

THE DISCOVERY OF REGISTERS IN ENGLISH NEWSPAPER OF *BALI TRAVEL NEWS*

Ni Luh Eka Trisna Dewi, Desak Putu Eka Pratiwi, IGA Sri Rwa Jayantini

ekatriisnadewi@gmail.com

University of Mahasaraswati Denpasar

ABSTRACT

This study aims to discuss the discovery of registers in the newsletter Bali Travel News according to Biber and Conrad theory (2009) which states that registers are variations related to certain usage situations. The existence of newspapers in the form of printed media is still in great demand by the public. This newspaper is written in English and contains articles that do occur in tourism in Bali without age restrictions to readers. In general, newspapers often used informal words rather than formal words according to their lexical and grammatical characteristics which are very interesting and entertaining. The register description includes three main components: context of situation, linguistic features, and functional interpretation between the first and two components. The data is analyzed with descriptive qualitative method. Linguistic features included word selection such as the use of pronouns, lexical and active as well as passive voice. Results are presented through formal and informal methods.

Keywords: register, context of situation, linguistic features.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bermaksud untuk membahas temuan register pada surat kabar Bali Travel News menurut teori Biber dan Conrad (2009) yang menyatakan bahwa register adalah variasi yang berkaitan dengan situasi penggunaan tertentu. Keberadaan surat kabar dalam bentuk media cetak masih banyak diminati oleh masyarakat. Koran ini menggunakan bahasa Inggris dan berisi artikel yang terjadi di Pariwisata di Bali tanpa adanya batasan umur bagi pembacanya. Pada umumnya, surat kabar lebih sering menggunakan kata-kata informal daripada kata-kata formal sesuai dengan ciri leksikal dan gramatikal yang sangat menarik dan menghibur. Deskripsi register mencakup tiga komponen utama: konteks situasi, fitur linguistik, dan interpretasi fungsional antara komponen pertama dan dua. Itu dianalisis dengan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Ciri kebahasaan termasuk pemilihan kata seperti penggunaan kata ganti, leksikal dan aktif serta suara pasif. Hasil disajikan melalui metode formal dan informal.

Kata kunci: register, konteks situasi, ciri kebahasaan.

I. INTRODUCTION

Register is a linguistic phenomenon. The term register refers to certain lexical and grammatical

characteristics for their linguistic features and also their situational context made by speakers. Newspaper, in its

simplest form, is a way for writers to provide information that contains various topics, for example, the tropical life newspaper which contains places to stay and also tourist destinations that must be visited by consumers. Communication is the process of delivering the message to the sender of the message or what is known as a communicator to the recipient of the message or the target is called the communicant either directly or indirectly through writing (using media). Most people spend a lot of time communicating. Lists are used in all forms of communication, including written and oral. Depends on grammar, syntax, and tone.

We know that without communication, people will not see any information. This means that communication is very important to get information from all regions or in the world. There are two types of communication used, namely oral communication that will occur directly such as interviews, meetings, etc. And written communication that occurs in the form of writing such as posters, newspapers, newspapers, etc. In literary works, communication between humans has the same function as that used in

newspapers but what distinguishes the form, the oral form is used in television news researched by journalists while the written form is used in newspapers. Griffin (2006: 6) defined communication as a relational process in creating and interpreting messages that receive responses.

This research aims to analyze the situational context, linguistic features, and to identify why those situational contexts are related to linguistic features. Furthermore, Biber (2009: 31) stated that based on the context situation, newspapers look different from one author who produces a language in the written mode for most readers in high quantities spread over various places or times. According to Biber and Conrad (2009: 37), certain situational characteristics are more or less important, depending on the registers being compared. For example, conversations and e-mail messages are similar in many ways: both are generated by the person greeting the other person, which often relates to a personal or social topic, and both are usually interactive, with the second person responding to the first.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

The research data is sourced from *Bali Travel News*, which is one of the newspapers about Bali that uses English sentences released on September 25 – 8 October 2020. Only one article is analyzed in this research. The title of this article is *September Fun Bike Participants Have Healthy Breakfast at Sanctoo Suites and Villas* on pages 9. The data collection was carried out using documentation and also note-taking methods. The collected data were then classified systematically according to the objectives of the analysis using the

theory of Biber and Conrad (2009). First, the data is analyzed according to the situational context. Second, the analysis is focused on linguistic characteristics contained in this article, such as pronoun, noun, verb, adverb, adjective, active and passive voice. Finally, the functional interpretation explains why these linguistic features are very general in this situational context.

III. DISCUSSION

The findings were formulated into tables and charts so that the data is clearer, as seen in Table 1 and Figure 1.

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Table 1 The Summary of the occurrence of formal and informal linguistic features

Register	Pronoun	Noun	Verb	Adverb	Adjective	Active	Passive
Formal	13	89	35	13	16	8	1
Informal	0	0	1	2	0	2	1
Total	13	89	36	15	17	10	2

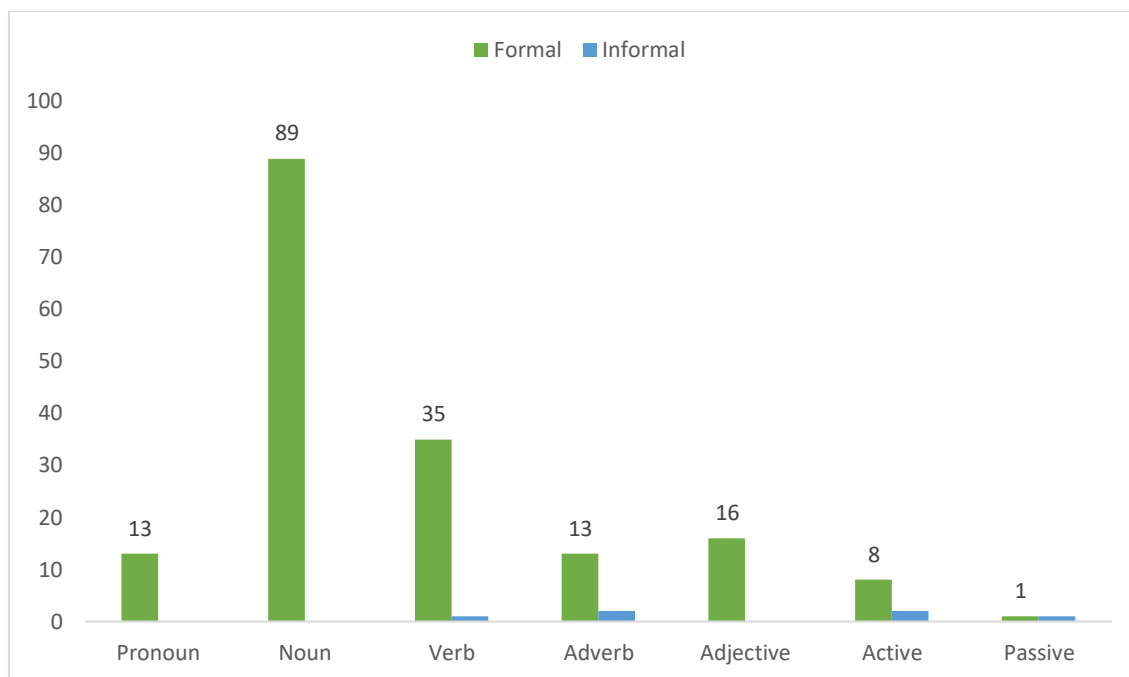


Figure 1 Comparison of formal and informal words

3.1 Situational Context

In general, the articles in the newspaper have a similar situational context as well as those used in this research. The newspaper has a variety of different topics depending on the event that occurred. The addressor is the journalist who wrote the articles and the addressees are those who read the newspaper (the readers). Most registers are created by easily recognizable individuals.

As a form of one-way written communication, there is an absence of face-to-face direct communication between addressor and addressees in a newspaper. Which means that one of them does not have the opportunity to interact directly. Among them in terms of interactivens, communication

between both of them is less interactive. Besides, they do not know each other personally. Participants are unable to respond with each other. As such, the participants also have different levels of background knowledge.

The newspaper is a form of mass media that is specifically intended to be read by the general public. This is why newspapers are in writing mode. producing the newspaper certainly requires adequate preparation before publication. Journalists carefully plan and edited news stories before publishing. After that, the journalist must also consider the communicative purpose of making the newspaper to be published so that the readers can easily understand the content of the newspaper.

The communicative purpose of the newspaper is to give information about the event that had occurred. There may also be advertisements, just like in the Bali Travel News. The author attempted to show some facts about the event that happened in around with details. Therefore, the topic of the newspaper used by the addressor is about travel in Bali.

3.2 Linguistic Features

Based on the data presented in Table 1 and Figure 1, it is seen that in general, informal words appear very rarely compared to formal words. First is a pronoun, even though there is no informal pronoun in the data above. Actually, the addressor mostly used the pronouns *they* and *their*. That means the addressor dominantly used third person pronouns for their articles. Since there is no opinion from the addressor, the addressor used the third person pronoun there. Thus it can be said that the third person pronoun *they* and *their*, are formal pronouns. One example is found in the second sentence of the second paragraph is "All the bikers rode *their* bicycle joyfully on the cycling route starting from Ubud Village Resort to Sanctoo Suites and Villas". In formal writing, the pronoun they and their always used because the addressors will not mention themselves but explain what happened in the third person.

Apart from that, the authors found many nouns in this article, especially those that are often used like: *suites, villas, breakfast, Sanctoo, bikers, Ubud, cycling*. These are all formal nouns because there are no elements of abbreviations or slang. Suites are accommodations type in the villa and this type has very good facilities as well as the price. Sanctoo is the name of that villa. Cycling refers to the activity of bikers using the bicycle. The word Ubud

is the name of the village of one of the tourist areas in the Gianyar regency. One of the sentences found in the article is in the first sentence of the second paragraph: "The cheerful September (*September Ceria*) event is held by the Ubud Hotel Association ...".

In terms of the verb, the newspaper article features several verbs including "is, has, eliminate, being, are, adhere, washing, going, let's, etc". But the verb that occurs most often is the verb "be" which is the auxiliary verb. The verb is a word that can describe an action, condition, or experience. The use of verbs in a sentence will show the activity of the subject. The verb itself is an important part and always appears in every sentence. Among all the verbs in this article, there is one verb which is an informal verb, that is "let's". The verb "let's" is short for "let us" which means that there is an abbreviation in the word that makes that word informal.

Then there are instances of adverbs, which can refer to adverbs of place, time, or circumstances. Some adverbs such as: *truly, as, only, very, happily, still*, etc. This study specifically analyzed only one example of using the adverb "happily" that is found in the fourth sentence of the second paragraph. "... he said *happily*." This is an adverb of the state of one's emotion who is feeling happy which comes after the verb "said". The adverb "happily" is a formal word and obviously, it can be used in formal and informal situations. Whereas the adverb "very" is usually used in daily conversation and it will be more formal if the word "very" is replaced with "definitely". In this situation, the word "very" is an informal adverb.

The data presented above also shows the use of the formal adjective. There is no informal adjective because it is rare to find adjectives in English which are informal adjective. The authors

found some formal adjectives in this article such as *new*, *much*, *advised*, *each*, *different*, *beautiful*, *verdant*, etc. This adjective has a function to describe an object of noun. For example, the word beautiful comes from the word beauty. Beauty is a noun that is added to be beautiful. The word beautiful is found in the third sentence of the second paragraph "... where it passes through the *beautiful* countryside of Ubud ...".

Apart from that, active voice is used when the focus of the sentence is the subject of the main verb. The subject doing the verb can be either a person or thing. One example for active voice is found in the first sentence of the third paragraph "Cycling is a new trend amid the Covid-19 pandemic". This sentence if changed into passive voice be "A new trend amid the Covid-19 pandemic is cycling". Another example is found in the first sentence of the second paragraph. The sentence is "The Cheerful September (*September Ceria*) event is held by the Ubud Hotel Association, in collaboration with its members, namely Ubud Village Resort

3.3 Functional Interpretation

The last step in the register is elaborated why these linguistic features

and Sanctoo Suites & Villas to hold a cycling event in the context of "*Let's* make Ubud live again". As we know, if the sentence used an abbreviation or slang that means the sentence is an informal active voice like the verb "let's". The authors found only one informal active voice.

The last is passive voice, which is the opposite of the active voice, namely the subject received the action. Based on the chart (Figure 1) from data collected from the article, only two instances of passive voice were found. All of these passive voices used formal sentences. The first sentence is found in the third sentence of the first paragraph "With only IDR 50,000 / net / person, they can enjoy a healthy breakfast after exercising," said General Manager Subali Adi Putra, recently". The second passive sentence is found in the second sentence of the third paragraph "This kind of sport is very much loved by the wider community from children to adults".

generally used in this situational context. The outline can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2 Linguistic features used

Participants	1. The journalist published for the reader widely.
Relationship among participants	1. There is no interaction 2. There is no personal relations
Channel	1. Written mode
Production circumstances	1. The text has been carefully planned, revised, and edited.
Setting	1. The time and place is not shared.
Communicative purposes	1. Giving information about events that happened in fact.
Topic	1. Based on the name Bali Travel News that shared information about travel in Bali.

From Table 2, it can be derived that the use of linguistic features is affected by situational contexts such as participants, relationship among participants, channel, production circumstances, setting, communicative purposes, and the topic. The first about participants is the addressor (journalist) and the addressee (reader). And then, relationship among them is less interactive because there is no interaction and they do not know each other personally. The addressors use sentences that tend to be formal such as formal pronouns and formal nouns aimed at making it easier for readers to understand the meaning of the text or article in the newspaper. The formal words are the words that are best used in academic writing. The whole of the newspaper obviously had been carefully

planned ahead with a fair amount of time, then revised, and carefully edited before being widely published. That means the addressors have a lot of time to polish the text, that's why the addressors tend to use formal nouns. About the time and place, the addressors cannot share their knowledge with the addressees. In addition, the communicative purpose is to give factual information about the events that were happened to other readers around the world. By reading the newspapers, it will add insight to those who are interested to read it, and with affordable newspaper, prices will make it easier for readers to buy newspapers. And then, the topic that is used in this article obviously about travel news in Bali.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the table and chart that shows before also the explanation above it can be deduced that in this article have dominantly formal words rather than informal words. The chart and tables show that four of seven categories that use formal linguistic features more frequently than the informal one. There

are no informal pronouns, nouns, adjectives, and informal passive voice. In these provisions, there are more instances of active voice than passive voice. From all parts of the linguistic features mentioned above, the most common words are formal nouns. The findings indicate that registers contained in this article are very high registers.

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