finite and subject structure. It is supposed to ask question from the speaker to the hearer in their conversation.

3) Imperative

The last mood type is imperative. Imperatives may consist of subject and finite, subject only, finite only, or they have no mood element (Gerot and Wignell, 1994:41). Imperative mood is about command of speaker to the listener to do something that is needed by speaker.

b) **Modality**

Halliday proposes that "Modality refers to the meaning that lies between yes and no" (Halliday, 1994:88). However, the possibilities are more than just a simple "yes" or "not"

(positive and negative), but between the two. This is what Halliday defines as a modality. Modality classifies into modularization and modulation. Modularization is the proposition of modality used in a clause that explores the exchange of information. Halliday states, in a proposition, the meaning of the positive and negative poles is inserting and denying, positive it is so, negative it is not. Modularization has two kinds of intermediate possibilities, namely probability (possibly, probably, indeed) and usuality (sometimes, usually, always). In English, modality is commonly realized through modal verbal operators (also known as modal auxiliaries) of the finite verbs (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004). There are three values of modal commitment: high, medium, and low on the scale, and they lead to different meanings (Halliday, 1994).

3. Short stories

The short story is a work of fiction. It tells one event in a very concentrated way, describes something at a moment of crisis, introduces people who are told do not exist, has a plot and characters who are somehow connected (Lazar, 1993:73). Jones (1968) also states that a short story is an imaginative statement of feeling created or imagined. It is usually concerned with a single effect in only one or a few scenes. Considering the statements, a *short story* can be defined as a literary work with a plot and characters that can be read in a short time.

The short story is a short story that contains fewer than 5000 words or about 16 pages of quarto double spacing and can be read in fifteen minutes. The long short story is a short story that contains between 5000 until 10.000 words or about 33 pages of quarto double spacing and can be read in a half-hour.

To bring the reader into the story, some elements have a function to complete the short story itself. According to Klarer (1998:15), the essential elements are plot (what happens?), character (who acts?), narrative perspective (who sees what?), and setting (where and when do the events take place. Klarer (1998:15) states that plot is the logical interaction of the various thematic elements of a text, leading to a change of the actual situation as presented at the outset of the narrative. Furthermore, an ideal traditional plotline encompasses four sequential levels: exposition – compilation – climax.

The second element of the short story is character. Character plays a vital role in a short story, but in Morries et al. (1964:346), it is explained that in a short story, the focus is usually on one character; other characters serve only to emphasize his personality.

The next element is setting. The short story can be a place, time, and the scene where the short story takes place. Kurtus (2007) states that setting is the location and time that create the story's mood and atmosphere.

4. Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk

Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk is a book written by an education pioneer named Sati Nasution or well known as Willem Iskander. Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk was first published on 1872. This book is a bundle of his writings, including twelve poems, one play and seven short stories. The poems are titled *Sikola, Pesan Ayah Kepada Anak, Kepada Remaja, Mandailing, Mata Ni Ari, Olo-Olo, Di Amateon Ni Boruna, Na Mananom Na Mate, Siakkak Dohot Landul, Undan Dohot Ura-Ura, Ama Ni Marpuli Odong, and Berburu Di Dalam Bilik.* One play titled *Angkana Dohot Anggina*, and seven short stories titled *Na Binuat Tingon Barita Ni Tuan Colombus, Tiruan Ni Olong Ni Roa Marangka Maranggi, Sada Alak Pulonta On Na Mabiar Di Ahaila, Na Dangol Muda Na So Binoto, Amamete Ni Alak Na Lidang, and Pidong Garudo Bosar.*

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study used the descriptive qualitative method because it focused on the analysis or interpretation of the written material in context. According to Bogdan and Biklen (1982:27), descriptive means the data collected are in the form of words rather than numbers. In line with this, Mackey and Gass (2005: 162) state the qualitative research does not use statistical procedures in its data description. This present study, therefore, explained the findings through the words. Further, Subroto (1992:6-7) mentions that the data used in qualitative research are in the form of words, sentences, discourses, pictures, diary, memorandum, and video

In this research, the researcher collected the short stories as the data from Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk as the primary sources and analyzed the interpersonal meaning in the system of mood and modality. The analysis of the data used the following steps: firstly, read the short stories, analyzed the clause based on the mood residue elements, found the mood types, and found the modality through modal finite and mood adjunct. The last researcher concluded this study.

FINDINGS and DISCUSSIONS

Research findings

1. The analysis results show three mood types used in the short stories of Willem Iskander's Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk. The mood types are declarative mood, imperative mood, interrogative mood. There are two degrees of modality out of three modality degrees used in the short stories. The modality degrees are median and low. The most dominant mood type used is a declarative mood which means the writer wants to declare something to the readers.

2. The use of interpersonal meaning in the short stories of Willem Iskander's Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk have been analyzed and classified based on the order of subject and finite. The interpersonal meaning analysis was described and provided examples and how that sentence was categorized into the specific mood types and modality.

414

3. The reason why interpersonal meaning is realized in the way they are is that the author, who already tried to lift the nation's dignity in terms of education, wants to share his thoughts and experiences of Mandailingnese at that time. As a short story, the author tends to declare or state something, not to command or ask about something since it is a narrative genre of literary work, and by using the declarative mood, the author can convey what he truly wants to share.

Discussion

The research findings show three mood types used in the short stories of Willem Iskander's Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk.   The mood types are declarative mood, imperative mood, interrogative mood.

Based on the findings, the author uses declarative mood dominantly and avoids the use of interrogative mood. In line with this, it matches with the work of the author, which is narrative text. It is about to narrate more than to command something.

The findings of this research are supported by the research of Lusi Ayu (2014). She aimed to find the mood and modality as part of the interpersonal meaning developed in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) used in the short story by Hans Christian Andersen entitled The Real Princess. The result of her research is that she found declarative mood was dominantly used to indicate the writer's position as the provider of information while the modality only appears a little that the authors have no right to persuade the reader as the work is a narrative one.

For the next researcher who wants to have a related or further research about interpersonal meaning, especially about mood and modality, it is suggested to research to analyze the other objects— for example, song lyrics, literary translation of books, articles, and drama.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

After analyzing the short stories of Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk- Rumbuk, it was found there were three mood types used by the author, they are ;

1) Declarative Mood, 2) Imperative Mood, 3) Interrogative Mood. From the total of 157 clauses, it is found that 143 of them are declarative mood, 12 of them are imperative mood, and 2 of them are interrogative mood. There were two degrees of modality out of three modality degrees used in the short stories, are; 1) Median and 2) Low. Of the total 157 clauses, 12 are median degree modality, and two are classified as low degree modality. It shows that the dominant mood used is declarative.

The researcher has analyzed and classified the short stories of Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk based on subject and finite order to find the mood types and modality in each clause. The interpersonal meaning analysis was described and provided examples of how that sentence

was categorized into the specific mood types and modalities. If the order of the element is subject followed by finite, then it is classified as the declarative mood, and the interrogative mood is realized through the order of finite followed by a subject. Meanwhile, for the imperative mood, the element's order does not always consist of a subject and finite; they may consist of the subject only, finite only, or no mood element. In terms of modality, the use of modal operators helps the speaker emphasize the readers' obligation. The values of modal commitment classify it.

Willem Iskander, the author of this book, has been trying so hard to lift the nation's dignity in terms of education; this can be proven by the enlightenment movement of education (Aufklärung) Mandailingnese that he created, a school named Kweekschool of Mandailing that he set up. In this book, the interpersonal meaning realized in the way it was because as the pioneer of education of Mandailingnese, and by having so much knowledge and experiences which lies behind the socio-cultural situation of Mandailingnese in that time, the author tends to share his observation and inspiration of everything that lives in a culture of Mandailingnese and are integrated with religious material, which can be dominantly realized by the using of declarative mood. The declarative mood is the most direct and soft way to convey the author's thoughts of what he saw of Mandailingnese in the past.

Suggestion

Based on the conclusion, the suggestions are as follows:

1. It is suggested to the readers, especially to English department students, in order to be able to understand in analyzing text with the use of interpersonal meaning because the classification is a valuable way to employ specific meaning according to the clause type.

2. It is also suggested that the learners get how interpersonal meaning is categorized into specific mood types and modalities because this research is such a good starting point for those who need further investigation concerning a different context.

3. It is also suggested to the learners, especially the young generation, to understand more about what the author of Si Bulus-Bulus Si Rumbuk-Rumbuk wants to share and deliver and because it is one of our responsibility to conserve, observe more about our local wisdom, and appreciate the author who has been trying so hard to lift the nation's dignity in term of education

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