



## **A Systemic Functional Linguistic Analysis of Mood Structures in News Coverage of Anies Baswedan's Speech During Presidential Election Debates in *The Jakarta Post* and *TEMPO.CO***

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### **Kata Kunci**

**Kata kunci:** Linguistik Sistemik Fungsional, makna interpersonal, tenorregister, struktur mood, *The Jakarta Post*, *TEMPO.CO*

### **Abstrak**

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menggunakan sudut pandang Linguistik Fungsional Sistemik Halliday guna mengungkap makna interpersonal yang terwujud dalam lima artikel berita yang dipilih dari *The Jakarta Post* dan *TEMPO.CO*. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Sumber data terdiri dari dua artikel dari *The Jakarta Post* dan tiga artikel dari *TEMPO.CO*, yang semuanya berada di bawah kategori debat pemilihan presiden 2024. Data dikumpulkan melalui teknik analisis tekstual dan pembacaan mendalam. Hasil penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut: (1) Suasana deklaratif sering digunakan di kelima artikel dengan persentase 97% untuk TJP dan 99% untuk TC. Kalimat-kalimat tersebut sebagian besar diwujudkan melalui deiksis temporal, sementara modalitas muncul dalam persentase kecil. (2) Baik TJP maupun TC menggambarkan Anies Baswedan secara positif tetapi dengan penekanan yang berbeda. TJP menyoroti atribut pribadi dan latar belakang politik Baswedan, sedangkan TC menekankan keahlian politik dan proposal kebijakan Baswedan. Perbedaan fokus ini mencerminkan strategi yang berbeda yang digunakan oleh TJP dan TC untuk membentuk persepsi publik selama masa pemilihan. TJP dan TC menggunakan pola tenor yang serupa di mana mereka memposisikan diri sebagai setara dengan pembaca mereka dan menyampaikan nada positif dalam interaksi mereka.

### **Keywords**

**Keywords:** Interpersonal meaning, mood structure, register, Systemic Functional Linguistics, *The Jakarta Post*, *TEMPO.CO*

### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to use Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics viewpoint to uncover the interpersonal meanings that are realized in five selected news articles from *The Jakarta Post* and *TEMPO.CO*. This study employed a qualitative method. The data source is two articles from *The Jakarta Post* and three articles from *TEMPO.CO*, all under the categories of the 2024 presidential election debate. The data were collected through textual analysis and close reading techniques. The results of this research are as follows: (1) The declarative mood is frequently used across all five articles with 97% for TJP and 99% for TC. The sentences are mostly realized by temporal deicticity, while modality appears in small percentages. (2) Both TJP and TC portray Anies Baswedan positively but with different emphases. TJP highlights Baswedan's personal attributes and political background. TC emphasizes Baswedan's political expertise and policy proposals. This distinction in focus reflects the different strategies employed by TJP and TC to shape public perception during the election period. TJP and TC employ similar tenor patterns where they position themselves as equals to their readers and conveying a positive tone in their interactions.

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## INTRODUCTION

Comprehending language requires looking into its usage context and clarifying the ideational, interpersonal, and textual metafunctions and their relationships (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004; Eggins, 2004; Thompson, 2014). According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), SFL is a functional theory of language that explains how individuals use language to create meanings in context. According to Sawirman (2018), SFL is characterized by various functional aspects. It perceives language as both a sign system and a social phenomenon, examining its form, structure, and manifestation within society. SFL explores the relationship that occurs between the semiotic world and the material world itself (Zulprianto, 2023). SFL also analyzes language universality as a reflection of societal language usage and evolution, including the emergence of meaning systems due to social changes. Additionally, SFL considers language usage as a form of social semiotics, intertwined with role relationships, contexts of language use, social systems, values, and cultural norms.

Interpersonal meaning considers language in terms of its role in social interactions. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) mentioned that language is not always what is said but also what is going on. Interpersonal meaning is realised through linguistic elements known as "mood" and "modality" (Gerot & Wignell, 1994). According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), mood is an important component of interpersonal meaning because it involves the grammatical structure of clauses, which represents the speaker's attitude towards the information presented. There are two types of speech roles in interpersonal meaning, comprising giving and demanding (Canadia & Bustam, 2021). Mood is a system in which interpersonal meanings are realized in wordings (Gerot & Wignell, 1994). Mood deals with two elements, namely 'subject' and 'finite.' 'Subject' is a nominal group and finite is a part of the verbal group. 'Finite' is part of the verbal group operators that expresses temporality or tense (e.g. be, has/have), modality (e.g. can, must), and polarity (positive or negative). Modality, on the other hand, is concerned with linguistic expressions of possibility, necessity, and desirability. This serves to explain the uncertainty between 'yes' and 'no' that indicates the speaker's judgment in propositions and proposals (Trung, 2022).

In Halliday's SFL, the concept of register gives understanding of how language varies according to different contexts and purposes. A register, as defined by Halliday (1978), is a functional variety of language that corresponds to specific situational contexts and communicative purposes.

Butt *et al* (2001) mentioned that there are three variables of register. They are field, mode, and tenor. Field addresses the content or subject matter of the text. Mode concerns the form or medium of communication. Finally, tenor specifically deals with the interpersonal dynamics between participants.

News has a critical role in shaping public opinion in the current information age. *The Jakarta Post* and *TEMPO.CO* are two prominent news outlets in Indonesia, each with its unique language style and editorial approach. *The Jakarta Post*, known for its formal and international-oriented reporting, contrasts with *TEMPO.CO*, which often employs a more critical and investigative style. Anies Baswedan is often reported differently by various media, both in positive and negative tones. This study employs a systematic functional linguistic method to analyze the mood structures found in local news sources that discussed Anies Baswedan's speech in the presidential election debate. This article is categorized as research article. There are two research questions being examined:

1. What are the mood structures used in reporting Anies Baswedan's speeches during presidential election debates on *The Jakarta Post* and *TEMPO.CO*?
2. How do *The Jakarta Post* and *TEMPO.CO* depict Baswedan's speech during the presidential election debates?

## METHOD

The research method used in this study is qualitative. It allows a more in-depth analysis of the news author's emotional states, feelings, and experiences (Ugwu & Eze, 2023). The data collecting method the selection of news articles from two sources: *TEMPO.CO* and *The Jakarta Post*. The data selection was conducted by searching in the two media by using keyword "Anies Baswedan's Speech During Presidential Election Debate." The next step was close reading. This method involved researchers who deeply and actively read and engaged creatively and critically with the text aiming to explore the external meaning of the text (Katan & Baarts, 2020).

The data obtained were categorised by giving code for each text. In total, there were five news texts consisting of three texts from *TEMPO.CO* and two texts from *The Jakarta Post*. The data was put in code as TC1 to TC3 for *TEMPO.CO* and TJP1 to TJP2 as *The Jakarta Post*. The data in this study were clauses. Halliday (2004) defined clause as a grammatical unit in which some different semantic constructs were combined and

considered as a single unit. There are two types of clauses based on its complexity which are clause simplex and clause complex. Each clause was numbered from C01 to C29. The code was the combination of the two codes. For example, “Former Jakarta governor Anies Baswedan has portrayed himself as the anti-establishment candidate in the presidential campaign, climbing to second place in polls” clause was coded with TJP1.C01. In total, there were eighty-eight clauses found in the five articles from both TJP (thirty-five clauses) and TC (fifty-three clauses). TJP and TC used clause complex as the majority clause type. TJP consisted of ten clause simplexes and 25 clause complexes. TC consisted of 14 clause simplexes and 39 clause complexes.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. The Realization of Interpersonal Meaning

#### a. Mood Structure

In TJP, there are thirty-five clauses found, with the variation of declarative and polar interrogative mood structures. The dominant mood structure in TJP’s articles is declarative with 34 occurrences (97%) out of 35 clauses. There is only one use (3%) of interrogative mood structure.

Table 1 Mood Structure in TJP’s articles

Mood Type	Occurrence	Percentage
Declarative Mood	34	97%
Imperative Mood	-	-
Interrogative Mood	1	3%
Total	35	100%

In TC’s three articles, there are fifty-three clauses found. Similar to the findings in TJP’s articles, there are two types of mood structures found in TC’s articles which are declarative and polar interrogative structures. The dominant mood structure in TC’s articles is declarative with 52 occurrences (99%) out of 53 clauses. Similar to the previous finding of TJP’s articles, there is only one use (1%) of interrogative structure in TC’s articles.

Table 2 Mood Structure in TC’s articles

Mood Type	Occurrence	Percentage
Declarative Mood	52	99%
Imperative Mood	-	-
Interrogative Mood	1	1%
Total	53	100%

Declarative mood is expressed through statements. Declarative clauses can be identified by

looking at the position of its subject and finite. If the subject is positioned before the finite, then it is categorized as declarative clauses. In this study, there are 34 occurrences (97%) of declarative clauses in TJP’s articles. On the other hand, the study reveals the use of 52 declarative clauses (99%) in TC’s articles. Both news coverage mostly uses declarative clauses in the articles with percentage above 97. In TJP1, there are twenty-eight declarative clauses. In TJP2, all six clauses are categorized as declarative clauses. In TC1, there are 19 declarative clauses. In TC2, all 14 clauses are declarative. In TC3, all 19 clauses are declarative. This section covers the representative analysis of the findings. There will be six data presented, one clause simplex, one clause complex, and one using modality with each category taken from TJP and TC.

#### b. Subject

Subject is a nominal group and serves as the main point of the clause or sentence. There are forty-two variations of subject found in all articles. TJP has nineteen variations and TC has 28 variations of subject. The dominant subject used by TJP is Anies, indicating that the main subject of the articles is Anies Baswedan. The second dominant subject is ‘he,’ which serves as the pronoun of Anies. TC has the dominant subject of ‘he,’ which is then followed by the subject ‘Anies.’ Therefore, both TJP and TC as the writers demonstrate that they center the information on Anies Baswedan and the events or speech involved with him. Additionally, both TJP and TC use variations of Anies subject.

All subjects are in the form of third person, referring to Baswedan, his opponents, and other subjects related to his speech. There is one use of the subject ‘we’ in TJP and three uses in TC. There is also one occurrence of the subject “you” in TC1.C18. However, the subjects ‘we’ and ‘you’ are the results of direct citation of Baswedan’s and Subianto’s speeches, rather than being done by the writer of the article to refer to themselves and the article’s readers. The sole usage of third-person perspective in delivering information validates the position of the news’ writers, that is to deliver information.

#### c. Finite

There are two types of finite, namely temporal finite verbal operator and finite modal operator. Temporal finite verbal operator refers to the verbal group that indicates primary tenses

including present, past, and future. On the other hand, finite modal operator refers to the use of modality or modal auxiliaries.

In TJP's articles, the dominant type of the temporal deicticity varies between TJP1 and TJP2. In TJP1, the dominant type is present with seventeen occurrences (57%) while TJP2's dominant type is past with four occurrences (66%). In TC's articles, the dominant type is past form, with the exception of TC3 that has 55% of past form. This indicates the different focus of each article. The writer uses the present form for citing Baswedan's speeches and the context of the situation. Past form is being used to report the action and past events related to Baswedan. The other type of Finite found in the articles is finite modal operator.

Finite modal operators can be divided into three, which are low, medium, and high. Low is indicated by the use of 'can', 'may', 'could', and 'might.' Medium or median can be seen from the use of 'will', 'would', 'is to', and 'was to.' Finally, high type can be seen from the use of 'must', 'ought to', 'need', 'has to', and 'had to' (Halliday, 2004: 116). In TJP's articles, there are two types of this finite that can be found which lay under the categories of medium and high. The medium finite modal operators occur in TJP1.C06 with the use of "would" and TJP1.C29 with the use of "will." Both occurrences are related to Baswedan's speech. They are indirect quotation or paraphrasing of Baswedan's speeches. The occurrence of high modal operator can be seen in TJP2.C03 with the use of "have to." Similar to the previous operators, "have to" occurs as the result of Baswedan's speech's quotation. However, TJP uses direct quotation. Thus, the words "have to" shows Baswedan's own high commitment to his speech at that time.

In TC's articles, there are five uses of finite modal operators. All of them falls under the category medium commitment. In TC1, there are two occurrences in TC1.C14 with the use of "would" and TC1.C15 with the use of "will. Both occurrences are related to Baswedan's speech. In TC2, the occurrences are in TC2.C03 and TC2.C04 with the use of "will." Similar to the previous ones, these two clauses show Baswedan's medium commitment on his speech. The third occurrence is in TC2.C14. This time, it is not a quotation. TC uses "will" to show the medium commitment of the subject "The final debate for the 2024 presidential election on Sunday." In TC3, there is no occurrence of modal operators.

#### d. Residue

Residue is the part of sentences that are not included in the mood structure. It is divided into: predicator, complement, and adjunct. Predicators are realized by verbal group but excluding the temporal and modal operators (Halliday: 2004). In total, there are 118 predicators found in all articles. TJP has 49 predicators and TC has 69 predicators. The next domain of residue is complement. There are two types of complement that are nominal and adjectival groups. In all articles, the dominant type is the nominal group with 82% in TJP1, 90% in TJP2, 95% in TC1, 100% in TC2, and 85% in TC3. While all other articles have an adjectival group as its complement, TC2 does not have any of it. The last domain of residue is adjunct. There are four types of adjunct that can be found in the texts. While all adjuncts are positioned in the back of the sentence, there are some occurrences of foregrounding. TJP's three foregrounded adjuncts reveal their intention to erase the time difference between the writer and the readers. They are 'now' in TJP1.C02, TJP.C23, and TJP1.C29. The three of them are positioned before and after subjects, showing TJP's emphasis. On the other hand, TC's seven foregrounded adjuncts bring positive image of Baswedan as someone who knows the current issues and problems faced in Indonesia. It can be seen from the repeated uses of 'also' and 'he/Anies said' in the sentence's foreground. Another use of foregrounded adjunct is 'nonchalantly,' showing Baswedan's indifference towards negative accusations. The same pattern can be seen in 'allegedly' after the subject 'Prabowo's mockery.'

## 2. Anies Baswedan's Depiction in TJP and TC

TJP's use of declarative mood structures allows for a straightforward presentation of Baswedan's views and achievements. For example, TJP1 describes Baswedan's stance on the capital relocation with a tone that highlights his strong and principled opposition to Jokowi's political decision to move the country's capital. Furthermore, TJP does not only focus on Baswedan's political attributes, but also bring attention to his personal ones which can be seen from the subjects "The father-of-four," and "A former lecturer, the 54-year-old." Readers are given context about Baswedan's out-of-politics roles such as his responsibilities as a father and his previous career as a lecturer. Presumably, TJP brings attention to Baswedan's father figure, creating a positive view of Baswedan

who can balance political and family life as a father of four children. In Indonesia, a responsible father figure role successfully creates a positive depiction, given the data of as many as 13 million families (16%) are led by females (BPS, 2022). By portraying Baswedan as both father and lecturer, TJP aligns him with values that collect public sympathy and support. This humanizing approach softens Baswedan's political image which makes him appear more approachable and trustworthy by public. Baswedan is seen not just as a political figure with strong determination but as a well-rounded individual with reliable and relatable qualities. The limited use of interrogative mood structures in TJP's articles suggests that TJP's primary goal is to give information rather than engage in critical questioning. This approach supports the creation of a favorable image by focusing on Baswedan's public statements and achievements without extensive critique.

TEMPO.CO (TC) also employs predominantly declarative mood structures in its coverage of Baswedan, but with a slightly different emphasis. TC's articles use declarative mood to report on Baswedan's responses and political positions. While TC's reporting is factual and informative, it often includes contextual details that provide a more critical view of Baswedan's public facade. For instance, TC's coverage of the presidential debates highlights Baswedan's proposals for human development and equality, presenting him as a candidate with a clear vision for addressing social issues. It shows TC's focus on political discourse and policy positions. However, TC's reporting also includes moments where Baswedan's opponents, such as Prabowo Subianto, are depicted in a more critical view. In TC3, TC reports on Baswedan's calm and composed response to mockery from Subianto. This not only underscores Baswedan's composure and professionalism but also implicitly contrasts his demeanor with that of his opponent.

Additionally, TC focuses more on Baswedan's political statements and actions. TC acknowledges the complexities and challenges that he is facing and the issues in Indonesia which create an image of credible political figure. The writer also emphasizes his positive image by portraying him as a proactive and solution-driven figure who knows what policy proposals should be done as a response to social issues. Despite being critical, TC's linguistic choices remain positive.

### 3. Discussion

As news media reporting political speeches, TJP and TC overall employ similar linguistic choices to realize their interpersonal meaning although they show few differences in each domain. The dominant mood structure used by TJP is declarative, with 2% being a polar interrogative structure. Similarly, TC employs declarative structure as its dominant type with 1% of polar interrogative structure. The only interrogative mood structure in both TJP's and TC's articles are not from the writers' point of view, but from direct quotations, each from Anies Baswedan and Prabowo Subianto. The dominant use of declarative structure indicates the writers' objective that is to deliver or provide information for the readers. It is to be expected since news media's objective is delivering an information. The major uses of interrogative and imperative clauses will show subjectivity instead of objectivity for news media since their function confront news media's informative nature. The reliance on direct quotations for interrogative mood structures, attributed to figures like Anies Baswedan and Prabowo Subianto, adds a layer of authenticity to the reported information.

TJP's and TC's uses of low and median modality imply that the writers put themselves in equal position to the readers. There are three uses of finite modal operators in TJP's articles and four uses in TC's articles. Both 'will' and 'would' fall in the median category, indicating that the clauses are a proposition instead of a proposal. There is a usage of high category modality of 'have to,' but it is the result of direct quotation from Baswedan's speech, indicating it is Baswedan's commitment rather than the news' writers. However, TJP's decision to do a direct quotation shows their intention to not paraphrase Baswedan's speech and just put it in their article just the way it is. Thus, the reader can feel Baswedan's high commitment within the sentence "We have to respect the people's decision." TJP retains Baswedan's honest and sportingly attitude towards the election.

In the texts, the use of 'will' and 'would' show probabilities. TJP and TC use 'will' in both direct quoting and delivering probability of future events. Median modal operators are a neutral modality. TJP and TC articles only use neutral modal other than their direct quotation of

the subject to indicate their equal position by not giving commands or proposal to the readers. They do not expect feedback (proposal). There is no superiority shown by both TJP and TC in their modality.

The equal position can also be seen from temporal deicticity. In its application, both TJP and TC simultaneously use present and past tenses, but with different portions. The differences are caused by the different topic that each article wants to deliver. In TJP1, the article is entitled 'Anies: Election dark horse who opposes moving capital.' Similar to the headline's structure, the dominant use of temporal finite is present (57%). TJP only uses past tense to explain Baswedan's background such as 'Anies was a minister under Jokowi...' and 'He entered politics in 2013...' In TJP2, the article is entitled 'Anies awaits official election outcome.' Even though the text's title is in present tense, the content has past tense (66.7%) as its dominant temporal finite. While TJP1 employs the dominant present tense, TJP2 uses a dominant past tense. The use of present tense indicates equal time between the writer and reader, thus, creates closeness. Not only that, the use of present tense brings freshness of the news. TJP brings attention to Baswedan's past political activities to give context to unfamiliar readers about his domestic activities, education, controversies but also the solutions, notable achievements, and political experiences. With this, readers have contexts about Baswedan's vast political experience within Indonesia's government.

TJP2 does not focus on Baswedan's past activities, but rather on his stance in the current presidential election as compared to Prabowo Subianto and Ganjar Pranowo. In past tenses, TJP reports Baswedan's view on the probabilities of unhealthy rivalry. In TJP2.C05 they mentioned that an analyst predicted that "a Prabowo win was almost assured." All reports are done in past tense to distance the readers with the article, implying that it is not happening at the present time and the readers can change the result's outcome. Additionally, TJP shows Baswedan's sportingly attitude and commitment to accept the outcome which can be seen from the direct quotation in TJP2.C03. The direct quotation retains the present time. Combined with high modality, TJP minimizes the distance between the writer, Anies, and the readers for the clause. Therefore, it creates a positive image of Baswedan who is sportive even with the political fraud probabilities happening

within the current presidential election.

In TC's articles, the dominant type of TC1 and TC2 is consistent, that is past form. Meanwhile, TC3 has the same amount of past and present finite. TC1, TC2, and TC3 have similar purpose that is to deliver a specific event happened in the past. Thus, the use of past tense is required while simultaneously using present tense to maintain the freshness of the news and interpersonal time with readers. TC1 delivers Baswedan's and Cak Imin's response to Subianto's mockery in past tenses. Not only their responses, TC explains the contexts of the situation and Subianto's clarification. Even though the tone is positive and present time creates closeness, TC's direct quotation of Subianto's question, "is he smart or stupid?" shows that TC wants to maintain Subianto's defensive reaction in being asked about his land ownership. This is the opposite of the article's opening that is Baswedan's gratitude and mention of 'Matur nuwun.' It shows Baswedan's calmness despite Prabowo's mockery and defensive attitude towards him. So, TC's attitude towards Baswedan is positive while Subianto is negative.

In TC2, TC summarizes Baswedan's debate speech related to equality in Indonesia. Throughout the explanation, TC employs past tenses to report the discussion and speeches. However, at the end of the article, TC uses present tenses to tell the next debate's time and topics. In TC3, TC uses past tenses to report past actions (e.g., 'Anies also discussed,' 'said Anies, and 'Anies also highlighted'). While the actions are past tenses, Baswedan's ideas are presented in present tenses (e.g., 'one of the problems comes from unequal access to education,' 'educational institutions which are often located far from remote cities,' and 'there are also more than 70 million people who do not have social security.'). It implies TC's like-mindedness with Baswedan's ideas in which they also want the readers to understand Indonesia's current problems. TC erases the time differences by employing present tenses in the ideas to create a sense of urgency within the readers that these problems and ideas are relevant right now, in the moment of reading.

TJP and TC have similar choices in their subject, but TJP gives more positive view on Baswedan. Some examples from TJP's

articles are 'Former Jakarta governor Anies Baswedan,' 'The father-of-four,' and 'Presidential contender Anies Baswedan.' Some examples from TC's articles are 'Indonesian Presidential Candidate Anies Baswedan,' 'Presidential candidate number 1, Anies Baswedan,' and 'The former Governor of Jakarta.' While TC use politics-related subjects, TJP makes use of Baswedan's domestic roles as their subject. Presumably, TJP brings attention to Baswedan's father figure, creating a positive view of Baswedan who can balance political and family life as a father of four children. In Indonesia, the father figure image successfully creates a positive image, given the data of as many as 13 million families (16%) are led by females (BPS, 2022).

TJP and TC also have similar linguistic choices when it comes to residue's domains. Both news media use dominant primary tense as their predicator, which then followed by aspects and phrases type. Predicators in all of the articles exist mostly to specify the action or process of its subject. Notably, TJP1 use few passive voices (8%) in the last part of the article to deliver information about Baswedan's previous political positions, acknowledgement, and achievements. As for complements, both TJP and TC use nominal groups as the dominant type, with all texts having more than 80% out of the total complements. Finally, TJP and TC also have similar dominant adjunct that is circumstantial. It implies the informative nature of the text since circumstantial adjuncts function as explanations of circumstances. The next dominant type is conjunctive which serves as bridges between one clause and another. Rather than showing the interpersonal meaning, it highlights the textual importance of the articles. While TJP does not have any mood and comment adjuncts, TC has slight use of it in TC1 and TC3. TC1 employs as many as 15% mood adjunct and 3% of comment adjunct. TC3 employs 3% for both of them respectively.

Based on the discussion, the interpersonal function of the clauses emphasizes the text's informative nature, with declarative sentences as all articles' dominant mode of expression in both TJP and TC. The interpersonal selections indicate one way communication where the writer does not expect feedback from the readers. It is chosen because of the writers' objective is to provide information. The interpersonal meaning found within TJP1 to TC3 indicates that TJP and TC serve as the communicator or information provider with the characteristics of objectivity, authoritative

stance, and analytical perspective. These characteristics are realized by the major use of declarative clauses, the minimum use of modality, and the use of third person point of views with various critical viewpoints related to the main subject of discussion. The proposition nature of the texts is being projected by other people, rather than the writers themselves. For instance, it is projected by Anies himself as the main subject of the articles, by Prabowo Subianto and Ganjar Pranowo as Baswedan's oppositions, the KPU, a spokesperson, and analysts. Therefore, the articles rely on evidentiality, which can be seen from the use of 'Anies said...', and so on.

Overall, TJP and TC illustrate an informative style in reporting the news on Baswedan's speech during the election period. Both TJP and TC position itself as the provider of information and at the same time, place readers as the information's recipient. The writers of the articles act as an informant and do not expect any feedbacks. The informative nature of the texts is shown by the dominance of declarative clauses. The next domain of discussion is register that includes field, mode, and tenor.

The field of the chosen articles, both from TJP and TC, is political speeches given by Anies Baswedan. In the context of TJP and TC's reporting on Anies Baswedan's speeches, the field involves political discourse during the election campaign, including Baswedan's policies, his responses to rival candidates, and his vision for Indonesia's future. TJP, for instance, highlights Baswedan's opposition to relocating Indonesia's capital. It encourages public to view him as a figure challenging the status quo. On the other hand, TC emphasizes Baswedan's calm manner in response to Prabowo's mockery. It suggests that Baswedan is a composed and rational leader. Despite this alignment in the general field of political reporting, the particular aspects of Baswedan's character and policies that both news media chooses to focus on reflect their respective editorial stances. TJP foregrounds Baswedan's previous political competence and leadership experience by giving context of his previous role as Jakarta's governor and his long and ongoing political journey. On the other hand, TC focuses on the present time. They report on Baswedan's

current concerns on equality and educational reform. By including quotations from both Baswedan and his political opponents, TC positions itself as a more neutral observer. However, the selection of which statements to quote, such as Prabowo's aggressive rhetorical questions, suggests that TC wants to show a favorable image of Baswedan.

Furthermore, there is also the inclusion of expert commentary and analysis. For example, TJP reports on an analyst's prediction that Prabowo's victory was "almost assured." This statement positions Baswedan as an underdog candidate. This inclusion allows readers to view Baswedan's campaign as a fight against the odds. The use of third-party commentary not only adds credibility to the reporting but also frames the election as a high-stakes political contest, thereby engaging readers' emotions and drawing them into the narrative.

The mode of communication is written news articles, a form of one-way communication with no expectation of direct feedback from readers. The choice of declarative mood in TJP and TC is indicative of the mode. However, the use of direct quotations within these declarative structures introduces an element of interactivity, even though indirectly. By quoting political figures like Baswedan and Prabowo, the articles allow these individuals to speak directly to the readers. For example, when TJP quotes Baswedan's statement, "We have to respect the people's decision," it not only reinforces the news' declarative nature but also Baswedan's personal commitment to democratic values. The decision to quote this particular statement reflects that the writer wants to guide the reader's interpretation of his character.

The last register is tenor. The tenor of the articles reveals a clear intention to highlight Baswedan's favorable attributes. By employing neutral modality, the media establish themselves as unbiased third-party deliverers of information. Their attempt to align themselves with the readers reflects an understanding of audience dynamics and the importance of reader engagement in modern journalism. This positioning is crucial in maintaining a facade of journalistic integrity and credibility. Nevertheless, the effectiveness of this neutrality is diluted when considering the overall tenor of the articles, which involves more than just the choice of modality.

Despite their use of neutral modality and the effort to position themselves as equals with their

readers, TJP and TC show inclination towards presenting Anies Baswedan in a positive light. TJP is more explicit in their inclination which can be seen from the major use of present tense to erase the time differences between the readers and the writers, as well as the subjects' variations. Furthermore, the sole use of positive polarity in the finites implies that TJP and TC maintain the positive affect so that the readers will perceive the text and Anies' positive image, positively. This is a significant aspect of the tenor that affects how the content is received and interpreted. TJP's focus on Baswedan's family role and personal qualities portrays him as a responsible and relatable figure, enhancing his public image. Similarly, TC highlights Baswedan's expertise and resilience, framing him as a competent leader. Therefore, the tenor of TJP and TC's articles validates that while these media outlets attempt to be neutral and relatable, their reporting is influenced by underlying narrative strategies. The tenor used by TJP and TC are equal, neutral contact, and positive affect in relation to the readers.

## CONCLUSION

The interpersonal meaning of TJP's and TC's articles can be seen from the mood and modality systems. Both news media have the same objective that is to give information about Baswedan's speech during the 2024 presidential election. In writing the articles, they position themselves not as a third-party information deliverer, but as an equal of the readers and in this case, it is the citizen of Indonesia which can be seen from the neutral modality. TJP and TC draws attention to Baswedan's positive image. TJP specifically brings attention to Baswedan's father figure and erases the time differences between the writers, the events, and the readers by the use of present finite. On the other hand, TC focuses on Baswedan's vast knowledge towards the current issues faced by Indonesia and his indifference towards groundless negativity. TJP is more explicit in their inclination.

The analysis of register, including field, mode, and tenor, shows the narrative strategies of TJP and TC. In field aspect, TJP focuses on Baswedan's past achievements and policy positions to show his competence, while TC, by emphasizing Baswedan's present concerns such as equality and education, shows him as a revolutionary candidate.

The mode of communication is written



news articles. Both TJP and TC employ declarative moods and direct quotations as part of their reporting style, which on the surface appears objective. However, the strategic inclusion of particular speech acts and expert commentary, such as TJP's emphasis on an analyst predicting Prabowo's near-certain victory, portrays Baswedan as the underdog and inviting a sympathetic engagement from the audience. TJP and TC employ similar tenor patterns in giving information that they position themselves as equal and giving positive affect in their interactions with the readers.

The study's findings contribute to the understanding of media objectivity and journalistic practices in Indonesia. Through an examination of the interpersonal meanings as seen in the mood and modality systems of news stories from TJP and TC, the study shows that declarative clauses and third-person point of view are used by both media outlets. This continuous use suggests a strong dedication to provide objective news coverage even though there is an inclination to highlight Baswedan's positive image to the readers.

The implications of these findings affect our understanding of media objectivity and journalistic practices in Indonesia. Firstly, the predominance of declarative clauses and third-person perspectives by both TJP and TC shows a commitment to presenting information in a straightforward and objective manner. Declarative sentences are designed to deliver facts directly, and the consistent use of third-person point of view reinforces the role of the media as information providers. However, the study's findings show that both TJP and TC strategically highlight positive aspects of Baswedan's image. This subtle bias reflects an inclination to present him favorably, despite the overall objective tone of the reporting. This raises important questions about the extent to which media outlets can truly claim objectivity while simultaneously promoting particular viewpoints.

The study's findings emphasize the broader implications for media literacy and research. Understanding the use of mood and modality systems in news reporting is important for readers to critically engage with media content. Recognizing how media outlets construct narratives and subtly influence perceptions through language and emphasis is essential for informed consumption of news. For researchers and analysts, this study contributes in the research area of how media

practices shape public discourse and political perceptions, specifically in Indonesia during presidential election period.

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