Critical Discourse Analysis Of The "Opinion" Rubric In The April 2024 Edition Of Tempo Weekly Magazine

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Abstract: This study aims to reveal the hidden meaning in the Opinion section of *Tempo* magazine April 2024 edition. The method used is descriptive quantitative with critical discourse analysis based on Van Dijk's model, and data collection techniques through reading and note taking. In analyzing the data, researchers applied identification, clarification, and interpretation strategies. The results showed that this study examined the structure and characteristics of opinion discourse in the April 2024 edition of *Tempo* magazine using Van Dijk's approach. The main findings of this study include: (1) Analysis of opinion text structure shows conformity with Van Dijk's three discourse structures, namely macro structure, superstructure, and micro structure. (2) Analysis of opinion discourse characteristics reveals several features based on Van Dijk's theory, such as action, context, history, power, and ideology.

Keywords: *Critical; Discourse; Analysis*

Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengungkap makna tersembunyi dalam rubrik Opini majalah *Tempo* edisi April 2024. Metode yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kuantitatif dengan analisis wacana kritis berdasarkan model Van Dijk, serta teknik pengumpulan data melalui membaca dan mencatat. Dalam menganalisis data, peneliti menerapkan strategi identifikasi, klarifikasi, dan interpretasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penelitian ini mengkaji struktur dan karakteristik wacana opini dalam majalah *Tempo* edisi April 2024 menggunakan pendekatan Van Dijk. Temuan utama penelitian ini meliputi: (1) Analisis struktur teks opini menunjukkan kesesuaian dengan tiga struktur wacana Van Dijk, yaitu struktur makro, superstruktur, dan struktur mikro. (2) Analisis karakteristik wacana opini mengungkap beberapa ciri berdasarkan teori Van Dijk, seperti tindakan, konteks, sejarah, kekuasaan, dan ideologi.

Kata kunci: *: Analisis; Wacana; Kritis*

Introduction

In everyday life, the term discourse is often used both through verbal media such as oral and written communication, as well as nonverbal media such as gestures and body movements. The word "discourse" is now a topic that is often discussed by the Indonesian language user community. Discourse can be defined as a complete language record of a communication event (Sudaryat, 2010: 105).

The term "discourse" is often used in various events, such as seminars, trainings, and religious studies. The word is also often found in articles, papers, and books. Derived from Sanskrit meaning "speech" or "utterance," the term discourse is called discourse in English and le discours in French. The frequency of use of this term is very high, indicating that "discourse" has become part of everyday language for various levels of society. Its use also varies, some use it with the right meaning, but there are also those who use it with an inappropriate meaning.

Critical discourse analysis is of widespread concern among researchers in the field of language. This is widely evidenced by the number of studies that discuss a study with a discourse analysis, as well as the number of students from both undergraduate and postgraduate studies taking this critical discourse analysis.   .

In the Press Law and the Journalistic Code of Ethics, journalists or photojournalists are required to convey information or news with an independent attitude, high accuracy, balance, responsibility, and provide constructive criticism.... This is explained in Article 2 of the Journalistic Code of Ethics, which states that journalists must act with responsibility and discretion in considering the feasibility of broadcasting journalistic works, whether in the form of writing, images, sound, or a combination of all of them. This includes being alert to potential dangers that could threaten the safety and security of the state, national unity, and avoiding actions that could hurt the feelings of religious believers, belief groups, or certain beliefs protected by law. In addition, journalists are also prohibited from broadcasting journalistic works that are misleading, distort facts, or contain elements of slander and other similar matters.

However, the delivery of news holds the subjectivity of the writer, but there is a loss to certain circles who understand the journalist's movements well, they usually make a critical assessment of the form of news that aims to demand print media to be able to convey correct, precise and neutral information in accordance with the values of an objective news based on facts and impartiality.

Teun A. Van Dijk argues that discourse is actually an abstract theoretical construct. That way discourse cannot be seen as a physical manifestation of language. The manifestation of language can be in the form of using spoken or written language to convey information, expression, and communication between individuals or groups. Language can also be realized in the form of literature, poetry, songs, and various other forms of art. In addition, language functions as a means to build cultural identity, social norms, and values adopted by a society.

Thus, the embodiment of language has an important role in shaping social relations, understanding of the world, and interactions between individuals. Critical discourse analysis is an analytical approach used to examine and uncover the ways in which power, ideology, and inequality are reproduced in discourse. This approach involves using critical theory to highlight how language is used to influence thinking, behavior, and social structures. Critical

discourse analysis is an attempt or process to describe giving an explanation of a social reality text being studied by a person or group whose tendency is to have certain goals to get what they want.

Critical discourse analysis in this study is an effort to reveal whether there are hidden meanings in the Ópini rubric in the April 2024 edition of the weekly news magazine Tempo and how the author's strategy in hiding the meaning in the "Opinion" rubric is viewed from the macro structure, superstructure, and micro structure based on Van Dijk's theory.

The critical view emphasizes the study of production and reproduction processes that take place in historical and institutional contexts. This approach underlines the need for analysis of the forces at play in every discourse, which ultimately form certain patterns and influence related behavior. In a critical perspective, discourse analysis does not only focus on language structure or interpretation, but also prioritizes the study of power dynamics involved in the formation and reproduction of meaning. Therefore, critical discourse analysis has a significant role in understanding this process.

According to Badudu (2000:18), discourse has two meanings. First, discourse is a series of sentences that are interconnected, linking one proposition to another so as to form a unity that produces a consistent meaning between the sentences. Second, discourse is the most complete and extensive language unit, beyond sentences or clauses, with a high level of coherence and cohesion and is continuous. Discourse has a clear beginning and end and can be delivered both orally and in writing.

According to Alwi (2003:419), discourse is an arrangement of sentences that are related to one another, forming a connection between propositions in a unity of meaning. Critical discourse analysis, according to Dharma (2009: 49), is a process or effort to analyze and provide explanations related to a text (social reality) that becomes the object of research by dominant individuals or groups, usually with a specific purpose. The object of this research is a discourse in the form of a rubric contained in print media, namely the "Opinion" rubric in the weekly news magazine Tempo.

As a medium of political and social communication, mass media seeks to convey accurate information to the public. Therefore, newspapers are expected to provide neutral and balanced information to their readers. However, on the other hand, newspapers also act as producers of political and social information that have an obligation to remain loyal to the "owners" of the media that manage them.

According to Ermanto (2011: 53), there are three views on language in discourse analysis, namely: (1) The view of positivism that sees language as a logical consequence, where the subjective meaning underlying the statement is not given much attention. What matters is whether the statement is correct according to syntactic and semantic rules, (2) The view of constructivism which considers the subject as the main factor in discourse activities and social relations. Therefore, discourse analysis aims to reveal certain intentions, and (3) A

critical view that views language as a medium of representation that plays a role in the formation of certain subjects, discourse themes, and strategies in it. The critical view highlights how meaning is produced and reproduced in the context of history and institutions. This view emphasizes the importance of analyzing the factors of power relations inherent in any developing discourse. Producing texts with power ideology will certainly produce discourse that has its own character, there are two important notes regarding ideology in critical discourse analysis. First, ideology is inherently social, not personal or individual. Secondly, ideology will always need members of the group, community or society who adhere to the ideological struggle.

The object of this research is the text in the discourse of communication media, namely the communication media of print media, radio and television is a very wide range in today's culture, mass media is one of the most widely used ways to access information about the world around and the world. Mass media is a very potential tool for producing and disseminating social meaning. The mass media has an important role in influencing or even determining the meaning of events. The language used by mass media to represent certain social or political groups and to convey events deemed worthy of dissemination tends to be adopted in society as a way of talking about those groups or events (Wareing, 2007:35). Print media is an outgrowth of long-established activities in diplomacy and business. In its early days, newspapers existed in a fixed commercial form and had various purposes, such as providing information, taking notes, presenting news, advertisements, entertainment, as well as issues related to the world of celebrities, crime, and others. This media is public and open to a wide audience.

Print media is a means of delivering information that can be read immediately, is easy to carry anywhere, and can be stored for a long time. This media has the ability to influence readers by forming opinions in a certain direction. Print media can reach a wide audience in large numbers and reach diverse locations without being limited by space and time (Widayanti, 2005: 7). Therefore, print media is required to present true, accurate, and neutral information, in accordance with the value of objective, fact-based, and impartial news (Budiman, 2005:25).

Language is the most effective communication tool in people's lives. Humans use language in every aspect of their lives, making it a very important element in human life. If the language used can be minimally understood according to the intent and purpose of the speaker, then the language has successfully conveyed the message in communication. In formal situations, speech must follow certain patterns. In understanding the intent and purpose of communication, both orally and in writing, the main thing that speakers need to pay attention to is to ensure that the purpose of using language can be achieved.

Language functions as a communication tool as well as a medium to convey opinions and arguments to others. Therefore, language has a significant social role in interaction in society (Adolf Hualai, 2017:7; Gorys Keraf, 1994:3). In communication, both communicators

and communicants need language skills in order to understand the message conveyed. Language also helps in analyzing and identifying various social problems that arise during the communication process, because language always adapts to the needs of its users. Thus, language has a very important role in maintaining smooth communication. Language and communication have a close relationship, where language acts as a tool or medium for humans to interact. Conversely, communication requires a medium in the form of language. Noermanzah (2017:2) states that language is a message expressed as a means of communication in various activities. Based on the Big Indonesian Dictionary, language is an arbitrary system of sound symbols, used by a group of people to cooperate, interact, and identify themselves. From the definition in this dictionary, it can be seen that language also functions as a sound symbol, similar to notes in music, although the functions and benefits of both are different. Opinions about politics and law in the April 2024 weekly edition of Tempo magazine are highlighted as news that has its own place in the magazine and often implies a certain ideology. This news is based on the pros and cons in the community ahead of the election. Many news articles in Tempo magazine showed support or disapproval of the political and legal situation that was heating up ahead of the election, triggering readers' emotions. These opinions on politics and law are full of messages, which can be understood more deeply through critical discourse analysis.

Researchers are interested in studying political and legal news opinions for several reasons. First, opinions about politics and law are often reported in the mass media, both electronic and print such as newspapers. News related to politics and law is a hot issue, especially during elections, because it can affect the vote acquisition of parties and legislative candidates from certain parties. Elections held every five years are a manifestation of the Indonesian people's democracy that will determine the direction of the nation for the next five years. Political and legal news coming from various mass media will certainly trigger pro and con debates among voters and legislative candidates to be elected. Second, the researcher chose to focus on opinions that appeared in Tempo magazine, because this magazine is one of the largest and longest-running in Indonesia, and is widely recognized, even abroad, in conveying information.

Methods

This research used descriptive and qualitative methods, in accordance with Qualitative research aimed to understand the social phenomenon of nationality being studied. Therefore, qualitative analysis focused on revealing meaning through description, explanation, and understanding in its context (Mahsun, 2005: 233). With this method, the author analyzed the discourse on opinion in the April 2024 issue of Tempo magazine, to critically explored the discourse behind the writing, and described the critical views in the opinion on politics and law in that issue.

Results And Discussion

1. Author's Strategy of Hiding Meaning based on Superstructure.

Texts or interviews generally have a scheme or flow from the introduction to the end. The flow shows how the parts of the text are organized and sequenced so as to form a unity of meaning (Eriyanto, 2012: 232) The scheme consists of several elements that will be described, including the following.

    a. The title is a short sentence that reflects the content of the writing, as well as attracting readers to understand or read the work further (Slamet Muljana). The title is the element of the scheme that is assumed to be the most important. In addition to the choice of theme, perceptions are also built through the choice of title. The title of the discourse is different from the topic, the title in this case functions as a thematization effort. This thematization effort using the title is not only a starting point, but also serves as a starting point to limit the interpretation of the meaning of the information conveyed in a news story.

    b. Lead, is the opening paragraph in an article, news. Lead or the beginning of the paragraph and as an introduction to the summary of what will be conveyed before entering the complete news content.

    c. Story, is a series of events or occurrences arranged in a narrative manner with the aim of conveying messages, information or entertainment, Story is also another element that the overall content of the news hypothetically also has two subcategories. The first is the situation that describes the course of events, and the second is the commentary presented in the text. The core story of the event along with the context that supports the episode is conveyed to the public.

2. Writer's Strategy to Hide Meaning Based on Microstructure.

Microstructure in a text refers to the local meaning that is analyzed based on the selection of words or sentences used in a text (Eriyanto, 2012:227). At this level, microstructure consists of various elements, such as setting, detail, intent, conditional coherence, differentiating coherence, negation, tense, pronouns, lexical meaning, presumption, graphics, metaphor, and expectation. Some of the elements that can be observed include:

a. Semantics, which reflects the main meaning in the news text, includes elements of setting, details, intent, and presupposition.

b. Syntax deals with the selection and arrangement of sentences in the text, including the elements of coherence, conditional coherence, differentiating coherence, pronouns and negation.

c. Stylistics focuses on the use of words in news texts, especially lexical elements.

d. Rhetoric includes techniques of emphasis in the text through graphic elements and metaphors.

Based on the analysis of microstructure elements in the opinion texts on politics and law in the April 2024 edition of Tempo magazine, there is a writing strategy that aims to disguise certain meanings or opinions. To understand this, it is necessary to analyze the microstructure elements contained in the opinion text. The following is a further interpretation of the microstructure elements in question.

3. Author's Strategy to Hide Meaning Based on Macro Structure

Macro structure is the largest part of a discourse text, which reflects the overall meaning. This structure can be analyzed through the topics or themes raised in the text (Eriyanto, 2012: 228). In the media, the macro structure appears through the theme or topic discussed. Thematic elements describe the overall content of the text in general. This element can also be referred to as the main idea, summary, or core of a text. The topic in the text reflects the message that the author wants to convey and shows the main, central, and most important concept in a news story.

Conclusion

Based on the description in the discussion of the research results, it can be concluded that the Critical Discourse Analysis of the Opinion Rubric of Tempo Weekly Magazine April 2024 Edition has several types of hidden meanings. Some of the hidden meanings in question are as follows.

1. Yes, in the rubric "Opinion" in the April 2024 edition of Tempo Weekly News Magazine there are hidden meanings based on superstructure, macro structure and micro structure.
2. The author's strategy of hiding meaning in the "Opinion" rubric in Tempo magazine weekly news is reviewed from, superstructure, macro and micro structure based on A Van Dijk's theory using a scheme consisting of several elements described such as titles, leads, stories. In addition, the writer hides meaning in the main idea, summary, or the main thing of a text. Furthermore, the author also hides meaning in the use of words or sentences in a text.

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