

ADVERSATIVE CONJUNCTION IN HEALTH ARTICLE ENTITLED COVID-19: NOT ALL HAND SANITIZERS WORK AGAINST IT – HERE’S WHAT YOU SHOULD USE

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ABSTRACT

An article will have a good texture if it has good coherence. An article has a coherence when the ideas of the article are related one to another. The coherence of the article can be supported by the use of a conjunction. Based on the assumption that conjunction takes an important role in a text, it will be interested to discuss conjunction in an article. The discussion will be focused on how the author contrasts the information or his opinion. The collected data in this writing were qualitatively analyzed by using the theory of conjunction proposed by Halliday and Hasan. The analysis was started by analyzing the types of adversative conjunction in the health an article. Then, it continued by describing how these types of adversative conjunction contrast the idea or information in the article. Based on the analysis, the adversative conjunctions that can be found are (1) though, (2) but, (3) only, (4) however, (5) rather and (6) instead. The contrasting can be shown by giving further information, by against the statement, by giving correction or replacing one thing to the other.

Key Word: Conjunction, Adversative Conjunction, Article

ABSTRAK

Sebuah artikel akan memiliki bentuk yang baik jika memiliki koherensi yang baik. Sebuah artikel dapat dikatakan memiliki koherensi ketika ide-ide dalam artikel tersebut saling terkait satu sama lain. Koherensi di dalam sebuah artikel dapat didukung oleh penggunaan kata hubung. Berdasarkan asumsi bahwa kata hubung mengambil peran penting dalam sebuah teks, maka dalam analisis ini akan dibahas tentang kata hubung dalam sebuah artikel. Diskusi akan difokuskan pada bagaimana penulis membedakan informasi atau dalam artikel. Data yang dikumpulkan dalam tulisan ini dianalisis secara kualitatif dengan menggunakan teori conjunction yang diajukan oleh Halliday dan Hasan. Analisis ini dimulai dengan menganalisis jenis adversative conjunction dalam sebuah artikel. Kemudian, dilanjutkan dengan menjelaskan bagaimana jenis-jenis adversative conjunction ini digunakan untuk membedakan ide atau informasi dalam artikel. Berdasarkan analisis, adversative conjunction yang dapat ditemukan adalah (1) though, (2) but, (3) only, (4) however, (5) rather and (6) instead. Untuk menunjukkan perbedaan ide atau informasi dalam artikel dapat ditunjukkan dengan memberikan informasi lebih lanjut, dengan menentang pernyataan tersebut, dengan memberikan koreksi atau mengganti satu hal dengan yang lain.

Kata kunci: Konjungsi, Adversative conjunction, Artikel

I. INTRODUCTION

Information can be delivered in many kinds of media, such as television, newspaper, magazine, the internet, and

many more. It can be in spoken or written information. Written information can be in a text form. One of the most famous written texts is the article. An article can be short or long based on information that wants to be delivered. It usually consists of several

paragraphs. It has much up-to-date information on a wide variety of topics that the authors make to reflect their opinion, news, research, etc. Articles may appear in newspapers, magazines, trade publications and journals. People will be able to understand the information in the article if it has good texture. An article will have a good texture if it has good coherence. An article is a coherence when the ideas of the article are related one to another. The coherence of the article can be supported by the use of a conjunction. The conjunction is the type of grammatical cohesion that has a function to relate the elements in the article. "Conjunction is different from other cohesive relations. It based on the assumption that there is a linguistic system form of a systematic relationship between sentences" (Halliday and Hasan, 1976: 320). Halliday and Hasan categorize conjunction into adversative, additive, temporal, and causal.

Based on the assumption that conjunction takes an important role in a text, it will be interested to discuss conjunction in an article. The text which will be used is a health article in *The Jakarta Post*. The article discusses hand sanitizer that is frequently used by the people because of the spread of Covid-19. In this paper, it will be discussed how the author contrasts the information or his opinion about hand sanitizer in his article. When the author delivers the information, sometimes contrasting ideas or opinions will be needed to make the information clear for the reader. Therefore, the types and functions of adversative conjunction in the health article about hand sanitizer will be discussed in this study.

Some studies have also explained about conjunction. First, Hamed (2014), investigating conjunctions in the argumentative writings of Libyan tertiary students, found that adversative conjunctions were used least appropriately compared with additive, causal, and temporal conjunctions. Second, the study about conjunction comes from

Sulistyaningsih and Joko Slamet (2018) in her article: *An Analysis of Conjunctions Found in Barack Obama's Farewell Speech Text*. This article mentions that there are 18 (eighteen) types of external conjunctions, 8 (eight) types of internal conjunctions, and 3 (three) continuatives in Barack Obama's Farewell Speech Text. The specific types of conjunction, that is adversative conjunction has been explained by Ngadiman and Tanone (2014) in his article entitled *Adversative Conjunctions in Indonesian EFL Teachers' Academic Writing*. His analysis shows that there were a variety of adversative conjuncts used in the academic essays: (1) proper, (2) contrastive, (3) correction, (4) dismissal but not all the adversative conjuncts were appropriately used which might not be realized by many authors.

Conjunction, as described by Bloor and Bloor (1995:98) in Hameed (2008:92), acts as a cohesive tie between clauses or sections of text in such a way as to demonstrate a meaningful pattern between them. Conjunctive elements express certain meanings that presuppose the presence of other components in the discourse. Besides, Nunan (1993: 26) states that conjunction differs from reference, substitution, and ellipsis in that this is not a device for reminding the reader of previously mentioned entities, action, and states of affairs. It is a cohesive device because it signals a relationship that can only be fully understood through reference to other parts of the text. Furthermore, Halliday and Hasan (1976: 226) state that "Conjunction is rather different from the other cohesive relations; reference, substitution, and ellipsis. Halliday and Hasan (1976: 238) categorize conjunction into four types; additive, adversative, causal, and temporal.

The basic meaning of the adversative relation is 'contrary to expectation'. The expectation may be derived from the content of what is being said, or from the communication process, the speaker-hearer situation. (Halliday and

Hasan 1976: 250). It means that the adversative has the word as adversative relation for giving contrary meaning in the sentences or clauses or phrases or words in any situation that doing by speaker and hearer. Therefore, we can assume that the conjunctions are used to contrast.

Halliday and Hasan classify adversative conjunctions into four types; proper, contrastive, corrective, and dismissal. The explanation of those conjunctions are:

1. Proper is an adversative relation that has an external and internal aspect. Its external aspect means contrary to expectation but it indicates specific meaning 'in spite of' and the expectation is to find out in what the presupposed sentence is about. Meanwhile, the internal aspect means contrary to expectation when the expectation derived from the communication process, the speaker-hearer situation (Halliday and Hasan 1976: 250-252). The adversative sense is expressed by *yet, but, however, though, only, nevertheless, despite this*.
2. The other senses in adversative relation are called contrastive (external aspect) which has a meaning 'as against'. Usually, this type expressed by using *but, and, however, as against that, on the other hand, at the same time* (Halliday and Hasan 1976: 252).
3. Corrective has the same meaning 'contrary to expectation', but here the special sense is 'as against what has just been saying'; the expectation is there, in other words, simply because it has been put into words. Characteristic expressions of this relation are *instead (of that), rather, on the contrary, at least, I mean* (Halliday and Hasan 1976: 254).
4. The last type of adversative relation is dismissive relations. It always

presupposes that something has gone before, remote though it may be. The expressions of this relation are *in any/either case/event, any /either way, whichever, anyhow, at any rate, it any case, however that may be* (Halliday and Hasan 1976: 255-256).

II. METHODS

The data which were used in this study were taken from health article in the Jakarta Post entitle Covid-19: Not All Hand Sanitizers Work Against It – Here's What You Should Use (The Jakarta Post, March 15, 2020). The documentaries method was applied in collecting the data by reading carefully the article to find out the conjunction, then these conjunctions were noted down and classified into adversative conjunction. The collected data in this writing were qualitatively analyzed by using the theory of conjunction proposed by Halliday and Hasan in their book entitled *Cohesion in English* (1976). The analysis was started by analyzing the types of adversative conjunction in the health article entitle COVID-19: Not All Hand Sanitizers work against it-here's what you should use. Then, it continued by describing how these types of adversative conjunction contrast the idea or information in the article.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the article, it can be found three types of adversative conjunctions used by the author to contrast the ideas or information in the article. Those types of adversative conjunctions are proper, contrastive, and corrective.

3.1 Proper

Proper is adversative conjunction that has meaning contrary to expectation with specific meaning 'in spite of'. The form of proper that can be found are (1) though, (2) but and (3) only.

1. Though

Conjunction though found in the sentence below:

Though hand sanitizers can help reduce our risk of catching certain infections, not all hand sanitizers are equally effective against coronavirus.

Based on the sentence, the word *though* is categorized as proper conjunction because it indicates contrary to the expectation with specific meaning 'in spite of'. The contrast is shown by giving further information about the hand sanitizer. The expectation about hand sanitizers that can help reduce the risk of catching certain infections is explained more by giving further information about the fact that not all hand sanitizers are equally effective against coronavirus.

2. But

Conjunction but found in the sentence below:

(a) *Alcohol-free hand sanitizers contain something called quaternary ammonium compounds (usually benzalkonium chloride) instead of alcohol. These can reduce microbes but are less effective than alcohol.*

In these sentences, the contrast between alcohol-free hand sanitizers and alcohol-based hand sanitizers is shown by the author by giving further information about alcohol-free hand sanitizers. The fact that alcohol-free hand sanitizers can reduce microbes is opposed by showing other information that they are less effective than alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

(b) *Washing with warm water (not cold water) and soap removes oils from our hands that can harbor microbes. But hand sanitizers can also protect against disease-causing microbes, especially in situations when soap and water aren't available.*

The word 'but' is in initial position in the sentence. It is adversative 'in spite of' because it gives further information about the previous fact. Usually the adversative conjunction 'in spite of' can be paraphrased by the word 'although'. It means that although washing hands is effective to protect ourselves from infectious diseases, there is another way that can also effective to prevent ourselves from infectious diseases, it is by using hand sanitizer. So, there is further information that explained how to prevent disease-causing microbes.

(c) *Alcohol attacks and destroys the envelope protein that surrounds some viruses, including coronaviruses. This protein is vital for a virus's survival and multiplication. But a hand sanitizer needs to be at least 60% alcohol in order to kill most viruses.*

Based on the statement above, it can be seen that there is further information about the percentage of alcohol in a hand sanitizer in order to be effective to attack and destroy envelope protein that surrounds some viruses, including coronaviruses. So, the first statement is opposed by the second statement by giving the sense of "in spite of". It means that, although

hand sanitizer is effective to attack and destroy viruses, it must contain at least 60% alcohol.

- (d) *As a result, the best and most consistent way of preventing the spread of the coronavirus – and reducing your risk of contracting it – remains washing your hands with soap and water as a first choice, and avoiding touching your face as much as possible. But alcohol-based hand sanitizers (with at least 60 percent alcohol) are a practical alternative when soap and water aren't available.*

The word “but” is used in the sentences above to show contrary to expectation by giving further information. It's not something against each other. It has further information to oppose the previous information. In this case, although washing hands is the best and consistent way to prevent the spread of coronavirus, alcohol-based hand sanitizers (with at least 60 percent alcohol) are an alternative when soap and water aren't available.

3. Only
Conjunction only found in the sentence below:

Hand sanitizers with less than 60 percent alcohol were also found to be less effective at killing bacteria and fungi and may only reduce the growth of germs rather than killing them outright.

In these sentences, the contrasting effectiveness hand sanitizers with less than 60 percent alcohol at killing bacteria is shown by the author by giving further information. The opposed

information can be seen from the further information that they found hand sanitizers with less than 60 percent alcohol not to be effective in killing the bacteria but it just reduces the growth of germs.

3.2 Contrastive

The other type of adversative conjunction is contrastive. The meaning is something like ‘as against what the current state of the communication process would lead us to expect, the fact of the matter is...’ (Halliday and Hasan 1976: 253). The form of contrastive that can be found is “however”.

However

As with other viral respiratory infections – like the common cold and flu – the novel coronavirus (called SARS-CoV-2) is mainly spread when virus-laden droplets from a person's mouth or nose are transferred to other people. However, a recent study has suggested that it can also spread through feces.

The strong contrast is shown against the previous statement about the spread of the coronavirus. The recent study shows that the spread of coronavirus is also through feces. It against the statement that the spread of respiratory infections including coronavirus is when [virus-laden droplets](#) from a person's mouth or nose are transferred to other people. Therefore, it is a corrective conjunction because there are two facts and both of them are against each other.

3.3 Corrective

And the last type of adversative conjunction found in the article is corrective. Corrective is adversative conjunction that has a meaning ‘as against what has just been saying’. The forms that

can be found are (1) instead of and (2) rather than.

1. Rather

The word Rather can be found in the sentence below:

Hand sanitizers with less than 60 percent alcohol were also found to be less effective at killing bacteria and fungi and may only reduce the growth of germs rather than killing them outright.

The word *rather* is included in the corrective conjunction. It has a meaning 'as against what has just been saying'. It can be seen if the example changed into 'not...but...' as follow: they are not killing them but only reducing the growth of germs. It means that the contrasting is shown by giving correction to the sentence.

2. Instead

The word Instead can be found in the sentence below:

Alcohol-free hand sanitizers contain something called quarternary ammonium compounds (usually benzalkonium chloride) instead of alcohol.

The word *instead of* is included in the corrective conjunction. It has meaning 'as against what has just been saying' by replacing alcohol to *quarternary ammonium compounds (usually benzalkonium chloride)*.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on this study, it can be concluded that there are some contrasting ideas or information in this article. Those contrasting are arranged by using the adversative conjunction. The adversative conjunctions that can be found are proper conjunction, contrastive conjunction, and corrective conjunction. Meanwhile, dismissive conjunction didn't appear in the article. The forms of adversative conjunction found are (1) though, (2) but, (3) only, (4) however, (5) rather and (6) instead. Those forms of adversative shows contrasting by giving further information, by against the statement and by giving correction or replacing one thing to the other.

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