

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

When someone delivers an opinion, a speech, commentary, or any kind of communication, he or she is trying to put forward a message. In a communication, the speaker and the hearer should understand each other, so the message of the speaker's speech can be delivered to the hearer. However, the real meaning of what the speaker wants to convey is not always uttered explicitly; sometimes the intention of his or her speech is instead, implicit, especially when it contains a rather controversial issue.

Although a speech may be controversial – whether it is because of the topic that is rather discriminative or anything else that can fuel anger to a lot of people – one can make one's speech more acceptable in a certain way so that the hearer will agree to what he says. Moreover, a speaker can make the hearer support him in what he will do next from his speech. This also leads George W. Bush, a former President

of the United States of America, to express his thoughts and expressions towards the Al-Qaeda terrorists and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan through his speech on Sunday, 7th October 2001 to make several countries agree and support him to do military strikes on targets in Afghanistan. The countries that support America are namely Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Germany, and France. More than 40 countries in the Middle East, Europe, and across Asia are also known as America's allies.

I believe it is clear that Bush has a special message in delivering his speech, as the main focuses in the speech are all about America and the actions that will be taken to the Taliban regime. He has a negative perspective towards the terrorists, by judging that some of the people in Afghanistan are connected to the Taliban regime, which also makes Afghanistan be the military installations of the Al-Qaeda terrorists. He tries to position himself as the hero, the positive side that is battling against the negative side, which is the Al-Qaeda terrorists, by giving some negative judgments to others, saying that Al-Qaeda is a threat to the world if he and his allies do not do military actions as soon as possible. In his speech, Bush deliberately uses some negative terms which give a negative representation about the terrorists to make his allies believe him, and also have a bad perspective and grow hatred toward the Al-Qaeda terrorists or the Taliban regime.

Believing that Bush's speech has a special message that is implicitly exposed to the public of American citizens, it is necessary to study some of the elements that

Bush uses in his speech to create meanings which are not explicitly said in his speech.

This study is conducted by using an approach called textual analysis.

Textual analysis is an analysis to create meaning within a text (Gerot and Wignell 14). I will apply Systemic Functional Grammar as the basic theory in conducting the textual analysis. This is because Systemic Functional Grammar focuses on the purposes and plays an essential role in the study of language in use and its effect, which involves text and context. Furthermore, it is very useful to examine how people choose some particular linguistic features in constructing a text to create meanings, which are divided into three kinds: textual, ideational, and interpersonal meanings. More specifically, from the three kinds of meanings previously mentioned, I will apply the theory of Cohesion and Theme and Rheme, Transitivity, and Mood to analyze a discourse. The analysis is about what is and is not in the speech, which is in the written form, so that it becomes a textual analysis. All those theories will be explained further in the next chapter.

I believe the text reconstruction of the Systemic Functional Grammar will be very useful to help me analyze the elements that Bush uses in his speech to become a textual analysis. By doing this textual analysis, we can know certainly what the speaker is trying to communicate.

The source of data that I will use is an online source entitled “President Bush Launches Attack on Afghanistan,” presented by Pierre Tristam. The source contains a speech by President Bush delivered from the White House Treaty Room at 1 p.m.

Eastern Time, on Oct 7, 2001. I choose the data because it has an implicit message that contains what Bush really thinks about, which is interesting for me to analyze.

My analysis is significant because people or readers will become more critical in getting the underlying message in the analyzed speech or any kind of text. I also believe that using Systemic Functional Grammar in a textual analysis will help us be more critical in studying a discourse. In the end, I hope my analysis can give some contribution to the application of Systemic Functional Grammar to textual analysis

(786 words)

1.2 Statement of the Problems

This study analyzes the problems in a text entitled “President Bush Launches Attack on Afghanistan,” which contains a speech of President Bush’s. The problems I am going to analyze in my thesis are formulated in the following questions:

1. What is the textual meaning of the speech?
2. What is the ideational meaning of the speech?
3. What is the interpersonal meaning of the speech?
4. What are the linguistic instruments used in the text to create these meanings?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purposes of this analysis are explained as follows:

1. To reveal the textual, ideational, and interpersonal meanings in a text entitled “President Bush Launches Attack on Afghanistan.”

2. To find out the linguistic instruments used to create the meanings in the text.

1.4 Method of Research

Firstly, I browsed the Internet for some data about Bush's speeches and chose one that I was interested in. Then I read some sources which are related to the topic of the speech. Next, I started doing the analysis and finally, I wrote the research report.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

The thesis is divided into four chapters. The first chapter is the Introduction, which consists of five parts – Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two contains the theoretical framework, which are the theories and approaches used to analyze the data. Chapter Three contains the textual analysis of the chosen speech. Chapter Four is the conclusion of the analysis. The Bibliography and Appendices are put at the end of the thesis.