A Metafunction Analysis of Conjunction System in the Opinion Forum of the Jakarta Post Daily Newspaper

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Abstract:
The study aims at finding the meaning of the texts or sentences in detail from the discourse semantics' perspectives through metafunctions analysis of conjunction systems introduced by Martin and Rose (2003: 110). This study used qualitative and descriptive methods. The data used in this study is taken from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the Jakarta Post in January 2019. They are entitled "Free Ba'asyir? Why now?" by the Editorial Board of Jakarta Post, "Our double standards on Jerusalem and Ba'asyir" by Kornelius Purba, and "Questioning early release of Ba'asyir" by Carrisa Tehputri. The researcher assesses the extent of utilization of conjunctions in the text by using the four kinds of logic for the conjunction types; addition, comparison, time, and consequence. Based on the analysis of conjunction systems, the article uses four logics of conjunctions both external and internal conjunctions as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms. First, the three articles used conjunctions to add the meaning of information and become a set of means for adjusting expectations are continuatives. Second, the conjunctions logic used as a comparison that expressed the meaning of similarity and contrast in order to compare or contrast arguments when countering an expectation that the authors have created for the reader. Third, the articles used the conjunctions to express the successive meaning and simultaneous meaning in order to add the information when sequencing events and looking at interconnections between processes. In short, those conjunctions are used to relate activities in sequences and to organize arguments. The last logic conjunctions used in those articles are the consequence with cause, purpose, and condition meaning in order to add the information when giving cause and effect.
Keywords*: conjunction system, Jakarta Post, metafunction analysis*

1. Introduction

There are several ways for people to keep in touch with others in order to acquire information or express their opinion in anytime and anywhere. One of the ways is through discourse. It is because that discourse not only displays the information but also the opinion of each person. Discourse can expose the mindset, attitude, approach of people who speak, listen, write or read to it. But in general, discourse is known as a mean of spoken and written communication in order to get and give information through symbols, signs, images or pictures, and writing articles that describe something we experience and assume.

The mass media is one of the categories of written communications. It has an essential role in language development and can be discovered easily within the society surrounding. Also, mass media is an approach to form a distinct so as that most of the people can apprehend the readers' perceptions. It also sets the readers' awareness to accept or comprehend the author's feeling or thinking. Therefore, mass media is not solely called as the tool of communication but also has the facility to form or create perception and readers' mindset. The function of this strength is to pursue people perceptions and change various mindsets. It will be more powerful when the data is completed with pictures, tables, figures, graphs or diagrams that show that the data is real and accurate.

Currently, each printed and electronic or online media become a global source for people to get real the information or news related to different areas from around the world such as politics, economy, social and cultures, education, sports, entertainment etc. Media helps people to get updated information or news in a short period of time easily. We are familiar with the types of print media such as newspapers, magazines, books. While, for the electronic media, it refers to all means of sharing information on electronic devices for the audience viewing and it also can be broadcasted to the wider section of societies. The common types of electronic media are internet, television, radio, etc.

As one of the oldest means of publishing information sources, printed media is a popular form of publicity that uses physically form. Like newspapers, for example, it has a big contribution and the ability to reach a wider section of societies. It also provides up to date and accurate news, articles, announcements, and advertisements in a regular style related to the local, national, and international events every day. Therefore, as one of the main information sources, a newspaper has become a very important public media with a huge range of readers for a long time period.

A newspaper also has several roles such as informing, enlightening, educating entertaining, persuading, and connecting the social community in an environment. Even, in the current period, there is a massive evolution or transition from paper used to the digital era that can be indicated by the manifestation of media such as an internet, a newspaper never really loses its loyal audience or readers. Indonesia people, especially from the middle class of society, for example, they never lose their attention or interest in it. They consider that a newspaper is a low-cost source of information. It is portable and can be read several times. It also serves more in-

depth information than the other media could give (Survey of Kompas Research and Developing Center, 2012).

Martin and Rose (2003: 7) have proposed sets of meanings to investigate how those meanings conveyed from the textual content and serve one or another of these metafunctions. Those sets of meanings are referred to as discourse systems. There are five key structures or systems that are founded to explore the meanings of texts well (Martin and Rose, 2003: 66). *The first* is an *appraisal* analysis. It is employed to evaluate and discuss attitudes and it is part of interpersonal metafunction. *The second* analysis is *ideation.* It is a part of ideational metafunction to represent the 'factual' knowledge and understanding which focuses on the 'discourse content', such as what activities are undertaken and composed of, how those kinds of activities are defined, categorized or classified by the contributors. *The third* is a *conjunction* analysis. It is part of ideational metafunction and it is done to see how activities are related into sequences within the textual content. They act as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information, compare or contrast arguments when supporting or countering them, sequencing events and giving cause and effect. *The fourth* analysis is *identification.* It is a part of textual metafunction used employed to track the participants with introducing persons, things, and placers within the text. Then, they will be tracked through the analysis of discourse. *The fifth* is a *periodicity* analysis. It is an element of textual metafunction used for finding out the rhythm with the aid of giving factual information within the text. It means that the writer has a capacity in making the correlation in the text, and it is one of the important factors in establishing interrelated connections in the discourse. These kinds of ideas are about information flow for giving the readers various ideas related to what they expect, then fulfilling their expectations, and finally reviewing them.

In order to organize a discourse, Martin and Rose (2003: 66) said that conjunctions could connect the arguments in some stages. They also play an essential role in representing us what to expect at each phase of discourse and restructure logical relation between facts, figures or information. Then, conjunctions have a role in functioning as logical metaphors, encompassed in ideational metafunction". In English discourse, there are four general approaches of realizing logical relations through conjunctions: (1) adding events together (2) comparing them (3) sequencing them in time, and (4) clearing up their reasons or causes, purpose, and conditions. Therefore, the usage of conjunction is a technique of creating cohesion in texts.

The researcher tried to assess the amount of utilization of conjunctions from the three articles. The researcher uses four kinds of logic for the conjunction types; *addition, comparison, time,* and *consequence.* See table 1 below.

Table 1. The Types of Major Conjunction (Martin and Rose 2003: 113).

Logical Relation	Meaning	Conjunctions
addition	'adding together'	*and*
comparison	'comparing'	*like*
time	'sequencing in time'	*then, finally*
consequence	'explaining cause'	*all because*

Martin and Rose (2003: 127), also define conjunctive relations as internal and external. External conjunctions are used to relate activities, while internal conjunctions are used to organize texts. Both internal and external conjunctions are classified according to four main types. Martin and Rose (2003: 66) define these types according to four logical conjunctive relations: adding, comparing, time and consequence. The four logics of conjunctions relations as internal and external text analysis are summarized based on the classification of the external and internal conjunctions (Martin and Rose, 2003: 119) as classified in table 2 below.

Table 2. Classification of External and Internal Conjunction (From Martin and Rose 2003: 133-134).

	External Conjunction		Internal Conjunction	
addition	addition	*and, besides, not only... but also...*	additive	*further*
	alternation	*or, if*	alternative	
comparison	similarity	*like,*	similar	*similar*
	contrast	*but, however*	different	*indeed*
time	successive	*after, once*	successive	*eventually*
	simultaneous	*while, as, when*	simultaneous	
consequence	cause	*although, however*	concluding	*therefore*
	means			
	purpose	*for*	countering	
	condition	*if*		

The study aims at finding the meaning of the texts or sentences in detail from the discourse semantics' perspectives through metafunctions analysis of conjunction systems introduced by Martin and Rose (2003: 66). It is expected that this study will give a better knowledge and understanding about the meaning, types, and functions of conjunction for the readers. The data was taken from the top three most shared "Opinion Forum" articles of the *Jakarta Post* in January 2019. There were two reasons for selecting articles within the "Opinion Forum" as the data related to the informative and argumentative discourses. Secondly, the findings of this research may be beneficial in order to provide information to the readers, in terms of particular problems, issues or topics of interest. Therefore, it is very interesting to analyze the article, especially the opinion forum column in the Jakarta Post. Hopefully, the readers will

get the scientific description of these meaning, types, and functions of conjunction so that they will not be confused and will be able to identify the language that used ideation in articles of "Opinion Forum" column in the Jakarta Post newspaper.

2. Literature Review

As stated in the previous chapter that *conjunction* is part of ideational metafunction and it is analyzed to see how activities are related into sequences within the textual content. It is focused on properties for connecting messages in spoken and written communications, through addition, comparison, temporality or time, and causality or consequence. There are some previous researchers who conducted their research related to the systemic functional linguistics (SFL), metafunction, and conjunction analysis.

In the systemic functional linguistics (SFL) of discourse, a conjunction word is known as a component of the semantic system. Banks (2002) showed in his article that SFL is an interesting, useful and powerful tool for analyzing text. It also provides an analytical framework comparing a text. However, the scope of his article only limited to discussion of SFL, not in taking comparative considerations into interpretation. Then, De Oliveira (2015) presented as SFL features analysis of the writing samples that obtained a passing and failing mark. Her research described that some grammatical resources are very useful for expository writing that are categorized into textual, interpersonal, and ideational resources. Kailani (2017) conducted his research that focused on the assessment of the cohesion and coherence of medical care report concerning their marks. He also identified that the SFL framework focuses on the matter of metafunction and functions as a tool for assessing cohesion.

While Wijayanto (2016) examined the text meaning in detail by using the metafunctions analysis of appraisal systems. Based on the appraisal systems of text attitude, the author used positive and negative choices for affecting the reader. They were chosen to express the author's opinions and suggestions. Related to the analysis of text attitudes, the article expressed the power of intensifiers which make it possible for the readers to examine things or to state how powerfully they feel regarding someone or something. The text also has some clauses that containing the effect values. The author was fully responsible for all of the analysis, and this is as a result of the author's expectation.

In conjunction analysis, Gleason (1968) drew this classification into his previous study on connecting between clauses in a framework for analyzing internal and external conjunctive dealings with what was proposed, including the possibility of connections that is only understood by the contiguity of messages by an explicit connector. Related to conjunctions functionality, Ahangar, Taki, and Rahimi (2012) and Al-Khalidy (2018) determined that conjunctions had a significant relationship with their usage inside the data within the corpus. While Ismail (2012) investigated the significance functions and features and tried to shed light-weight on the sorts of discourse markers utilized in political speech. The results showed that the discourse markers have the function as a means of social interaction that directed to influence

the state or nation. Wang (2016) also said that conjunctions can be helpful to support the connection of different concepts and let the speakers extend, explore, elaborate, and improve their statements.

While Centonze (2013) analyzed the wide variety of times for every form of conjunction intensively. She had a tendency to comprehend the number of bound conjunctions, that there are a lot of restrictions and way a number of their properties in every form of speech action, in spite of the large variety of choices out there to the speaker. As stated by Kusumawardhani (2017) that conjunction connects the words, phrases or clauses. She also stated that grammar is not the only component in writing but also conjunctions as other components of writing that must be noticed by the learners. Those components of conjunctions are procedure, phrase, association, purpose, viewers, and content.

3. Research Methodology

This research used qualitative and descriptive methods. The qualitative analysis used for unfolding the textual content beneath evaluation. While the descriptive analysis used for describing the comprehension of the social meanings identified within the text. It is conducted by applying the metafunction analysis through conjunction systems arranged with the purpose of exploring the articles, texts or sentences comprehensively from the discourse semantics' perspectives introduced by Martin and Rose (2003: 66).

There are several steps for getting a structural analysis from the article. The research is conducted by stating the problem formulation, collecting the data, segmenting the data related to the clause, classifying the data of information, analyzing them with the contextualized interpretation of conjunction systems through specific metafunction analysis from the discourse semantics perspectives, interpreting the data, and drawing a conclusion.

The unit of analysis of this study is the "Opinion Forum" articles of the national English newspaper *"the Jakarta Post"*. It is one of the English daily newspapers published in Indonesia. The newspaper is oriented in some various fields such as news, business, opinion, lifestyle, events, writing center, world, etc. They usually deal with a particular issue or topic to give information of interest and meaning.

The data used in this study is taken from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the *Jakarta Post* newspaper published in January 2019. They are entitled "Free Ba'asyir? Why now?" by the Editorial Board of *Jakarta Post*, "Our double standards on Jerusalem and Ba'asyir" by Kornelius Purba, and "Questioning early release of Ba'asyir" by Carrisa Tehputri. Those topics were chosen because they had similar a topic related to the Ba'asyir release plan from the government. Those topics become hot issues in society recently. Then the researcher categorized those articles into several clauses and put them into more specific metafunction analysis of conjunction systems.

4. Findings and Discussions

As stated on the previous part of this study, the data used in this study is taken from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the *Jakarta Post* newspaper published on January 2019. They are entitled "Free Ba'asyir? Why now?" by the Editorial Board of *Jakarta Post*, "Our double standards on Jerusalem and Ba'asyir" by Kornelius Purba, and "Questioning early release of Ba'asyir" by Carrisa Tehputri.

The four logical relations of major conjunctions types' analysis (according to Martin and Rose, 2003: 119), were also summarized based on the major conjunction types of sentences from the top three most shared articles in table 3 below:

Table 3. The logical relation of major conjunctions types' analysis of sentences from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the *Jakarta Post* newspaper published in January 2019.

Logical Relation	Meaning	Conjunctions
addition	'adding together'	*and, besides, not only… but also…, another, furthermore, likewise, moreover, or*
comparison	'comparing'	*like, or, equal, same, but, yet*
time	'sequencing in time'	*after, later, then, finally, eventually, while, as, when*
consequence	'explaining cause'	*however, all because, for, if*

The three articles mostly used conjunctions to connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences. The *first* logic of conjunction is an addition. The articles have added meaning by using the conjunction *and, besides, not only… but also…, another, furthermore, likewise, moreover,* and *or*. They acted as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information together. Those conjunctions become a set of means for adjusting expectations are continuatives.

The *second* logic is a comparison that expressed the meaning of comparing by using the word of *like, or, equal, same, but, yet* conjunctions. They acted as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to compare or contrast arguments when countering an expectation that the authors have created for the readers.

The *third* logic is time with sequencing in time meaning. The articles used the conjunctions such as *after, later, then, finally, eventually, while,* and *when* for sequencing in time meaning. They acted as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information when sequencing events and looking at interconnections between processes. In short, those conjunctions were used to relate activities in sequences and to organize arguments.

The *last* logic used in this article is the consequence with cause, purpose, and condition meaning. The words *however, all because, for, if however* used for explaining cause meaning. They acted as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information when giving cause and effect.

All of the major conjunction types from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the *Jakarta Post* in January 2019 connect the occasions together into sequences in order to relate those collected experiences and make them become more coherent. It is in line with the statement that "Conjunction is defined as the part of a discourse that serves to connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences." (Martin and Rose, 2003: 110). Therefore, those conjunctions used in the three articles are focused on the type meanings of the register and it is connected to the textual metafunction analysis of language use.

Martin and Rose (2003: 127), also define conjunctive relations as internal and external. The external conjunctions are used to relate activities, while the internal conjunctions are used to organize texts (Martin and Rose, 2003: 119). In other words, the external conjunction expresses the correlation among external phenomena, whereas internal conjunction indicates the connection inherent within the communication manner. The four logics of conjunctions types (both of external and internal) analysis were also summarized based on the major conjunction types of sentences from the top three most shared articles in table 4 below:

Table 4. The four logics of conjunctions types (both external and internal) analysis of sentences from the top three most shared articles by the readers in the "Opinion Forum" of the *Jakarta Post* newspaper published in January 2019.

External Conjunction			Internal Conjunction	
addition	addition	*and, besides, not only… but also…*	additive	*another, furthermore, likewise, moreover*
	alternation	*or*	alternative	
comparison	similarity	*like, or, equal*	similar	*same*
	contrast	*but, yet*	different	
time	successive	*after, later, then*	successive	*finally, eventually*
	simultaneous	*while, as, when*	simultaneous	
consequence	cause	*however, all because*	concluding	
	means			
	purpose	*for*	countering	
	condition	*if*		

According to the table of major conjunction types above, the top three most shared articles used four logics relation of conjunctions. First, in logical relation of the addition of external conjunction, the writers used words of conjunctions which have addition and alternation meanings. The articles have added meaning by using the conjunctions and, besides, not only… but also… as the additional meaning, and alternation meaning with the conjunction or. While in the internal conjunctions of logical relation, the articles used the words another, furthermore, likewise, and moreover as additive meaning. Those additive logical relations have been set up among actual-world events or between "arguments in an exposition" by means of the writers (Martin & Rose 2003, 133). Additionally, those additive logical relations have been included as the "alternative" in most accounts, as expressed by Martin & Rose (2003, 124).

Second, in external conjunction of comparison, the writers used like, or, and equal to connect some ideas that were considered to be similar, and the word but and yet to contrast the writer's opinions that are considered to be different. Meanwhile, in internal conjunction, the articles used the word same to connect the sentences in a similar meaning.

Third, in term of time logical relation in external conjunction, the writers used the words after, later, and then to express successive meaning, and the words conjunctions while, as, and when for simultaneous meaning. In internal conjunction, the words finally and eventually used to express the successive meaning. As analyzed by Gleason (1968) that internal and external conjunctions were dealt with what was proposed, including the possibility of connections. The conjunctions of time used in the three articles had the purpose to locate or sequence events or ideas in the real world of time or text time.

Fourth, the writers used the words however and all because as the external conjunctions in logical relation of consequence with the intention of giving the meaning of cause. They highlighted a cause-effect relationship between two ideas (Ahangar, Taki, Rahimi, 2012; and Al-Khalidy, 2018) and give a reason why something happened. Then the word *for* is to give the purpose meaning, and the word if for the condition meaning of conjunctions. They outlined the conditions under which something happened and included terms.

Those types of conjunctions used in the articles also focus on the matter of metafunction and functions as a tool for assessing cohesion (Kailani, 2017). They also had the difference between the logical types as the cohesion of four external and the internal conjunctions used in the three articles. They tend to be a bit less clear within the context of causative relations than it is in different contexts. Maybe because the perception of the cause already involves some extent of interpretation by the writers (Hasselgård, 2014). However, as a component of the semantic system, those four kinds of logic for the external and internal conjunction types used in the three articles are not only interesting, useful and powerful tools (Banks, 2002; De Oliveira, 2015; and Wang, 2016), but also influential for the reader to be analyzed (Ismail, 2012), because they provide an analytical framework when we compare those texts. The articles had some conjunctions that containing the effect (Wijayanto, 2016) and the cause values. In short, the

writers were fully responsible for all of the analysis, and those are the results of the writers' expectation.

Although the external temporal and the other connectives make a contribution to the connection within the stream of discourse, the connective mechanisms, particularly how to connect the reasons for "Free Ba'asyir?", then "Why now?" and "The Government's double standards on Jerusalem and Ba'asyir" are completely different from one another. Therefore, this would be "Questioning early release of Ba'asyir" in general. As stated by Halliday and Hasan (1976), that the writers of the articles ought to take this distinction of the connective under consideration and separate what they call external temporal connectives from connectives.

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of conjunction systems, those articles use four logics of conjunctions both external and internal conjunctions. *First,* the three articles used conjunctions to add the meaning of information and act as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms. They become a set of means for adjusting expectations are continuatives. *Second,* the conjunctions logic used as a comparison that expressed the meaning of similarity and contrast. They act as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to compare or contrast arguments when countering an expectation that the authors have created for the reader. *Third,* the articles use the conjunctions to express the successive meaning and simultaneous meaning. They act as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information when sequencing events and looking at interconnections between processes. In short, those conjunctions are used to relate activities in sequences and to organize arguments. The *last* logic conjunctions used in those articles are the consequence with cause, purpose, and condition meaning. In purpose meaning, they act as a logical connection between phrases, clauses, or idioms used in order to add the information when giving cause and effect.

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