A TENOR ANALYSIS IN JOE BIDEN SPEECH OF COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

THESIS

By:

SEPTI INDRA OKTAVIA

NIM. 187041

SEKOLAH TINGGI KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN

PERSATUAN GURU REPUBLIK INDONESIA JOMBANG

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION

MARCH

2022

A TENOR ANALYSIS IN JOE BIDEN SPEECH OF COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Septi Indra Oktavia

187041

Department Of English Language Education

Sekolah Tinggi Keguruan Dan Ilmu Pendidikan

Persatuan Guru Republik Indonesia Jombang

ABSTRACT

Tenor can be described as the role structure: who is taking part and it refers to who is taking part, to the nature of the participants, their status and roles: what kinds of role relationship obtain among the participants, including permanent and temporary relationships of one kind or another. In this study, researcher focused on the linguistics form of tenor in Joe Biden speech. Speech is the expression of thoughts in the form of words addressed to many people. The aim of this study were to identify the linguistic forms of tenor and identify the meaning of the tenor in Joe Biden's speech.

This study used qualitative research to obtain information. Researchers analyze two speeches from Joe Biden because the topics presented were interesting and currently happening, talked about the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic and the planned stimulus package to tackle the economic and public health crisis in the United States. To collect data, this study used document analysis as a research instrument.

Researcher found there are twenty linguistics forms of tenor. The data obtain from first speech amounted to six tenors, the second speech amounted to fourteen tenors.

Key word   : Sociolinguistic, Tenor, Speech

A. INTRODUCTION

The Background of the Research

In 2019 there was a virus that appeared to attack human health, especially respiratory problems, the virus was called the corona virus (Covid-19). Covid-19 outbreak causes problems in every sector and it becomes a scourge for us (Junaedi, 2020). The Corona virus has affected many aspects of human life, such as problems with jobs, education, and the economy. The government is trying to revive the country's economy. This also happened in the United States. Joe Biden, the US president, cares about the state of the US like that. Biden lays out plans for economic recovery during the Covid-19 pandemic in speech. Biden reads the speech using organized language and the sentences are easy to understand for the audience.

The way people speak is usually a good indicator of their social background. One application of public speaking is speech. Speech is an activity of public speaking. The speech is carried out using good language and can be accepted by the listener. Sociolinguists have found that almost all linguistic features within a community or region exhibit variations in their frequency that differ from one social group to another in a patterned and predictable way. These variations are called language variations.

Holmes (2008: 235) says that in a variety of languages there are clearly factors that support the formation of a variety of languages. One of the language variants is registers. Registers can be defined as how speakers use language differently in different situations. The manner of speaking at a formal event is different than when it is at an informal event. A register is a variation of language that occurs in society. The function of register in speech is to determine the variation of an existing language in a speech. Across Halliday's accounts of context-language relations, features of the context – namely field, tenor and mode – tend to be given an agentive property in that they are often said to determine (Halliday et al. 2007[1964]: 20) or activate (Halliday 2002[1977]: 54) corresponding features in the semantics.

Tenor refers to who takes part. It can be described as the structure of roles, who takes part and refers to who takes part, the nature of the participants, their statues and roles. What types of role relationships were acquired between participants, including permanent and temporary relationships of one kind or another, both the types of speech roles they took on in the dialogue and the entire group of socially significant relationships in which they were involved. Halliday (1978) refers to as the "degree of emotional charge" in the relationship.

The researcher chose the tenor of Joe Biden's speech to be analyzed because the topics presented were interesting and currently happening. His speech is able to express his thoughts verbally fluently, has good command of language and is confident in presentations. Researcher analyzed the speech of president Joe Biden because it has various utterances that come from native speakers of the United States who use English as their mother tongue. Because Joe Biden's speech has a lot to do with equal status and distance of contact in a tenor relationship when it comes to talking about someone. So researcher interested in analyzing tenors in speech because they want to know how the speech is realized through language, especially those related to tenors to get a deep understanding of how the speaker's language is realized. There are many aspects of the speech delivered by the President that can be analyzed, one of which is the tenor. Therefore, these things lead the researcher to analyze the tenor in Joe Biden's speech.

Previous Study

Tenor Analysis On Some World's Influencing Women Speeches by Ayu Sugianto (2012). The result are the speeches of Hillary Rodham Clinton and Condoleezza Rice often used equal status.

Statements of the Problems

Based on the background of study, the problem of this research as follows:

1. What is the linguistic forms of tenor in Joe Biden's speech on economic recovery plans during the Covid-19 pandemic?

2. What is the meaning of the tenor in Joe Biden's speech on economic recovery plan during the Covid-19 pandemic?

Objectives of the Research

Based on the research problems, this research aims:

1. To identify the linguistic forms of tenor in Joe Biden's speech on economic recovery plans during the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. To identify the meaning of the tenor in Joe Biden's speech on economic recovery plan during the Covid-19 pandemic.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

In this research, the researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method. Chreswell (1994) stated that qualitative was descriptive in that the researcher was interested in the process, meaning, and understanding gained through words or pictures. The researcher took qualitative research for this research to look up the form of the tenor register and the meaning of the word tenor used in Joe Biden's speech transcript. The object of research is the linguistic form and tenor meaning contained in Joe Biden's speech transcript.

Data Source and Data

The source of this research data is from a website. This research takes two speech transcript from Joe Biden. The data source in this study was taken from the Rev.com website, the first content is entitled "Joe Biden Speech Transcript On Economic Recovery Plan" with the link https://www.rev.com/blog/transcripts/joe-biden-speech-transcript-on-economic-recovery-plan-july-9. This content was uploaded on the website on July 09, 2021And the second content is entitled "Joe Biden Speech On Covid-19 Response Transcript" with the link https://www.rev.com/blog/transcripts/joe-biden-speech-on-covid-19-response-transcript-january-21. This content was uploaded on the website on January 21, 2021. The data will be analyzed from the beginning of the opening speech to the closing of the speech. But this data is taken only the parts that are included as tenors.

Data Collection Procedures

1. Researchers searched the website for Joe Biden's speech

2. The researcher chose two of Joe Biden's speech. The first speeh entitled Joe Biden Speech Transcript On Economic Recovery Plan and the second speech entitled Joe Biden Speech On Covid-19 Response Transcript.

3. Researcher saves Joe Biden's speech transcript

4. Researchers read Joe Biden's speech transcript

5. The researcher looks for the tenor in the speech transcript.

Research Instrument

There are two sources on the research instrument. The first is main instrument. In this section, the data in question are all the processes carried out by researchers from beginning to end to obtain research results. In main instrument, the first thing researchers do is to formulate research problems. And the final stage is to conclude the research.

The second is the supporting instrument. Supporting instrument in this study is speech transcript. And the researcher uses table of the data to get an easier process in collecting the data.

Data Analysis Techniques

These are the stages of data analysis techniques

1. The first thing to do is read a transcript of Joe Biden's speech

2. The second is to classify the parts that contain tenors in speech

3. The third, removing parts of the speech transcript that are not included in the tenor section

4. The fourth, when the data has been taken and classified into tenors. Then the data will be analyzed according to social distance scale, status scale and formality scale

5. The fifth, after getting the results of classifying social distance scale, status scale and formality scale. Then the data is then analyzed on its meaning. This meaning includes contextual meaning or lexical

6. The last, the researcher draws the conclusion.

Triangulation

Norman K. Denkin defines triangulation as a combination or combination of various methods used to examine interrelated phenomena from different perspectives and perspectives. According to him, triangulation includes four things, namely: (1) triangulation of methods, (2) triangulation between researchers (if the research is conducted in groups), (3) triangulation of data sources, and (4) theory triangulation.

C. RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Finding

1.   The Linguistic Forms of Tenor in Joe Biden's Speech

No	Data	Social Distance Scale		Status Scale		Formality Scale	
		Intimate	Distant	High	Low	High	Low
1.	Hello everyone. Well, let me start off by saying hello to Theresa Casey, and the guy that hangs out with her occasionally, and Bobby. Thank you. Thanks for being here, and thanks for welcoming me home.	√			√	√	
2.	And to Mayor Burk and Mayor Canetti, congratulations.		√	√		√	
3.	And President Eric Dean. Mr. President, as I said earlier, the Ironworkers have been with me my entire career. The first operation to ever endorsed me in 1972.		√	√		√	
4.	Bobby, three times a week I'm on the phone with the national folks, the docs who were head of CDC and other places before.	√			√	√	
5.	My grandpa, when I lived with him down in Greenridge, used to talk about, "Everybody, everybody Joey deserves a shot. Just a shot. Everybody."	√			√	√	
6.	Our President wasn't prepared for this pandemic. He ignored the detailed briefings and warning that		√		√	√	

			√	√		√	
	our administration left behind.						
7.	Before I begin today's announcement, let me take a few moments to thank all the law enforcement folks for all they did, the military personnel, from all across the Federal State and local agencies to secure yesterday's inaugural activities.		√	√		√	
8.	And a special thanks to the members of the National Guard from around the country. It was an unprecedented situation.		√	√		√	
9.	But now to today's announcement, Vice-President Harris and I were joined by members of our COVID-19 team		√	√		√	
10.	And Dr. Tony Fauci, our Chief COVID medical adviser.		√	√		√	
11.	Xavier Becerra, excuse me, our nominee for Secretary Of Health And Human Services.		√	√		√	
12.	Dr. Vivek Murthy, our nominee for Surgeon General.		√	√		√	
13.	Dr. Rochelle Willinsky, she's going to be the director for the Centers For Disease Control Prevention.		√	√		√	
14.	And Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, who will be leading our equity work and the COVID response.		√	√		√	
15.	And Jeff Zients and Natalie Quillian, who are managing this whole effort.		√		√	√	
16.	I understand why many governors, mayors, county officials, tribal leaders feel like they're left on their own without a clear national plan to get them through the crisis.		√	√		√	
17.	We also, are going to take immediate steps to partner with governors, mayors, and other local officials, who we've been talking to all along, who are on the front lines of this fight.		√	√		√	
18.	Today, I'm formalizing the Health Equity Task Force that we announced in the transition led by the brilliant Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith. Who ensures that it's going to ensure that equality is at the core of every decision we make.		√	√		√	
19.	The Vice President Harris and I, and our entire administration will always be honest and transparent with you about both the good news, the bad.		√	√		√	

	We will level with you, when we make a mistake.						
20.	Mr.President, you said you set the goal at 100 million vaccines, is that high enough? Shouldn't you set the bar higher? That's basically where the US is right now.		√	√		√	

Tenor can be found in someone's conversation or can also be found when someone talks with social interactions. What is meant by tenor is someone who takes part, showing the relationship between speaker and participant. According to Holmes (2013: 8-10), the tenor has a social dimension, there are status scale, formality scale and social distance scale. After analyzing the data, the researcher found twenty tenors of data. Found more on the high status scale as many as fifteen, and five data including the low status scale, then on the formality scale all data showed a high formality scale, and for the social sistance scale data found more distance on the social distance scale as much as seventeen data, three data including intimate on the social distance scale. The description as below:

1.1   The Status Scale

There are two types of status scales, namely the high status scale and the low status scale. High status scale is indicated when the speaker mentions the participant using his position. And the low status scale is indicated when the speaker mentions the participant by name only. The indicator is that the high status scale is used to mention someone who is respected or someone who has a position, then there is a mention of someone's position, while on the low status scale it is used to mention someone who is considered equal then mention of someone only uses a nickname.

1.1.1   High status scale

Joe Biden's speech shows that tenor results contain more high status scales. It can be seen from the number of Joe Biden mentioning participants by mentioning their positions (see appendix 2 D2.S1, D3.S1, D6.S1, D7.S2, D8.S2, D9.S2, D10.S2, D11.S2, D12.S2, D13.S2, D14.S2, D15.S2, D16.S2, D17.S2, D18.S2, D19.S2, D20.S2)

Explanation of the first finding D2.S1 "And to **Mayor** Burk and **Mayor** Canetti, congratulations." This data shows that the tenor status scale is high, this can be seen when Joe Biden calls someone by mentioning the title. Joe Biden mentioned Major Burk and Major Canetti in his speech. It is supported by Holmes (2013: 10) avoidance of using nicknames or first names for respected people.

1.1.2   Low status scale

In a speech Joe Biden pointed out that tenor yields containing low status scales are few. This can be seen from Joe Biden who mentions the names of participants using nicknames or first names only for a few people (see appendix 2 D1.S1, D4.S1, D5.S1, D6.S1, D15.S2)

Explanation of the first finding D1.S1 "Hello everyone. Well, let me start off by saying hello to Theresa Casey, and the guy that hangs out with her occasionally, and Bobby. Thank you. Thanks for being here, and thanks for welcoming me home." This data shows that the tenor status scale is low, this can be seen when Joe Biden calls someone using only name. Joe Biden mentioned "Theresa Casey" and "Bobby" in his speech. It is supported by Holmes (2013: 10) the use of nicknames or first names for someone with an equal social status then it is included as a low status scale, or it can also be interpreted in situations where superiors call subordinates.

1.2   The formality scale

According to Holmes (2013: 8-10) this scale is useful in assessing the influence of the social setting or type of interaction on language choice. There are two situations on the formality scale, namely the high formality scale and the low formality scale. In a formal transaction such as one with the bank manager in his office or at a ritual service in church, the language used will be influenced by the

formality of the setting, in such a situation then it includes a high formality scale. For a friendly chat, people generally use colloquial language, this situation belongs to the low formality scale.

1.2.1 High formality scale

All tenor data in this speech are included in the high formality scale because speech is one type of situation that has a high formality scale. This can also be measured by the number of high status scales, the more high status scales that appear than the low status scales, the situation is likely to be high formality scale. The indicator is that the high formality scale is useful in assessing the influence of the social setting or type of interaction on language choice. On the high formality scale use good language and words, correct vocabulary and clear pronunciation. It is supported by Holmes (2013: 10) a very formal setting, such as a law court, typically influences language choice regardless of the personal relationships between the speakers.

1.2.2 Low formality scale

All tenor data in this speech do not indicate a low formality scale because speech is one type of very formal situation. The indicator is that the low formality scale is used for friendly chat, using colloquial language.

1.3 Social distance scale

According to Holmes (2013: 8-10) this scale is useful in emphasising that how well we know someone is a relevant factor in linguistic choice. There are two types on the social distance scale, intimate and distant. Classified as intimate when the speaker has a close relationship with the participant. Whereas classified as distant when the speaker has a distant relationship with the participant. Indicators of intimate are seen from the status scale and formality scale, if the high status scale appears more and the formality scale is high, it is classified as intimate. While the indicator of distant is looking at the status scale and formality scale, if the low status scale appears more and the formality scale is low, it is classified as distant.

1.3.1 Intimate

Joe Biden's speech shows that there are only a few tenors that contain intimates. This can be based on the status scale, if there are more high status scales then it is intimate (see appendix D1.S1, D4.S1, D5.S1)

Explanation of the D4.S1 "Bobby, three times a week I'm on the phone with the national folks, the docs who were head of CDC and other places before." this data shows that it is intimate because the speakers refer to participants using names or low status scales, and the context of the content of the discussion is more directed to personal activities. It is supported by Holmes (2013: 9) classified as intimate is when there is high solidarity.

1.3.2 Distant

Joe Biden's speech shows that more tenors contain distant. This can be measured from the status scale, if the high status scale is more than the low status scale, it can be classified as distant (see appendix D2.S2, D3.S1, D6.S1, D7.S2, D8.S2, D9.S2, D10.S2, D11.S2, D12.S2, D13.S2, D14.S2, D15.S2, D16.S2, D17.S2, D18.S2, D19.S2, D20.S2)

Explanation of the D6.S1 "Our President wasn't prepared for this pandemic. He ignored the detailed briefings and warning that our administration left behind." this data shows that it is distant because the speakers refer to participants using position or high status scales, and the context of the content of the discussion is not personal activities. It is supported by Holmes (2013: 9) classified as distant is when there is low solidarity.

2. The Meaning of The Tenor in Joe Biden's Speech

No.	Data	Type of Meaning	
		Lexical	Contextual
1.	Hello everyone. Well, let me start off by saying hello to Theresa Casey, and the guy that hangs out with her occasionally, and Bobby. Thank you. Thanks for being here, and thanks for welcoming me home.	√	
2.	And to Mayor Burk and Mayor Canetti, congratulations.	√	
3.	And President Eric Dean. Mr. President, as I said earlier, the Ironworkers have been with me my entire career. The first operation to ever endorsed me in 1972.	√	
4.	Bobby, three times a week I'm on the phone with the national folks, the docs who were head of CDC and other places before.	√	
5.	My grandpa, when I lived with him down in Greenridge, used to talk about, "Everybody, everybody Joey deserves a shot. Just a shot. Everybody."	√	
6.	Our President wasn't prepared for this pandemic. He ignored the detailed briefings and warning that our administration left behind.	√	
7.	Before I begin today's announcement, let me take a few moments to thank all the law enforcement folks for all they did, the military personnel, from all across the Federal State and local agencies to secure yesterday's inaugural activities.	√	
8.	And a special thanks to the members of the National Guard from around the country. It was an unprecedented situation.	√	
9.	But now to today's announcement, Vice-President Harris and I were joined by members of our COVID-19 team	√	
10.	And Dr. Tony Fauci, our Chief COVID medical adviser.	√	
11.	Xavier Becerra, excuse me, our nominee for Secretary Of Health And Human Services.	√	
12.	Dr. Vivek Murthy, our nominee for Surgeon General.	√	
13.	Dr. Rochelle Willinsky, she's going to be the director for the Centers For Disease Control Prevention.	√	
14.	And Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, who will be leading our equity work and the COVID response.	√	
15.	And Jeff Zients and Natalie Quillian, who are managing this whole effort.	√	
16.	I understand why many governors, mayors, county officials, tribal leaders feel like they're left on their own without a clear national plan to get them through the crisis.	√	
17.	We also, are going to take immediate steps to partner with governors, mayors, and other local officials, who we've been talking to all along, who are on the front lines of this fight.	√	
18.	Today, I'm formalizing the Health Equity Task Force that we announced in the transition led by the brilliant Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith. Who ensures that it's going to ensure that equality is at the core of every decision we make.	√	
19.	The Vice President Harris and I, and our entire administration will always be honest and transparent with you about both the good news, the bad. We will level with	√	

	you, when we make a mistake.		
20.	Mr.President, you said you set the goal at 100 million vaccines, is that high enough? Shouldn't you set the bar higher? That's basically where the US is right now.	√	

In this study, the researcher chose two meanings to study. These meanings are lexical meaning and contextual meaning. According to Chaer (1990: 63) a lexical word or meaning is the meaning that corresponds to its referent, meaning that is in accordance with the results of observation of the senses, or meaning that is truly real in our lives, in other words, a lexical meaning of a word is a real picture of a concept as the word symbolizes it. While contextual meaning according to Chaer (2007: 290) contextual meaning is the meaning of a lexeme or word inside a context.

2.1.1   Lexical meaning

In Joe Biden's speech, all tenor data shows that they are included in the lexical meaning. Because the lexical meaning indicator is the real meaning, there is no hidden meaning.

For example on D7.S2 "Before I begin today's announcement, let me take a few moments to thank all the law enforcement folks for all they did, the military personnel, from all across the Federal State and local agencies to secure yesterday's inaugural activities." the tenor data is included in the lexical meaning. The meaning of this tenor is a thank you addressed to all law enforcement and military personnel. According to the oxford dictionary, thank you (to somebody) (for something) an act, a gift, a comment, etc. intended to thank somebody for something they have done.

2.1.2   Contextual meaning

The result that appears in Joe Biden's speech is that there is no contextual meaning of tenor data. This happens because all the tenors that appear have their true meaning. Because the indicator of contextual meaning is the meaning of the lexeme or word in the context. However, contextual meaning can be seen from the situation, time, environment of language use.

Discussion

In the linguistic form of the tenor, there are three things studied, they are the status scale, formality scale and social distance scale. On the status scale, the researcher found that the high status scale appeared more than the low status scale. This is because in Joe Biden's speech, he mentioned a lot of people's names using his position. This was done by Joe Biden because it was part of the way he respected the people he mentioned was added to his position. However, there is also a section where Joe Biden also mentions some people using nicknames. Joe Biden did it because he felt much closer to that person.

The second linguistic form of tenor studied in this study is the formality scale. The researcher found that all tenors that appeared were on a high formality scale, this happened because in the state of the president's speech, it was certain that the situation was formal. So there is no tenor data that is classified as low formality because the situation of Joe Biden's speech is formal.

The last linguistic form studied in this study is the social distance scale. Researchers found more distant scales than intimate scales. This is comparable to the findings of the status scale and formality scale. if the status scale appears more high status scale and the formality scale appears more or even all high formality scale then what happens to the social distance scale will tend to be distant scale, and vice versa.

The next problem studied in this study is the meaning of the tenor in Joe Biden's speech. The meaning under study is lexical meaning and contextual meaning.

On the lexical meaning, the results obtained by the researcher are that all tenor data are classified as lexical meaning because all tenor data means the real context, this is in line with the theory of Chaer (1990).

The second meaning is contextual meaning. The result obtained by the researcher is that there is no contextual meaning in the tenor data because contextual meaning means that there is another context in the word.

Other results from the first statement of the problem in this study are relevant to the theory of Holmes (2013). where if the status scale that appears is more high status scale and the formality scale that appears is the high formality scale then the results that occur on the social distance scale will be more inclined to the distant scale.

D. CONCLCUSION

Linguistics form of tenor in this speech there are 3 points, namely the social distance scale, status scale and formality scale. There are 20 data that appear as linguistic form of tenor. The results found more "distance" on the social distance scale because there are 17 data classified as distant, on the status scale is classified as high because there are 15 data showing a high status scale, and on the formality scale it is high because all the data shows a high formality scale.

The meaning of the tenor contains more lexical meaning or real meaning. Because in Joe Biden the context of his speech is the true meaning that is easier for the audience to understand.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abdul Chaer. 2007. Linguistik Umum. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.

Afriyatna, Y. (2021). Register Realization On Nadiem Makarim Speech (Doctoral dissertation, UMSU).

Ayuningtyas, I. (2021). Modality analysis in Joe Biden's speech delivered on the anniversary of the Covid-19 shutdown. EnJourMe (English Journal of Merdeka): Culture, Language, and Teaching of English, 6(2) 115-116.

Chaer, A.2009. Sintaksis bahasa indonesia: pendekatan proses. Rineka Cipta.

Creswell, John W. 2018. Research Design. LA: Sage.

Eggin, S. 1994. An Introduction to systemic Function Linguistics. London : Pinter

Ginting, A. (2019). A Register Analysis on United States Presidential Anecdotes. Thesis. University of Sumatera Utara. Accessed on March 2022.

Halliday, M. A. K . (1975). Learning how to mean: Explorations in the development of language (explorations in language study). London: Edward Arnold.

Halliday, M. A. K. (1978). Language as Social Semiotic: The Social Interpretation of Language and Meaning. London: Edward Arnold.

Halliday, M. A. K. (1992). Bahasa, Konteks, dan Teks: Aspek-aspek Bahasa dalam Pendangan Semiotik Sosial. Gadjah Mada University Press.

Holmes, Janet. 1992. An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. New York: Longman.

Holmes, Janet. 2013. An Introduction to Sociolinguistics : Fourth edition. New York: Routledge.

Mansoer Pateda. 2001. Semantik Leksikal. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.

Maulina, A. E. (2015). Register realization in the writing of 8th grade students of SMP Kesatrian Semarang (A comparative study between dialogue and recount text). JELE (Journal of English Language and Education), 1(1), 1-15.

Miles, Matthew B. 2014. Qualitative Data Analysis. Phoenix: Sage.

Saptawati, N. (2018). Tenor Analysis on Donald Trump's Presidential Inauguration Speech. Thesis. University of Sumatera Utara. Accessed on March 2022.

Sari, G. I. K. (2019). Social Factor and Social Dimension in Terms of Speech Style. Language Horizon, 7(1).

Wardhaugh, R. 2006. An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Cambridge: Blackwell.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_Biden accessed on March 2022