

MODALITY IN THE DELEGATION'S SPEECHES OF ASIA AFRICA CONFERENCE 2015

by

MARGUNA JAMIN SIMANJUNTAK

ABSTRACT

This study explores modality employed in the delegation's speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015. Modality is either expressed as the speaker's judgement of the probabilities or the obligation involved what is saying. There are many speeches delivered in the conference but only four speeches delivered by President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, President of China Xi Jinping, Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe and President of Iran Hassan Rouhani as the speakers at Asia Africa Conference 2015 in Jakarta and Bandung that would be analyzed. The aim of Asia Africa Conference 2015 was to strengthen cooperation among Asia African countries. There are three problems in this study, namely: types of modality in Asia Africa Conference delegation's speeches, the dominant modality and the explanation on the modality context. The data were taken from the four speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015 namely the speech from Indonesian president Joko Widodo, the President of China Xi Jinping, the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, and the President of Iran Hassan Rouhani. The speech transcriptions were analyzed by applying the theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics. The occurrences of modality were qualitatively analyzed by changing them into percentages to determine the portions namely modalization and modulation. The findings of this research can be drawn as follows : (1) All types of modality, namely modalization with sub-types probability and usuality and modulation with sub-types obligation and inclination were applied in the four speeches. (2) The modality was used by describing the value and orientation of modality and modulation-obligation was the dominant type in the usage. (3) The modality was used in the context of Asia Africa conference 2015 in which the delegations mostly used modulation-obligation. This can be a way for the delegations to show the same vision as the leaders of Asian African countries.

**MODALITY IN THE DELEGATION'S SPEECHES OF
ASIA AFRICA CONFERENCE 2015**

A Thesis

*Submitted to the English Applied Linguistics Study Program
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Magister Humaniora*

BY

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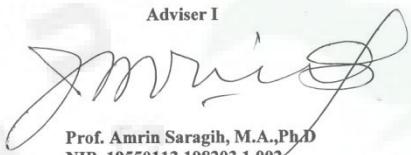
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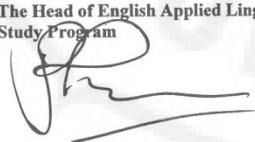
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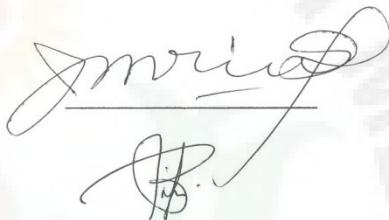
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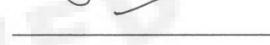
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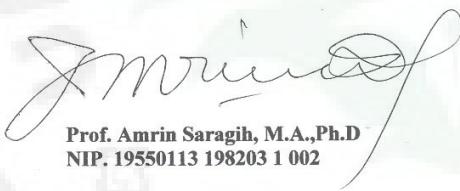
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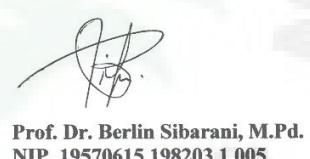
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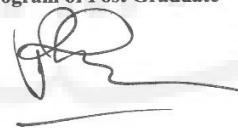
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Abstract

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This study explores modality employed in the delegation's speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015. Modality is either expressed as the speaker's judgement of the probabilities or the obligation involved what is saying. There are many speeches delivered in the conference but only four speeches delivered by President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, President of China Xi Jinping, Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe and President of Iran Hassan Rouhani as the speakers at Asia Africa Conference 2015 in Jakarta and Bandung that would be analyzed. The aim of Asia Africa Conference 2015 was to strengthen cooperation among Asia African countries. There are three problems in this study, namely: types of modality in Asia Africa Conference delegation's speeches, the dominant modality and the explanation on the modality context. The data were taken from the four speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015 namely the speech from Indonesian president Joko Widodo, the President of China Xi Jinping, the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, and the President of Iran Hassan Rouhani. The speech transcriptions were analyzed by applying the theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics. The occurrences of modality were qualitatively analyzed by changing them into percentages to determine the portions namely modalization and modulation. The findings of this research can be drawn as follows : (1) All types of modality, namely modalization with sub-types probability and usuality and modulation with sub-types obligation and inclination were applied in the four speeches. (2) The modality was used by describing the value and orientation of modality and modulation-obligation was the dominant type in the usage. (3) The modality was used in the context of Asia Africa conference 2015 in which the delegations mostly used modulation-obligation. This can be a way for the delegations to show the same vision as the leaders of Asian African countries.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Political speeches are a sub-genre of the genre-colony (Bhatia 2004 in Dedaic 2006 : 700) of diplomatic communication and thus share most of their characteristic features, including the macro-communicative purpose of persuading the audience to accept the speaker's understanding of reality and of supporting the ideologically biased views and policy he/she suggests. It means that political speeches delivered in a formal forum is one of diplomatic communication forms besides military, trade, and social cooperations . Furthermore, political speeches tend to persuade the audiences to accept the political view and policy made by a country. Drawing on Donahue and Prosser (1997: 4), the rhetorical genre of diplomatic communique can be defined as epideitic oratory for ceremonial occasions which may include deliberative aspects; opening addresses presuppose a high level of personal involvement, they focus on the present, though may refer to past events and to the future, and involve an evaluative treatment of people, actions and events by emphasising praise or blame. It can be said that the material of political speeches often contains praise to a group of people or institution. For example, President Jokowi' political speech which praise the founding fathers of Asia Africa Conference 1955. In contrast, the material of political speeches sometimes also condemn other people or institution. For example, President Jokowi's speech that blames the policy of Asian Development bank and IMF.

Furthermore, Bhatia (2004) may be insightful for the definition of genre within the scope of this paper. For the author, the most important feature of genre is that it is identifiable, sufficiently standardized, and contextualized in a social and institutional

framework; it is based on a set of accessible conventions shared by most of the members of a professional, academic or institutional organization.

Still according to Bhatia (2004), studies of genre can be mapped onto three stages of development, namely textualization of lexico-grammar, organization of discourse and contextualization of discourse. The first refers to the investigations of microstructures of a text and their functional values within the framework of a set of restricted aspects of a given discourse. The second refers to the engagement with the structuring of discourse and focuses on patterns or regularities of organization in discourse. The third stage seeks to investigate disciplinary and institutional contexts, as well as professional and social contexts. Based on the mapping, it can be said that political speech, as a kind of genre, can be analyzed through lexicogrammar that is the functional values of the text, organization of discourse, that is the patterns and regularities of the text, and the contextualization of text that is the investigation of disciplinary context.

Related to lexicogrammar features, one of the functions of language in political speech as proposed by Halliday is interpersonal function where the language is used to enable us to participate with communicative acts with other people. That means here in this function we use language to interact to other, to establish and maintain the social link with them. In interacting with other, we usually tell things for purpose such as influence people's attitude/behavior, provide information, explain our attitude, etc. In other words, we use language to exchange the transaction between speaker and listener.

Modality is the simplest sense, indicates a speaker's or writer's special way of conceptualizing a world view or ideology (Fowler 1997:76). It means that language does not allow us to say something without conveying an attitude to that something. In other words, hardly one can find a piece of written and spoken text as purely, objective, neutral, or value-free. It is basically the speakers' point of view, angle of telling, or authorial interest that

determines the essence of speech style and that provides the speech with its particular feel and color. Li (1999 : 21) defined modality as the degrees between right or wrong. It is significant in the expression of argument and opinion by employing modality, people are free to express ideas that are not facts with various degree of certainty.

Later on, since modality is referred to speaker's judgment of the probabilities, or the obligation involved in what is saying (Halliday, 1994). It is seen that modality is related to commitment which covers the speaker's judgment and attitude in presenting his ideas and messages in text. Therefore, modality choices in speech can be seen as part of the process of texturing self identity in addition who you are is a matter of how people speaker relates to the world and to the other people. Through modality how the speaker use words in his speech related to value can be analyzed. Therefore as one of the realizations of interpersonal function, modality is divided into modalization and modulation. Modalization concerns with giving some options to express judgments of probability and frequency of proposition. Thus modalization divided into two types of meaning that are probability (how likely it is to be true) and usuality (how frequently it is true). On the other hand, modulation deals with option to express judgment of obligation and inclination.

The explanation above brings us to express "a role relationship between the speaker and listener" in the sense that "the speaker is taking upon himself a particular communicative role" through which he determines both his own role as well as the listener's in relation to each other (Halliday 1970:325). For this reason modality has become one major point out that has been investigated along politician speech such as speech of president, the council, the press conference in social political contexts.

This thesis addresses the use of modality in the Delegation speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015. As explained above, there are some items contained in the speech, and one of them is speech characteristics exists to allow the listeners to comment, give view on or

draw conclusion from an event. It contains people opinion in the sign of protest, criticism, even their response toward tangible phenomenon. While modality refers to people's opinion and attitude towards the propositions expressed with language. Modality that involved in this study is modalization and modulation (how valid the information) since it is concerned with information as the commodity being exchanged.

By taking advantage of the new innovation in the system in circulating speech, speech now reaches not only certain class people who held meeting but also any body who wants to convey his or her idea. As the conference involves countries from Asia and Africa, those colonized in the past and generally known as developing countries, Asia Africa Conference plays a vital role in the relationship among Asia Africa countries. Asia Africa Conference delegation members on their speech have considerable meanings while conveying their plan.

By the end of the World War II in 1945, the world condition was still not stabil. The emerging two superpower countries-United States of America and Soviet Union-as the winner of the war had triggered a new era in history, namely Cold War era. During the aforementioned period, the constellation of political world was divided into two blocks; western block was led by the United States of America, and eastern block under leadership of the Sovyet Union. They tried to exert a pull on other countries to join their blocks. The competition which was initiated by the ideology difference between capitalism and communism was then prolonged by the contests of military hardware, space technology and defense pacts establishment. The rivalry also had influenced Asian-African countries' condition. In the beginning of the 1950s, some Asian-African countries had become the arena of the struggle of those two blocks (Bandoro: 1955).

Apart from cold war, the world political tension, the world political tension occurred due to imperialism especially in the area of Asia Africa, namely, Vietnam, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. Some independent countries also dealt with imperialism remnants, such as

Indonesia still faced West Irian problem, India-Pakistan with Kashmir problem and Arab countries were dealing with Palestine. Essentially, the United Nations (UN) was the authorize organization that could deal with the matters, however, in reality, the UN still did not managed them, especially related to the world tension during Cold War era. The situation, consequently, initiated an idea of holding a conference in which all Asia and Africa countries were involved.

Owing to the tension of the world political and secure condition, the Indonesian government determined to take action on alleviating tensions as a result of western and eastern block rivalry. Indonesia took firm action by issuing independent and active policy and good neighbor policy as well (Hatta 1953 : 30).

Prime Minister Ali Sastroamidjojo, in front of Temporary House Representative on August 25, 1953 explained the Indonesian foreign policy (Kemenpen,30). Ali Sastroamidjojo, in the occurrence, stated that Indonesia's role in alleviating the world tensions need to be supported by countries having similar status and situation, namely Asia Africa which also faced similar interbational problems. Furthermore, Ali Sastroamidjojo explained that, generally, Asia-Africa countries were the most countries which suffered from cold war influence. Therefore, concerted efforts were required in order to free Asia-Africa countries from pressures affected by cold war. The statement had showed an idea and a will of the Indonesian government to strengthen cooperations among Asia Africa countries (Sastroamidjojo 1974:458).

From this view it is clear that Indonesia plays an important role in Asia Africa movement in order to evolve struggles againts colonialism (Feith 1968:387). Based on the agreement made by the leaders of Asia Afica countries in Colombo in 1954, Indonesia was absolutely supported to be the host which would conduct Asia Africa Conference (Abdulgani 1980:21).

Asia-Africa Conference was conducted in Bandung 18 April 1955 in which twenty five heads of state/government attended it. Indonesian president, Soekarno, stated on his speech that all conference delegates were from different nations, as well as different backgrounds of socials and cultures, religions, political systems, even race. However, the difference could be bound by bad experience due to colonialism, by the similar intention namely to maintain and strengthen world peace. In the final communique, it was stated that Asia Africa Conference would observe the joint interest among Asia Africa countries and had negotiated the ways of how to cooperate intensely in the field of economy, culture and politic (Yamin ANRI:645).

The Asia Africa Conference 2015 held in Jakarta on 22 April 2015 brings up to global bilateral negotiation and discussion. It is aimed at discussing the international economic growth and other social functions related to countries development in South South.

To sustain the ongoing process during conference, there are some speakers delegated from KAA representatives to be the speakers in conveying several ideas toward the conference topics. Dealing with these discussion the speakers are conveying the different topics as involving economy growth, investment, social bilateral, politics, and health which is derived by some different speakers.

As explained above, modality, in simplest sense, indicates a speaker's or writer's special way of conceptualizing a world view. According to Fowler in Boyandi (2011), language does not allow us to say something without conveying an attitude to that something. In other words it seems that any text, written or spoken is not free, pure, or neutral. It is basically produced through the writer's point of view, angle of vision, angle of telling, or authorial interest that determines the essence of a story style and that provides the story with its particular feel and color (Simpson, 1993 in Boyandi, 2011).

Within this context, the above facts have argued the speaker to analyze further on modality of Asia Africa Conference Delegation speeches. Some examples of utterances consisting modalities in Asia Africa Conference 2015 taken the speech of Indonesian President Joko Widodo are:

1. *We must build a new global economic order, that is open to new emerging economic powers.*
2. *We can do all that by bringing the Bandung Spirit down to earth*
3. *We must cooperate closely to eradicate poverty, improve education and health services, promote science and technology, and provide jobs for ours people.*

Here President Joko Widodo used the modality ‘must’ and ‘can’, and it is, of course, necessary to analyze the whole aspects of it from the view of Systemic Functional Linguistics proposed by Halliday.

The writer ponders that it is significant to analyze the modality to find out the speakers ideology from the perspective of modality theory. The types of modality used in Asia Africa Conference delegation speech that is assumed to make Asia Africa Conference held in Indonesia on April 2015 need to be revealed and to be convinced. It is necessary to know the systematic use of the type to support more people to consider speech contents. Based on the corpus we have collected, this paper employs the theories of modality in systemic-functional linguistics to analyze modality in speech to reflect complex semantic connotations and their functions, attempting to reveal specters’ modality.

Therefore the researcher chose the topic of political speech which is analyzed by modality since the political speech plays crucial role to human intervention which associate a vital role in global platform especially in political, social, and economical growth and bilateral cooperation in which Indonesia is targetted to be the issue expansion for those of bilateral cooperation. Hence, the information based on the political speech are certainly

contexted and designed by the speakers in order to convince people or listeners to go on the information and to accept the ideas of speaker's speech.

Gazing upon the speech role is to convince the existence of modality to analyze the certainty degree of those speakers. Furthermore, it is necessary to see whether the theory of modality obtained from experts' view is suitable to the real condition in which it is used in the political speeches in Asia Africa Conference 2015. If the political speeches have power or not can be evident through the use of modality.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study the problems are formulated as in the following.

1. What types of modality are used in the delegation speeches of the Asia Africa Conference 2015?
2. How is the modality used in Asia Africa Conference delegation speeches 2015?
3. In what context is the modality used in the way it is?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

With reference to the problems, the objectives are to

1. identify the modality used on the Delegation Speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015.
2. describe the modality used on the Delegation Speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015.
3. contextualize the use of the type of modality used on Delegation Speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

The concept of modality applied in this study is based on systemic functional linguistic (SFL) proposed by Halliday. This research will be focused on the occurrences of modalization covering probability and usuality and modulation covering obligation and inclination used in delegation speeches of Asia Africa Conference 2015. Thus, there are some realizations of modality such as modal verb, modal adverb, adjective, etc. Since the speeches consist of many topics to be discussed, this study focused on the topic of political speech especially for multilateral cooperation for Asian African countries.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

This research findings are wished to be useful both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the findings are useful for linguistics development. It enriches the discussion about the application of systemic functional grammar in concluding people utterances and speeches as specific genres. Practically, the findings of modality are expected to be useful for the students and the teacher with a required knowledge in doing another research on other genres especially in modality. It is about to investigate relevant topic with politics, multilateral cooperation, and mass media. This study also supports politician, journalist, and speaker to enhance the development of logic ideas and organized expression of speech or debate.



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

After analyzing the data, conclusions are drawn as the following.

First, speakers used obligation, inclination and probability in conveying their speeches at the Asia Africa Conference 2015. Obligation is the most dominant of all types of modality with 39.81 % then followed to the second dominant is inclination with 31.48%. Probability is less dominant with 23.15 % and usuality was only found in the second and third speakers with 6 occurrences (5.56 %) while the others were not.

Second, in realizing the use of modality in their speeches the speakers used modulation – obligation with medium value. Having this obligation with medium value indicates that the speakers convey the command in giving their speeches. However, the lack of uncertainty in the speaker speech is covered by the using of objective implicit orientation of modality as the most dominant orientation of modality used in the speech that shows the back up from the point of view of other people.

Finally, having obligation as the dominant indicates the delegation speech on Asia Africa Conference 2015 speaker has certainty in giving information through the speech. The use of modality is related with the context of situation and context of culture. In terms of value, the closeness between medium and high indicated the expressions are both closer to positive and negative polar. The finding shows that the use of modality is increased when the speakers conveys about issue of political, economy and cooperation.

5.2 Suggestions

In relation to the conclusions, suggestions are made as follows:

First, it is suggested that the speech of the government, public leaders or politicians apply the strategy of modality in their text to deliver their points of view so that they are able to persuade and ensure the listeners about their points of view and finally make the listeners accept the ideas.

Second, it is suggested that the students of English department to have a good comprehension in the theory of modality. Therefore, they are able to see and figure out the messages in any text from the perspective of functional grammar and more clearly understand the speech.

Finally, it is suggested that students or other researchers to carry out further research in modality on other type of speech. It is because different speakers convey different speeches, or different context of speech. The speech will have different use of modality

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