

### International Journal of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

volume 5 issue 4 pp. 128-137 doi: https://dx.doi.org/10.20469/ijhss.5.20001-4

## A Pragmatic Study of Jakarta Post and Jakarta Globe News Headlines After Indonesian General Election 2019

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Abstract: The language choice in mass media could become the factor that could attract others attention using news headlines. This research aims to analyze the types of speech acts used in Jakarta Post and Jakarta Globe headlines after the Indonesian General Election 2019. There are seventy headlines selected from those two online web pages, which consist of 20 headlines from Jakarta globe and 50 headlines from Jakarta post. Descriptive statistics were used. Based on the data, there are some findings obtained. First, assertive speech acts became the highest one than other types of speech acts employed by both Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post news websites in composing headlines. Second, the headlines employed by Jakarta Post and Jakarta Globe headlines after the Indonesian general election show that they are similar in that both websites have similar percentages of using assertive and declarations as to the second rank of use in their headlines. Based on the conclusions above, it can be concluded that the study of the use of types of speech acts in news headlines could be a way to uncover hidden meanings that could influence the readers on certain issues, which also could affect the belief of the reader.

Keywords: Speech acts, news headlines, Indonesia general election

Received: 23 April 2019; Accepted: 14 June 2019; Published: 26 August 2019

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Mass media has an important role in influencing our life, especially Television (TV) and newspaper. In the past, the newspaper was the only news resource for everyone every morning. As time passed by, the rapid development of technology and the internet has a great influence on the newspaper world. In the last decades, traditional newspapers have developed into a conventional newspaper, namely online newspaper. It gives great advantages for people since it could be updated every second. In writing news, especially in writing headlines, a journalist should construct and manipulate the words to achieve certain purposes. In directing readers attention to an issue, news writer has to play the language choice since it has an important role. A linguistic analysis, especially pragmatic analysis of the headline, may reveal the role of headlines in delivering intended meaning. Chiluwa (2007) purposed that the key to writing headlines is in pragmatic analysis since the intention of the writer has a big impact on the pragmatic meaning. In line with this, Beard (2000) claimed that language is used for communication and as belief presentation, but the most important is knowing the way language shapes ideas.

In the months of the general election, mass media made a huge contribution to what ideas shaped citizens minds since hoax had been easily spread through the nation at once. Mass media has to reveal, check, and expose the real news to confirm hoax by giving facts. To attract readers' attention, the writer should make good headlines.

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To reveal the intentions of the text, a writer could use pragmatics. Pragmatics is seen as a communication act that could influence all parts of peoples life. Mey (2001) proposed pragmatics as a study of how people use their language to communicate and how they affect language use. Recognizing the speech act types could assist the readers in understanding something which the writer does not explicitly express.

The pragmatics' role is to expose the writers intention behind which sometimes is hidden and makes some confusion among the readers (Oracion, 2018; Porn & van Dijk, 1979). Mey (2001) stated that Pragmatics, as the study of the way human beings use their language in communication, bases itself on a study of those premises and determines how they affect human language use. It has been assumed that the speech act is an aspect of communication activities. The readers could find the intended meaning of the text that is not expressed explicitly by identifying the type of speech acts. Some researches have been conducted covering the issue of speech acts used in news headlines. In 2012, Al handawi has done a pragmatic study that focuses on finding the types of speech acts used in CNN and BBC News Headlines about the Syrian conflict. Dhawan also did a study on newspaper headlines, yet focusing on the linguistic divergences.

The issue of the General election that happened in Indonesia for months in 2019 brought a high tension to the people around. Many things happened, starting from disagreement to dispute. This is because there are two pairs of presidential candidates who are running for president and formed a large stronghold in the country, Jokowi-Amin and Prabowo-Sandi. Until the holding of the General Election on April 17, 2019, political tension did not decrease, even increased. This happened after the Prabowo-Sandi camp claimed that those who won the election were based on the results of a quick count carried out by the team he formed. The news in the media also contributed to the high political tension in Indonesia. The use of headlines on news websites could be used to lead public opinion. The choice of speech act used by news writers would be interesting to have further discussion on and analysis using the pragmatics point of view. The model adopted in the study is Searle (1979) speech acts. The questions that are intended to be answered by this work can be formulated as follows:

- 1. Which speech acts are employed by the Jakarta Post Headlines covering issues of Indonesian General Election 2019?
- 2. Which speech acts are employed by the Jakarta Globe Headlines covering issues of Indonesian General Election 2019?

This paper adopted Searle (1979) speech act as the main theory, which will be analyzed using pragmatics. It is supported by the use of statistical analysis to verify quantitatively. This work limits itself to the analysis of the linguistic form and meaning that can be found in the headlines covering the issue of Indonesian general election covering legislatives, excecutives, and presidential election from 18 April 17 May 2019. It is hoped that the findings of this study will be useful for news headline writers, editors, and pragmatic researchers.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### News Headlines

It is moderately hard to characterize news in a word, and there has never been an agreeable definition. For Reah (2002), news is data about late occasions "that are important to an adequately enormous gathering or that may influence the lives of adequately huge gathering". As for the feature, Reah (2002) takes note that it is a "novel sort of a book that comprises of a scope of capacities that are explicitly directing its shape, substance, and structure". It is hard to give a determinative and unambiguous meaning of the term 'feature', and it is by all accounts utilized naturally, even in etymological examinations (Mardh, 1980). Feature is 'a dynamic of a conceptual' by encircling the story to a more elevated level. Headlines assume a huge job in news transmitting. Taiwo (2007), for instance, focuses on the significance of headlines by saying that they are utilized to "start, continue and shape talk on the perspectives on perusers". The language of headlines varies from a regular language. This distinction is evident in the way that accounts are written in the past tense headlines in the current state (Tuchman, 1978). The significance of headlines in media talk is reflected by Bell (1991) who expresses that the most significant part is the sort of language utilized, how feature author or editorial manager utilizes language to stand out for the reader, and what discourse acts they can use to pass on their message.

In a similar vein, Ungerer (2000) stresses that a feature portrays the quintessence of a news story in a couple of words. It gives data rapidly and precisely and stimulates the peruser's interest. Dor (2003) moves further by guaranteeing that notwithstanding the semantic and even-minded capacities, it is "an informative gadget whose capacity

is to create the ideal degree of affinity between the substance of the story and the peruser's setting of understanding". The generation of news is affected by the fundamental objective of media association. In such a manner, Fowler (1991) expressed that it is "a structured arranging and choosing of occasions and subjects as per a socially developed arrangement of classifications". Stressing the job of desultory systems in improving newsworthiness of the announced occasions, Bednarek and Caple (2012) express that "Newsworthiness isn't natural on occasions yet framed through language and picture."

Headlines have various capacities. Ringer (1991), for instance, recognizes headlines which "abstract the headliner of the story" and "headlines which center around an auxiliary occasion or a detail." Crystal and Davy (1969) focus on the convoluted idea of the job of headlines when they state "Headlines must give a reasonable, elucidating and, if vital, tempting message to offer future perusers a flash of intrigue... whose eye moves quickly down a page and stops when something grabs his eye". Headlines perform three capacities. They are utilized to give a synopsis of the news, stand out, and give an underlying pointer of news esteem (Conboy, 2007; Gonzales, Palaca, Iluis, & Tarusan, 2018; Montejo & Adriano, 2018).

#### ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

Searle (1969) claimed that a speech act is the minimal unit of communication divided by different types of macro-classes and sub-divided into micro-classes. Searle (1979) displays that a taxonomy of these macro-classes of speech act goes about as pursues.

#### Assertives

These types of speech act submit the speaker to something being the situation or to the reality of the communicated suggestion, like conclude, grumble, etc. The key to this speech act is that words coordinate the world.

#### **Directives**

This type of speech act is an endeavor by the speaker to get the listener to accomplish something, for instance, request, demand, direction, and so on. In this class, the words cause the world to change.

#### **Commissives**

These types of speech act submit the speaker to some future strategy, for instance, commitment and promise. This classification includes changing the world as indicated by the words.

#### **Expressives**

This type of speech rules a mental state session, a situation communicated in the propositional content, for instance, welcome, mourn, conciliatory sentiments, etc. This class mirrors an impartial course.

#### **Declaratives**

They realize rotation in the status or state of the alluded article, e.g., delegate, declare, claim, etc. The heading of fit in this class is like that of directives.

The pragmatic apparatus of analysis will be this taxonomy schematized in. This research system is practically resorted as the first tier. It will be implemented as the information within the study's methodological, analytical framework.

#### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### Data Collection

The data are obtained from online news headlines from two big English newspapers in Indonesia, Jakarta Post (www.jakartapost.com) and Jakarta Globe (www.jakartaglobe.com). The time range of data collection from web pages is between a day after the election (18 April 2019) until a month after (17 May 2019). Some unnecessary data are neglected, while others are selected as sample data; 19 and 50 are from Jakarta Post and Jakarta Globe news headlines.

#### Methods of Analysis

To analyze the data, the writer used qualitative (pragmatic) and quantitative to analyze the data by using descriptive statistics. Before analyzing the data, it was categorized based on the speech act used in the headlines and directly counted their frequency by using a percentage per category.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following table provides the descriptive statistics of the data which has been categorized based on the type of speech acts as suggested by Searle (1979) to be analyzed further by using pragmatics. Based on Table 1 above, assertive

Table 1 Speech Act Types and the Percentage of Use in Jakartan Globe Headlines After Indonesian General Election 2019

Speech Act Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assertives	15	79
Directives	1	5
Commisives	0	0
Expressives	0	0
Declarations	3	16
Total	20	100

speech acts have the highest percentage of use. It can be assigned to the fact that the core function of headlines is to report or expose the current circumstances of certain issues. The issue of the Indonesian general election, especially after the implementation day, 17 April 2019, has more things to do with reporting and exposing the situation. Most of the assertives used in headlines on Jakarta Globe are either verbless (headline 5, 6, 10) or with verbs (headline 1,2,3,8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18).

Likewise, the entirety of the headlines utilized has the illocutionary power of "educating" the peruser of occasions happening in the news headlines or "uncovering" a few realities. Along these lines, as indicated by the technique embraced, these demonstrations will be considered to signify "uncover" or "report" which lie in the second degree of the model of examination and are legitimately identified with the primary level, i.e., assertives. The decisive discourse acts dwarf other discourse acts and are related to a recurrence of appearance that adds up to 15 and a level of 79 %. This can be credited to the way that headlines have the primary capacity of announcing or uncovering the current situation. Assertives in the headlines address different subjects. Order is utilized to offer directions to the peruser to accomplish something.

The directive speech act (headline 4) used in Jakarta Globe headlines employs "call", which is an indirect command. While the declarative speech acts used in Jakarta Globe headlines employ "declare" (headline 19), "name" (headline 13), and a direct speech (headline 6) to convey the declaration of Prabowo. It was used since the news writers are not in the position to give commands to the readers. The distribution of the speech acts employed by Jakarta Post news headlines is provided in Table 2. It contains the analysis of speech act types and the frequency of use.

Table 2 Speech Act Types and the Percentage of Use in Jakartan Post Headlines After Indonesian General Election 2019

Speech Act Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Speech ret Type	Trequency	Tereentage (70)
Assertives	40	80
Directives	2	4
Commisives	2	4
Expressives	1	2
Declarations	5	10
Total	50	100

As appeared in Table 2, assertive speech acts have the most noteworthy level of demonstrations with a recurrence of appearance up to 40 and a level of 80%. This is on the grounds that these acts are utilized to show the present situation. With respect to classification, the speech acts found in the second degree of the model of examination have the illocutionary power of exposing or 'reporting' certainties that are identified with the news headlines which straightforwardly have a place with the classification of assertives in the primary level. Most by far of the headlines use action words as illocutionary power gadget (Headlines 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50: Appendix B) whereas 4 headlines (14, 15, 29, 42) are verbless.

The use of directives is characterized by the issue of winning claims by every camp, either by Jokowi or Prabowos camp (headline 12) and the political tension happening (headline 19) with 6% as the percentage. Related to directive speech acts, those headlines use 'challenge' and "envoy" as the choice of words. Commisive speech acts (headline 1 and 6) are identified with a percentage of 4%. Both headlines show a promise and commitment to save the post-election process and coll the high tension after the election. Expressive speech act had the lowest rate compared to other types of speech act; it was used only by one headline (24) during a month after the Indonesian general election. This type of speech act was employed in the headline covering the issue of the dead election officials due to the process of the general election. This demonstrated that the Jakarta Post news site showed increasingly thoughtful mentality toward the dead officials than that embraced by Jakarta Globe headlines. Declaratives are the second most noteworthy pace of speech act utilized in the headlines with a level of 10% and sum 5 headlines (5, 9, 26, 34, 40).

To show a better picture of the speech acts employed by those two news websites, Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post, the following table exposes the cumulative number.

Table 3 The Cumulative Types of Speech Acts and the Percentages of U	Ise in Headlines on Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post News
Wehsites	

Speech Act News Websites	Asse	Assertives		Directives		Commisives		Expressives		Declarations	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
				_							
Jakarta Globe	15	79	1	5	0	0	0	0	3	16	
Jakarta Post	40	80	2	4	2	4	1	2	5	10	

Table 3 above presents a correlation of the sorts of speech acts utilized and their conveyance. All through the headlines of the two news sites, the vast majority of the speech act types proposed via Searle (1979) are found in an assortment of repeat rates. Among the speech acts utilized in the headlines of Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post, the most noteworthy rate is that of assertives.

As a similar table shows, Jakarta Globe headlines do not utilize all the five sorts ordered via Searle (1979). As for these sorts, commisives and expressives are not utilized in the headlines of Jakarta Globe. Along these lines, the first and the subsequent research questions have been replied, with the high utilization of assertive speech acts in the headlines of Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post news site. This can be ascribed to the way that assertives are utilized to give dependable data to the reader.

The examination of the data shows that there are a few similarites and contrasts in the decision of speech act utilized in the headlines of Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post sites. The headlines of the two sites are comparable in that the two sites show an inclination to assertive speech acts. Jakarta Globe news site headlines, then again, are set apart by the nonoccurrence of Commissives and Expressives. The reason identified with the idea of these headlines is that news journalists are not in a situation to give issue directions.

The results also reveal that the headlines used by Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post news websites show numbers of declarative speech acts used. This happened because, after the general election, one of the camps wanted to show its strength by providing a declaration that Prabowo, who won the presidential election, was based on a quick count of each party's version, even though it could not be used as a basis.

#### CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

Based on the data analysis in the previous section, it could be concluded as follows:

- 1. Out of five types of speech acts, assertive speech acts have the highest number employed as headlines in both Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post news websites followed by declarative speech acts.
- 2. There are some similarities between the headlines of Jakarta Globe and Jakarta Post news websites about the Indonesian general election. It shows that both websites have similar percentages of the use of assertives and declaratives speech acts in their headlines.
- 3. There are some differences between the speech acts used in the headlines of the two websites as follows:
  - The use of directive speech acts in Jakarta globe headlines marked bigger than those in Jakarta Post; even though the number of use is bigger, but the percentage of use is lower. It has the same percentage with the use of commisive speech acts in Jakarta Post headlines
  - The low rate of Jakarta Post headlines is marked by expressive speech acts, while in Jakarta Globe, it is marked by commisive and expressive speech acts which were not used during a month after Indonesian general election 2019
- 4. Based on the conclusions above, it can be inferred that the study of news headlines from pragmatics point of view could help to find out the intended meaning which also could affect readers beliefs about certain issues, even though it is not explicitly shown by the news writer.

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# A APPENDIX A Headline of Jakarta Globe

No	Date	Newsheadline	Spech Act
1	25-Apr	Postelection analysis: Indonesia has spoken	Assertives
2	25-Apr	Post-election upcycling movements turn 'campaign waste' into clothing, accessories	Assertives
3	26-Apr	Indonesia election organizers scuffle to track down rejected voters in Sydney	Assertives
4	26-Apr	Chief justice calls for re-evaluation of simultaneous elections	Directives
5	29-Apr	End shadows of intolerance post elections	Assertives
6	30-Apr	Elections: Upcoming challenges of identity politics	Assertives
7	1-May	Prabowo's May Day Speech: Media Destroys Democracy	Declarative
8	2-May	Data Shows Campaign Ads Hardly Sway Voters	Assertive
9	3-May	Another Jokowi Cabinet Reshuffle on the Cards?	Assertive
10	4-May	Prabowo-Sandi's Aceh Safari	Assertive
11	6-May	Gov't Threatens Legal Action Against Attempts to Delegitimize Election Result	Assertive
12	7-May	Post-Election Remedy: Democratic Party Reaches Out to Cool Tensions	Assertive
13	7-May	Police Name Islamist Leader Bachtiar Nasir a Suspect in Money Laundering Case	Declarative
14	8-May	Jokowi-Ma'ruf Camp Claims Vote Tally in Its Favor Already Exceeding 50	Assertive
15	9-May	Former Army General Kivlan Zein Reported to the Police for Treason	Assertive
16	9-May	New Legal Advisor Team to Help Government Identify Subversive Threats	Assertive
17	9-May	Prabowo Supporters Accuse Elections Commission of Cheating	Assertive
18	9-May	Thousands of Security Personnel to Be Deployed Ahead of Election Result Announcement	Assertive
19	9-May	Police Declare Prabowo Supporter Eggi Sudjana a Treason Suspect	Declarative

# B APPENDIX B Headlines of Jakarta Post

No	Date	Newsheadline	Speech Act
1	18-Apr	Young Volunteers KitaSatu Hands Out Chocolates to Cool Tensions After Election	Commisive
2	18-Apr	Legislative Landscape Unchanged as Newcomers Fail to Break Ranks	Assertive
3	18-Apr	'Millennial Party' Loses Out on House Seat, Sets Up Bastion in Jakarta	Assertive
4	18-Apr	Market Riled Up With Reform Hopes as Jokowi Seems Set for Re-election	Assertive
5	18-Apr	Prabowo Makes Third Election Victory Claim, While Foreign Leaders Congratulate Jokowi	Declarative
6	18-Apr	Anyone Disturbing Post-Election Process Will Be Punished: TNI and Polri	Commisive
7	18-Apr	Prabowo Supporters Trumpet Defiance on Social Media	Assertive
8	19-Apr	Is Sandiaga Uno Ill or Are Cracks Appearing in Prabowo's Camp?	Assertive
9	19-Apr	Prabowo's Muslim Supporters Suggest New Name for Him	Declarative
10	19-Apr	Yudhoyono, Habib Organization Call for National Unity After Prabowo's 'People's Power' Threat	Assertive
11	20-Apr	Martyrs' Pay the Ultimate Price for the World's Most Complex 'Party of Democracy'	Assertive
12	20-Apr	Pollsters Challenge Prabowo Camp to Back Up Election Victory Claims	Directive
13	20-Apr	Jokowi Goes to the Mall and Hops On Jakarta MRT	Assertive
14	21-Apr	Election Heroes	Assertive
15	21-Apr	Reconciliation	Assertive
16	21-Apr	Prabowo's Victory Declarations: Signs of Delusion or Deliberate Tactic to Delegitimize Election Results?	Assertive
17	22-Apr	Jakarta's Next Deputy Governor Might Be a PKS Man	Assertive
18	22-Apr	Indonesia Reacts With Humor to Prabowo's Election Antics	Assertive
19	22-Apr	Luhut as Jokowi's Envoy; Can Military Esprit de Corps Ease Rising Political Tensions?	Directive
20	23-Apr	Gov't Scrambles to Find Compensation as Number of Election-Related Deaths Approach 100	Assertive
21	24-Apr	Business Community Can Build a Bridge Over Political Divide	Assertive
22	25-Apr	Gandrik Theater Company Turns Back the Clock With Trademark Satire	Assertive
23	26-Apr	Eggi Sudjana Summoned for Questioning by Police Over Call for 'People Power'	Assertive
24	30-Apr	Government to Pay \$3.5m in Compensation to Families of Dead Election Officials	Expressive
26	1-May	Prabowo's May Day Speech: Media Destroys Democracy	Declarative
27	2-May	Data Shows Campaign Ads Hardly Sway Voters	Assertive
28	3-May	Another Jokowi Cabinet Reshuffle on the Cards?	Assertive
29	4-May	Prabowo-Sandi's Aceh Safari	Assertive
32	6-May	Gov't Threatens Legal Action Against Attempts to Delegitimize Election Result	Assertive
33	7-May	Post-Election Remedy: Democratic Party Reaches Out to Cool Tensions	Assertive
34	7-May	Police Name Islamist Leader Bachtiar Nasir a Suspect in Money Laundering Case	Declarative
35	8-May	Jokowi-Ma'ruf Camp Claims Vote Tally in Its Favor Already Exceeding 50	Assertive
36	9-May	Former Army General Kivlan Zein Reported to the Police for Treason	Assertive
37	9-May	New Legal Advisor Team to Help Government Identify Subversive Threats	Assertive
38	9-May	Prabowo Supporters Accuse Elections Commission of Cheating	Assertive
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39	9-May	Thousands of Security Personnel to Be Deployed Ahead of Election Result	Assertive
		Announcement	
40	9-May	Police Declare Prabowo Supporter Eggi Sudjana a Treason Suspect	Declarative
41	9-May	Jokowi Says He'll Have More Leeway in Second Term Without Re-Election	Assertive
		Concerns	
42	10-May	Talk of Peace	Assertive
43	10-May	Explainer: Should Indonesia Have Simultaneous Presidential and Legislative	Assertive
		Elections Ever Again?	
44	10-May	Prabowo Campaign Team Says It Won't Resort to 'People Power'	Assertive
46	13-May	What Kills Indonesian Election Officials?	Assertive
47	13-May	Prabowo Camp Questions Election Result in Bali and Central Java	Assertive
49	13-May	Parties Backing Prabowo Take Complaint of Election Fraud to Bawaslu	Assertive
50	14-May	Police Arrest Eggi Sudjana for Treason	Assertive