



## Experiential Metafunction in Selected Poems by *John Cooper Clarke*

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### ABSTRACT

This research discusses about Experiential Metafunction. The objectives of this research are to find out process of Experiential Metafunction and the participant function of Experiential Metafunction. This research uses SFL according to Halliday's theory. The research on this thesis was carried by using qualitative method. The data were taken from clauses in selected poems by *John Cooper Clarke*. The research chose three poems that will be carried out Full-time loser, *I Wanna Be Yours*, and *Kung Fu International*. The result on this research show that were six types of process based on 54 clauses in selected poems by *John Cooper Clarke*, such as

Material was occurred 22 clauses, Mental 7 clauses, Relational 19 clauses, Verbal 4 clauses, Behavioral occurred 1 clause and Existential 1 clause. The most frequent process contained in this research is material and relational.

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### INTRODUCTION

The study of language known as Systemic Functional Linguistics, or SFL, sees language as having two properties: systemic and functional. Halliday & Matthiessen (2014) states that systemic because SFL understood language, or any other semiotic system, as networks of interconnecting alternatives through the premise of meaning as a choice. Because language is intended to accommodate many forms of usage, it was also functional. Ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning, and textual meaning were the functioning components (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

The researcher gets interested in ideational especially in experiential metafunction research. The researcher thought that it was important to learn ideational metafunction

because it learned about meaning of text. People may comprehend intended meaning through ideational meaning, which revealed experiences, participants, and surrounding conditions contained in a sentence. A grammatical technique called transitivity systems was used to interpret ideational meaning. Examining a text's experiential meaning or content requires using the transitivity system, a subnetwork within the ideational metafunction. Text was examined at the clause level using transitivity analysis.

Transitivity is a representation of experience that appears in a clause. This is so because an experience is represented and viewed as a sentence, which is made up of three components: process, participant, and circumstance. A clause is primarily divided into three parts by the transitivity system. The situation(s), the participant(s) carrying out or impacted by the process, which is typically expressed by a noun phrase, and the process itself provide answers to queries such when, where, why, how, how many, and as what. Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) has identified six process types under transitivity, labelled as: Material, Mental, Relational, Verbal, Behavioural and Existential. While, types of circumstance are Extent, Location, Manner, Cause, Contingency, Accompaniment, Role, Matter and Angel.

In this research, the researcher interested in analyzing the process, participant, and circumstances found in John Cooper Clarke selected poems because the poet communicates by expressing his idea and feeling through the poems. The researcher chooses John Cooper Clarke poems because his poems conjure up an endless stream of magical phrases and delivers them with his unique Salford drawl, leaving behind piles of people requiring medical assistance due to split sides. His pioneering style has influenced generations of writers and his poem, *'I Wanna Be Yours'*, was reworked and featured on the Arctic Monkeys latest album AM. John Cooper Clarke has his own distinctive language style and seems to be an icon in his writing style.

Literary works include novels, prose, drama, and poems. A poem is a means not only to express the poets' feelings, but also to make us immerse ourselves in those feelings about the things, people, situations, or ideas in the poem (Jones and Quinn, 2015). Poems is an imaginative literary form in which the authors feelings and ideas to expressed. Khairunnisa (2022) has identified Poems is a literary work that is imaginative by expressing the emotions and thoughts of the author The beauty of the language and the

density of meaning that poems sometimes make the reader or poetic connoisseurs have difficulty in understanding meaning contained in the poem.

In this research concentrated on experiential metafunction found in selected poems by John Cooper Clarke. Sari (2019) states that there are three components in grammar are involved in the process, participants, circumstances. There are six types of experience functions, namely Material Functions, Mental Functions, Verbal Functions, Behavioral Functions, Existential Functions, and Relational Functions (doing, happening, behaving, sensing, feeling, and existing). There are several labels given for the participants of each process, such as Actor, Goal; Senser, Phenomenon; Carrier, Attribute; etc.

Based on previous studies, Wang (2019) discovered Experiential Metafunctional Analysis of Poetry in Song Dynasty Take Ru Meng Ling, this research makes experiential metafunctional analysis of four English versions of Ru Meng Ling written by the poet Li Qingzhao from the perspective of Halliday's systemic functional linguistics. Maledo & Edhere (2021) discussed Experiential Metafunction: Representing Environmental Degradation, this study is a linguistic analysis of Niger Delta environmental poetry.

In this case, the function of experience is very important to discuss because it has a constituent structure that can be explained functionally in terms of processes, participants, and circumstances. The reason why researchers take up this problem is because the function of experience can be seen in John Cooper Clarke selected poems.

Based on the background above, the researcher interested to do research with the title "Experiential Metafunction in John Cooper Clarke selected poems". To understanding poetry, the researcher will help the readers to understand what the poet means. The reason why the readers do not want to know about the meaning was they felt difficulties in distinguishing the process, participant, and circumstance in sentence. They have limited ability to understand it. Because of that, the researcher hopes this research could give valuable contributions in the field of linguistics, especially in experiential metafunction.

## **METHOD**

This research using qualitative method because this research is aimed to figure out the meaning process of Experiential Metafunction discover in *John Cooper Clarke* selected

poems. Creswell (2009), Qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem.

In this research, the researcher analyzed the data qualitatively. Lincoln & Guba (1985), Qualitative research is an emergent design in its negotiated outcomes, Meaning and interpretations are negotiated with human data sources because it is the subjects' realities that the researcher attempts to reconstruct. The data of this research was found in some journal, articles related to the topic and the researcher was collected some clauses in *John Cooper Clarke* selected poems.

The data -source was taken from the clauses of sentences in selected poems by John Cooper Clarke. In this research, the researcher chose three poems as data sources namely *Full-time Loser*, *I Wanna Be Yours*, and *Kung Fu International*.

After getting the data from the research subjects, the researcher uses some steps in analyzing the data as the following. It is used to make sure the data was valid and can be trusted or not. This research analyzed about experiential meaning by the following techniques:

1. Reading all clauses in every line of poems
2. Analyzing the process
3. Putting the clauses based on the types of predicators and process into a list
4. Describing how the processes are used in poem then be numbered to facilitate analysis process.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this research, it was found that in selected poems by John Cooper Clarke used six process such as material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioral, and existential process based on the transitivity system proposed by Halliday was composed of three main types of processes: material, mental, and relational. There were also three minor types which were: behavioral, verbal, and existential processes. The process was realized by a verb and it was the central part of the situation.

The researcher combines the process, participant, and circumstance happened in the clause. It deals with the activity done. In traditional structure, process same with the verb. Every process had their participant themselves. In one process, it had one or more

participant. But sometimes, in one process it just had one participant. This is the data that the researcher found based on the analyze:

### 1. Existential Process

**Table 1. Data 1: *Stop That Horse***

Stop	that	horse
Existential Pr.	Circumstance Loc. Spatial	Existent

The clause is existential process. The verb (stop) that something happens. Where existent (horse) as a participant, and (that) as circumstance location spatial. It belongs to the existential process. The sentence *Stop that horse* were composed of existential process and existence. The existential process is symbolized by the to-be *stop* which is classified as the process of existing and *horse* of competition acts as the existent. However, the word 'that' refer to horse representation of the existential process since there is only one participant named existent.

### 2. Material Process

**Table 2. Data 2: *He Wears My Shirt***

He	wears	my shirt
Actor	Material Pr.	Goal

The clause is material process. The verb (wears) is physical saction. Where subject (he) as an actor, (my shirt) as goal. It belongs to the material process. The sentence is composed of an actor, a material process, and a goal. The clause 'He' refers to the individual who is doing the action which is defined as the participant. The participant in this case is referred to as an actor. The material process is recognizable in the verb wears which describes the actual activities to the goal.

### 3. Mental Process

**Table 3. Data 4: *That Time Forgot***

That time	forgot
Phenomenon	Material Pr.

The clause is mental process (Cognition: forgot). The verb (forgot) is physical sense. Where subject (that time) as a phenomenon. It refers to the mental process of cognition. It consists of a phenomenon, and process. The perception process is shown

by the word *forgot* which indicates a process of thinking. The one who can think is symbolized by the clause *That time* that acts as the phenomenon of the structure.

#### 4. Relational Process

**Table 4. Data 7: *Let Me be Your Vacuum Cleaner***

Let me	be	your vacuum cleaner
Carrier	Intensive Attrib. Rel Pr.	Attribute

The clause is relational process. That (be) is intensive attributive relational processes. The participants are carrier (let me) and attribute (your vacuum cleaner). It belongs to the attributive relational process. The type of relational process is intensive. It is composed of a carrier, an attributive relational process, and an attribute. Let me be your vacuum cleaner to-be is which is classified as an intensive process, while 'Let me' acts as a carrier, and 'your vacuum cleaner' refers to the attribute of the structure.

#### 5. Behavioral Process

**Table 5. Data 8: *Breathing in Your Dust***

Breathing	in your dust
Behavioral Pr.	Cir. Manner

The clause is behavioral process. That (breathing) is psychological behavior. And the clause has circumstance of manner (in your dust). It belongs to the behavioral process. It is composed of a behavioral process, and a circumstance manner. *Breathing* is which is classified is a psychological behavior, while *in your dust* acts as circumstance manner.

#### 6. Verbal Process

**Table 6. Data 13: *You Call The Shots***

You	call	the shots
Sayer	Verbal Pr.	Verbiage

The clause is verbal process. The verb (call) is expressing ideas in words. Where the participant is (You) as sayer and (the shots) as verbiage. It belongs to the verbal process. In the sentence, *You call the shots* composed of a sayer, a process, and a varbiage. The process of saying was detected in the verb *call* as the verbal process of

the clause, while *You* acts as the sayer, and *the shots* acts as the receiver. In this clause, the sener is *You* with the word *call* used to explain the verbal process done by it.

## CONCLUSIONS

It was found that in selected poems by John Cooper Clarke used six process such as material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioral, and extential process based on the transitivity system proposed by Halliday. The processes used material (22 clause), mental (7 clauses), relational (19 clauses), verbal (4 clauses), behavioral (1 clause) and extential (1 clause).

The most frequent process contained in this research is material and relational. The implication of material and relational process being the most frequent process in poems such as material process is used in order to describes the doing and happening of something, and relational is used to classified something to something of the poet express his feeling. Every type of process that was used in selected poems by John Cooper Clarke had each function and meaning also to express someone experience or idea through a poem.

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