

THE FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN INDONESIAN PRESIDENT, MR. JOKOWI'S WORDS, AS REPORTED ON ONLINE NEWS

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Abstract

The study is aimed at observing the figurative language in Mr. Jokowi's words on online news. The method used is qualitative. The technique of collecting data is through the script of the online news in The Jakarta Post and Tempo. The techniques of analyzing data are data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions drawing. The results show there are 32 data of figurative language in both news such as Simile: 1 data, Metaphor: 1 data, Personification: 4 data, Hyperbole: 1 data, Metonymy: 16 data, and Synecdoche: 9 data. The conclusions, from most of the types used by Mr. Jokowi, Metonymy, depict an attractive and personal image that he presents himself as part of the institutions that he leads. He also tries to provide and put promises as hopes and solutions to the problems that exist. The suggestions, this study hoped to provide information and as reference to the next researchers. In this study, there still is some lack, therefore it will be an opportunity for those who are interested in developing the current research, or analyzing figurative language in journalists' words in reporting news, or even in advertisements.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, Indonesian President Mr. Jokowi's Words, Online News*

INTRODUCTION

News is written information taken based on an event from a place. The information in the news is written based on reality and facts. Before the development of information technology, news was conveyed through print media, namely newspapers. People must buy newspapers directly or subscribe to have them delivered via courier to their homes. Currently, technological developments make news accessible via the internet on any communication device such as a cell

phone. This is in line with Hargreaves (2014: p.8-10) that in the current technological era, news that was previously only available in print media such as newspapers has changed to electronic or online media.

Electronic media, especially in conveying information, is quite important because online media is very easily accessible to everyone and has an influence on society. Obeng and Hartford (in Anastasia, 2018) state that several major roles of media, especially electronic media, are to provide information and interpret, as well as entertain. The delivery of information through news is facilitated by technology which makes it easier to disseminate news information to the public more quickly. Information can be widely known and the news disseminated is more varied. Online news is currently increasingly diverse and available on various platforms. An online news story can be written by an organization/community, government agency, or individual.

Online news conveys information using clear language and can summarize important information in it and also uses interesting language intending to attract the reader's interest. The delivery of information in an online news report should be written uniquely and interestingly. In line with this, one of the interesting languages used is figurative language.

Figurative language is the language that aims to beautify, enliven an expression so that it can provide an explanation that can attract the reader's interest. (Keraf in Rohani & Arsyad, 2018). In addition, Dancygier and Sweetser (in Cindy, 2019) define figurative language as the language that is considered effective, persuasive, and influences the reader, such as building opinions and providing an assessment of a view, event or policy.

The use of figurative language is not only found in poetry but also the language used by some speakers such as head of countries, institutions, politicians, and governments, in their speeches or interviews. To observe the language used by some speakers such as leaders is interesting, especially in the purpose of getting to know how they act toward any situations happen in the society.

One of the leader who is interesting to be studied, especially dealing with observing the figurative language used by a speaker, is the Indonesian President, Mr. Joko Widodo. Mr. Jokowi is the leader who certainly always be as the center of the public. As a figure, he has a big influence to his country and society. Therefore, it is important to observe Mr. Jokowi's language, especially related to the figurative language used in his words, in order to find out through his words about how he acts and behaves in overcoming any situations and problems exist in society. This is also the reason why this study is conducted.

There is a similar study on figurative language in news, conducted by Silalahi (2020) entitled "An Analysis of Figurative Language Found in the Jakarta Post Newspaper". However, in his research, his focus is on observing the language used by journalists in reporting the news about Covid-19. The results show that there are 10 types of figurative used in the journalists' language.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative. Qualitative research is a type of research that uses or collects empirical material or case studies, life stories, cultural texts, and personal experiences. (Creswell, J.W. & Poth, 2007, p: 36). The technique of collecting data is through documentation. Documentation is the collection of data which is in the form of letters, diaries, photo archives, journals, and manuscripts relating to problems and issues for research purposes. (Sugiyono in Rahmadi, 2022). The documentation in this research is the scripts of news in The Jakarta Post and Tempo. The Techniques of Analyzing Data are through three ways: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. (Miles & Huberman in Wicaksana & Rachman, 2018). In data reduction, the data are identified and classified based on the types of figurative language. In data presentation, the data are described and connected to some theories. In conclusion drawing, the conclusions are drawn as the results of the research.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

There are several data found dealing with figurative language in The Jakarta Post and Tempo online news as described below:

Simile

Simile is a figure of speech that is identified with an affirmation of similarities between two different things. (Reaske in Siswanti et al., 2013: p.24). Dealing with this type, there is 1 data found as described on the table below:

Table 01. Simile in Jokowi's Words

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	"President Jokowi to start apology tour for past atrocities"	Data 01 "I, as a head of state, acknowledge that there were gross human rights violations that did happen in many events" said Jokowi	In that sentence, it shows a simile figuratively marked by the use of the word "as". In this sentence, Jokowi compares himself and himself as a head of state by using the word "as".

The simile in the sentence "*I, as a head of state*" in data 01, is categorized into simile. It is because Jokowi "*I*" compares himself to "*a head of state*" by using the word "*as*", in which suggests that those two positions are similar. This classification deals with Reaske definition of simile because the sentence use "*as*" to compare two things. This is in line with Keraf's opinion (Silalahi, 2020) that simile is the figurative language with strict comparisons that show similarities between two different things. The purpose of an explicit comparison is to show something directly by using words that equate two different things.

Metaphor

Metaphor is figurative language with the concept of directly comparing one thing with another thing. The concept of metaphor will be used when the author feels that two terms are quite identical, not just similar. In general, metaphors will be formed using the verb "to be" (Reaske in Siswanti et al., 2013: p.24). Dealing with this type, there is 1 data found as described in the table below:

Table 02. Metaphor in Jokowi's Words

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	"Jokowi Urges ASEAN Foreign Ministers to Win Without Defeating Anyone"	Data 02 Jokowi said "This year, <i>Indonesia is the ASEAN Chair</i> . We will utilize this to improve ASEAN's contribution to the prosperity of Indo-Pacific and the world,"	In this sentence, there is a metaphorical figurative language, namely Jokowi directly compares Indonesian with the Asean Chair using to be (is)

The metaphor in the sentence “*Indonesia is the ASEAN Chair*” in data 02, is categorized into metaphor. It is because “Indonesia” which is the name of the country, compared to the “ASEAN chair” in which it is a world organization of nations. This classification deals with Reaske definition of metaphor that compare of directly two things with verb “is”. It deals with Colston (2015: p.112) metaphor is a figurative language that combines two different things into an expression in the form of sentences or words that can be understood by readers or listeners when they understand the context being discussed or discussed.

Personification

Personification is a type of figurative language by giving human characteristics or associating human characteristics with an object, non-human idea activity or something abstract (Reaske in Siswanti et al., 2013: p.27). Dealing with this type, one of the data found is described on the table below:

Table 03. Personification in Jokowi's Words

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	“Starvation in Central Papua Caused by Extreme Weather and Security Issues, Says Jokowi Translator”.	Data 03 Jokowi also highlighted the security issue hindering the food supplies distribution process, with planes carrying the aid unwilling to land due to security-related problems. “ <i>The planes were affraid</i> ” to land, it's a challenging domain," he said.	The word "the planes" are objects, whereas, the word “affraid” is an adjective used to describe human's feeling. Therefore, the sentence is classified into Personification.

The personification in the sentence “*The planes were affraid*” in data 03, is categorized into personification. It is because the word "the planes" are the air transportation, whereas, the word “affraid” is an adjective used to describe human's feeling. This classification deals with Reaske definition of personification, in data 03 the afraid feeling is classified into abstractions. It deals with Perrine's explanation (in Mely: 2022) explaining that the concept of personification will occur when a non-human object is given the attributes or characteristics of a human.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a type of figure of speech that uses exaggerated style to emphasize a statement to the extreme and produce a very dramatic effect (Reaske in Siswanti et al., 2013: p.29). Dealing with this type, there is 1 data found as described on the table below:

Table 04. Hyperbole in Jokowi's Words

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	"Starvation in Central Papua Caused by Extreme Weather and Security Issues, Says Jokowi Translator"	Data 04 President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo claimed that the famine suffered in two districts in Puncak Regency, Central Papua, was caused by extreme cold weather and security factors. Jokowi has asked the Indonesian National Military (TNI) to escort the aid distribution process. The districts were also located in the high altitude, contributing to the extreme weather experienced in the area. "The problem is, <i>the districts were situated in an area where no plants can grow in the event of snowfall</i> ," said Jokowi	In this sentence is a hyperbole figurative language, jokowi emphasizes that an area becomes a place where no plants can grow if the area has snowfall.

The sentence "*the districts were situated in an area where no plants can grow in the event of snowfall*" in data 04, is categorized into hyperbole. It is because the sentence "*no plants can grow in the event of snowfall*" is an expression of emphasis on areas where there are no plants. This classification deals with Reaske definition of hyperbole that gives excessive emphasis to a situation in a place. Hyperbole is figurative language that uses many ideas to give the impression of emphasis or exaggeration (Colston, 2015): p. 113).

Metonymy

Metonymy is replacing a word that is actually meant with something related to an object or idea. In other words, one word is replaced with another closely related word. figurative language metonymy is a change of term from one term to another which is still closely related to the term in question (Reaske in Siswanti et

al., 2013: p.31). Dealing with this type, one of the data found is described on the table below:

Table 05. Metonymy in Jokowi's Words

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	"Basarnas Polemic; Jokowi to Evaluate Military, Police Having Civilian Posts"	Data 05 He refused to talk much about the chaotic handling of the alleged graft case involving the Basarnas chief and urged the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) and the TNI to make coordination. "I think it is a matter of coordination that must be held by all <i>institutions</i> according to their respective authorities based on the regulations," he said.	In this sentence the word "Institutions" the word refers to 3 government agencies that are in the news, namely the Police, TNI and Basarnas.

The metonymy in the sentence "*institutions*" in data 05, is categorized into metonymy. It is because the word "*institutions*" the word refers to 3 government agencies that are in the news which are discussed in the news, namely the National Police, TNI and Basarnas. the word "institution" is a term that replaces the 3 different official state agencies that are in the news. This classification deals with Reaske definition of metonymy that replacing a word with something related to an object or idea. It deals with Mezo (in Yuliana: 2022), metonymy is figurative language that uses substitute terms that are still attached to a term referred to or intended by a writer.

Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a situation where part of something is used to represent the whole, or where the whole is used to represent part of it. Synecdoche figurative language is a situation when the mention of a part of something is used by the author to represent the whole, or when the whole is used to represent a part of the whole (Reaske in Siswanti et al., 2013: p.31). Dealing with this type, one of the data found is described on the table below:

Table 06. *Synecdoche in Jokowi's Words*

No.	News	Jokowi's Words	Descriptions
1.	"Central government can take over roadworks in Lampung: Jokowi"	Data 06 President Jokowi said that he could immediately order Public Works and Public Housing Basuki Hadimulyono to start working on repairing roads in Lampung if the provincial government did not move fast enough "I want the repair work to start as soon as possible and if the provincial government does not have the capacity to do it then the public works ministry can take over the project," Jokowi told.	In the "provincial government" section refers to all regional leaders, especially in the province of South Sumatra, Lampung

The synecdoche in the sentence, "*PUPR (Public Works and Housing) Ministry and Jakarta Provincial Government*" in data 06, is categorized into synecdoche. It is because the word "*PUPR ministry and Jakarta Provincial Government*" these two words are terms that represent all sections of the staff in the Public Works and Spatial Planning Office as well as those in the DKI Jakarta provincial government office which is an official institution under the State government. This classification deals with Reaske definition of synecdoche it is a part of something is used by the author to represent the whole, or when the whole is used to represent a part of the whole. It deals with Keraf (Silalahi, 2020) synecdoche is figurative language using certain attributes or terms in the whole to replace the whole by using only one attribute or one term.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

As the conclusions, in Mr. Jokowi's language, there are some types of figurative language as reported in both online media such as Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Hyperbole, Metonymy, and Synecdoche. From this study, Mr. Jokowi mostly uses the type of figurative language metonymy in his language. It shows that Mr. Jokowi has a personal image which is as an authoritative, educated figure and as a figure who is able to provide solutions to problems that occur.

As the suggestions, this study can be made as reference to further researchers, as well as providing information to those who are interested in analyzing and developing the study of figurative language in online news. There are still has some lacks, therefore it will be an opportunity for those who are interested in developing the current research, or analyzing figurative language in journalists' words in reporting news, or even in advertisements.

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