CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I would like to put forward the concluding points and my personal opinion about the findings stated in Chapter Three, which is a text analysis of the speech of George W. Bush in addressing the war between the United States and Iraq, which was led by Saddam Hussein. The reason for the United States to strike Iraq is because Iraq is said to have a mass destructive weapon and Saddam Hussein rules Iraq with an iron hand.

In doing this text analysis, I use the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar. I personally think this theory helps me to understand a text better and to find the meaning behind the speakers’ or writers’ utterances. I believe that the other students of the English Department also have the same benefit.

The analysis of the textual meaning can be divided into the analysis of cohesion and theme and rheme. In the analysis of cohesion, the analysis of
reference shows that the self is the United States. Yet, the speaker of this speech is George W. Bush who was at that time the president of the United States.

From the analysis of the use of conjunctions, I find two types of conjunctions, namely the additive conjunction and comparative conjunction. The function of conjunction is connecting one idea to another idea that the speaker wants to convey through this speech. Thus, these two types of conjunction are very useful in helping the readers follow the speaker’s flow of ideas. The additive and comparative conjunctions are also so effectively used in this speech that the readers can understand that the self is represented positively.

In the analysis of the use of theme and rheme of this speech, it is found that there are five marked themes out of 49 themes. Thus, it can be said that there are only some few points that are emphasized by the speaker. However, through these five marked themes, the readers can be helped in identifying what the speaker thinks important and what he thinks necessary to emphasize.

Through the analysis of the transitivity in order to get the ideational meaning of this text, the most dominant process that is used in this text is material process, which means that the self as actor mostly does something physically towards others. In my opinion, the use of the material processes in this speech is important because the speaker shows that the United States as the self performs real actions. Thus, it is further found that the doings done by the self in the text are all positive things, it is clear that the speaker is presenting the self positively. This makes sense as the speaker is the President of the United States, and therefore, he will certainly give a positive presentation of the United States.
In my opinion, the way of the speaker presented the self in the previous paragraph also shows the brilliant strategy of President George W. Bush. He does not want to make the United States regarded as an unethical nation which aggressively attacks another nation. This speech convinces the world that what the United States does is something good.

The analysis of interpersonal meaning can be divided into two analyses, namely the analysis of mood and the analysis of modality. These interpersonal meaning shows the attitude of the speaker concerning the topic. In the analysis of the mood, the self uses the declarative mood. I believe this is because he wants to give information to the hearers about the situation that is happening. Moreover, by using declarative mood, he minimalizes the hierarchical relationship of superior and inferior. This is a good strategy as it can be understood that the speaker wants to convey that although he is the President of the United States, he wants to be equal to the hearers, which is a good thing to do for a person who has power like George W. Bush. Moreover, it is an effective way because by using declarative moods the speaker develops the sense of togetherness between the speaker and the hearers of this speech. Thus, it makes the hearers feel they are being respected by the speaker; consequently, the speaker will gain more popularity and respect from the hearers.

The analysis also shows the use of median and low modalities in this text. This reveals the attitude of the speaker that he cannot run from the reality that this war is going to be difficult. Moreover, there is a chance that he will lose the war. In addition, he cannot set free the Iraqis from Saddam Hussein’s iron hands.
Consequently, his attitude towards the war becomes unsure that this war will end as he wants, which is to win the war. Therefore, the speaker’s attitudes toward the war show uncertainty that they are going to win the war. Still, they go to war in order to prevent Saddam Hussein from striking the United States by using a mass destructive weapon.

I would also like to give suggestion for Linguistic students of the English Department who want to do a text analysis by using Systemic Functional Grammar for their thesis. I suggest that they understand the text or speeches that they want to analyze in order to understand the writer’s or speaker’s intention, as this helps they to get better analysis of the text. Moreover, it is better to browse the background of the text to get an accurate context of the text so as to gain a thorough understanding. I think, it is better to choose a speech as a source data, although I personally believe that all kinds of verbal or written texts can be analyzed using Halliday’s Systemic Functional Grammar. Speeches are easier to understand, and most speeches are conveyed in a straight-to-the-point way, because the speakers want the hearers to understand their intention.