Netizens' comments on an Indonesian news social media platform 'Detikcom': A microstructure analysis

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Abstract - Netizens are active internet users who communicate, express opinions, and collaborate on internet media. This study discussed netizens comments on the Indonesian news social media platform Detikcom. The objectives of this study are to examine the types of microstructures in netizens' comments about the news on Detikcom twitter, to illustrate the realization of microstructures aspect, and to explain the reasons microstructures aspect realized in netizens' comments about a news on Detikcom Twitter (X). A qualitative descriptive approach was applied to this study. The data source is netizens' comments on Detikcom Twitter (X). The data sources were the netizens'comments on Detikcom Twitter (X). The data were analyzed using Van Dijk theory about Critical Discourse Analysis. The findings show that there are types of microstructures that is included in the netizens' comments of Mario Dandy news on Detikcom Twitter (X) they are semantic, stylistica, rhetoric, and syntactic. The reason for the microstructure aspects realized in netizens' comment were to depict the types of microstructures on the news, to interpret netizens' comments using the microstructure theory, and to involve knowledge in capturing different information from the netizens' comments as a part of critical discourse analysis.

Keywords: netizens' comments; critical discourse analysis; microstructure; social media

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapid advanced of technology and information has transformed the way netizens consume news, shifting from traditional mass media outlets like newspaper, magazines, radio, and television to the prevalance of social media platforms. This shift has prompted mainstream media to actively share information on social media, catering to the online community commonly known as netizens. Detikcom is one of the online mass media on Twitter (X) that is very concerned about this news. Detikcom is at the forefront of breaking news. Among the news stories garnering significant attention from netizens is the case of Mario Dandy. This particular incident gained widespread discussion and went viral for the first time in February 2023 on the social media platform Twitter (X), propelled by a short video depicting the alleged persecution.

This controversy captured the attention of both netizens and some mainstream media outlets that subsequently reposted the incident. This information quickly spread throughout society, prompting people to become more aware of their surroundings through the social media. Various media outlets reported some issues in this world providing useful information through television news and newspaper or even online media such Detikcom. As a result, people sought out more information to stay updated and gain a clear understanding of everything they need to know and other news both in their own country and in the worldwide. Thus, the writing of news sometimes can affect the readers to read the news and give comments to respond to the news on Detikcom Twitter (X). The netizens' comments on DetikcomTwitter (X) as the research objects to find out the microstructure aspects by Van Dijk's theory on the news about Mario Dandy.

Critical discourse analysis is a discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social- power abuse and inequality are enacted, reproduced, legitimated, and resisted by the text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident, research, critical discourse analysis took an explicit position and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately challenge social inequality. One widespread of CDA is that it is a special method of doing discourse analysis. there is no such method: in CDA all methods of the cross-discipline of discourse studies, as well as other relevant methods in the humanities and social sciences, may be used (Wodak & Meyer, 2008).

Van Dijk (1991) stated Microstructure points on local meaning of the discourse by observing the semantic, syntactic, stylistic, and rhetoric aspects. The use of words, propositions, and certain rhetoric in media is understood by Van Dijk as the part of the writer's strategy. The use of certain words, sentences, and stylistic is not only viewed as the way of communication but also as a method of communication politic to influence common premise, create the backing, strengthen legitimate, and evacuate the adversary or the opponent. Microstructure is an effective way to observe the next rhetorical and persuasive process when someone conveys the order. Certain words perhaps are chosen to clarify and posture, form political consciousnesses. The microstructure is divided into four aspects, that are semantic, stylistic, rhetoric, and syntactical aspect.

To conduct the data analysis, it required the researchers to apply main theories and some supporting theories as references including microstructure, critical discourse analysis. Critical discourse analysis holds much promise for educational research. Researcher using CDA can describe, interpret, and explain the relationships among language and important educational issues. Van Dijk (1993) stated that critical discourse analysis has a concept that language is a form of social practice and seeks to make people aware of the mutual influence between language and social structures that they are usually unaware of. Analysing the text by using CDA does not only focus on the form of sentence structure used but also on how the structure is affected by power, society, knowledge, and ideology.

In investigating the headline news, critical discourse analysis analysed the structure of the text, whether the sentences are used either active or passive, the vocabulary choice, etc. The analysis of the sentence is important to see the perspective's producers of the text, whether having attitude of neutral or tend to one party. The structure of the text will influence the society's knowledge on the text and indirectly shape their belief. Thus, critical discourse analysis focused on how discourse structures can influence specific mental models and generic representations of recipients, and how beliefs may thus be manipulated (Van Dijk, 2015). It means that people's beliefs can be shaped the producers of the text with their own perspective, whether it is trues or not.

Moreover, Fairclough and Wodak (1997) argued that CDA sees discourse and language as 'social practice' and considers the 'context language use' to be crucial. Describing discourse as social practice implies a dialectical relationship between a particular discursive event and the situations and social structures, which frame it: the discursive event is shaped by them. Discourse

is object of knowledge, and the social identities of and relationships between people and groups of people. It is constitutive both in the sense that contributes to transform it. since discourse is socially consequential, it gives rise of important issues of power.

II. METHOD

This study applied qualitative approaches. The qualitative descriptive research used Van Dijk's theory on Critical Discourse Analysis particularly on his theory of Microstructure. The data gathered from social media platform 'Detikcom' Twitter (X). The data used in this research to find the micro-structure aspects on netizens' comments on the news of Mario Dandy on Twitter (X). There were 500 comments on the news of Mario Dandy from March- April 2023. But the researcher made it to 100 to classify the comments into microstructure aspect. This analysis was conducted by identifying the netizens' comments on the news of Mario Dandy on Twitter (X). Since the data were written in Indonesian, the researchers translated it into English and analyzed that into Microstructure aspect.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data in this research were taken from Netizens' comments in Mario Dandy news on Detikcom Twitter (X). The classified data of the microstructure aspect from the netizen's comments were mentioned on the below.

Table 1 Types of Microstructures on the netizens' comments

Data 1 (Semantic)
"*Raurus*", it was written by @patro_vn on Twitter (X). The word of '*Raurus*' itself was written in Javanese which means "do not care' in English. It can be specified into semantic aspect as it can be used to express the netizens' comment to respond the news. Yet it is still understood by netizens even though it is not written in Indonesian.
Data 2 (Syntactic)
'*Harus dijelasin kenapa dua laporan awal ditolak?',* it was written by @vancouVerr on Twitter (X), it was classified as syntactic aspect since it was grammatically correct in Indonesian grammar.
Data 2 (Rhetoric)
'*Buah busuk tak jatuh jauh dari comberan',* it was written by @holohalo19 on Twitter (X). It was a saying in Indonesian, the real saying of that phrase should be written '*buah jatuh tak jauh dari pohonnya',* since it was bad news towards to a violence and abusement of teenager, the netizen wrote that in a different word's choice.
Data 3 (Semantic)
Jiwa korsa keluarga, it was written by @tidakkesianan on Twitter (X). The term '*korsa'* is usually used in a military corps or in the flag-raising troop in Indonesia. The word '*korsa'* means solid in English. It is used by the netizen to describe the news of Mario Dandy on Detikcom Twitter (X) since the news published that Rafael Alun was included into the case of his own son.
Data 4 (Stylistic)
'*Apa rojak bapaknya ATT?",* It was written by @per98943128Rudi on Twitter (X) to respond the news that mentioned the initial who will be the next suspect of this case which is 'R' so the netizens kept guessing who the person is. From this comment section, even though the writer wrote the initial of ATT, the netizens can conclude that initial refers to someone famous on this country who is a singer and artist, Ayu ting-ting.

Based on the table 1 above, it showed from each aspect of microstructure, since it was four aspect which are semantic, syntactic, stylistic, and rhetoric aspect, from the four aspects, the researchers put one of each from the comments after classified from the 500 comments and the researcher interpret the netizens comments into the four aspects of microstructure analysis. Since

critical discourse analysis is research of where the researchers can describe, interpret the text. However, it is also recognized that no analysis of discourse is entirely free from the researchers biases and perspective.

Table 2 The types of Microstructures realized in Mario Dandy news

Num.	Types of Microstructures	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Semantic	40	40%
2.	Stylistic	30	30%
3.	Syntactic	20	20%
4.	Rhetoric	10	10%
	Total	100	100%

Based on the table above, it showed that semantic aspect becomes the most aspect of microstructures that is realized in the news of Mario Dandy on Detikcom Twitter (X). It gained 40% then followed by stylistic, rhetorical, and syntactical aspect.

In line with the data analysis, there were some points to be discussed which are related to the research questions. The first research question of this study examined the types of microstructures in the Detikcom Twitter (X). To discuss the microstructure aspects by Van Dijk is a prominent scholar in the field of critical discourse analysis (CDA), and his model includes a detailed analysis of discourse structures at various levels, including microstructure. In Van Dijk's model, the semantic aspect of microstructure focuses on the meanings conveyed by individual propositions and their connections within a text. This involves analyzing the coherence, local meaning, and implicit information in the discourse.

The stylistic aspect of microstructure involves the choices of words, sentence structures, and rhetorical devices that sharp the tone, and persuasiveness of a text. In syntactical aspect, it is how opinion produced, Syntactic constructions can carry presuppositions, which are implicit assumptions within a statement that are taken for granted. The rhetorical aspect is about in what way the opinion is delivered by the writer, the style of the opinion, metaphor, involves the strategic use of language to achieve specific communicative goals, often related to power, ideology, and social control. From the perspective of relevant studies, Ghassemi and Hemmatgosha (2019) investigated how language in newspapers is used to express discourses that are consistent with the institutions' intended or dominant ideology.

The findings of this study suggest that mass media and newspapers are tools for spreading the ideology in society because when confronted with the same issue, they take different positions based on their interests. They contend that journalists' word choices have a significant impact on interlocutors. Meanwhile, Badawi and Najjar (2020) used Critical Discourse Analysis to investigate the language of politics in the news headlines about Christchurch massacre in New Zealand to examine how power and ideology reside in texts. This study's data consisted of 39 headlines taken from the BBS and CNN online news agencies.

Fairclough's (2013) sociocultural approach was used to analyze it. The study's findings revealed that reporters tended to use the passive voice structure in headlines that described the attacker in accordance with New Zealand policy, which states that his identity should not be revealed. However, they used the active voice structure when referring to the victims, their families, and New Zealanders in general to emphasize their response to the attack.

To sum up all these relevant studies showed the research that is conducted in microstructure analysis, as a part of Critical Discourse Analysis. however, they have a different perspective for this study in particular the aspect of the data. This study dealt with the critical discourse analysis to investigate the microstructure aspects as semantic, syntactic, stylistic, and

rhetoric aspect realized in the news on Detikcom Twitter (X). By providing these relevant studies, it is possible to consider the importance of the information for research needs.

IV. CONCLUSION

There are some points to be concluded in this study. Since the study was about microstructure aspect of Van Dijk's theory, the conclusions were made below.

Semantic refers to the meaning of interpretation of words, phrases, sentences, or symbols in a language. It deals with how signs and symbols relate to what they represent, encompassing the study of meaning, reference, and context in both natural and formal languages. Semantic analysis explores how meaning is constructed, understood, and communicated, including the relationships between different meanings and how they are conveyed through linguistic expressions.

Stylistic or stylistics, refers to the study and analysis of style in language, particularly in literary and rhetorical contexts. It involves examining the distinctive linguistic features and techniques used by an author or speaker, such as word choice, sentence structure, tone, figurative language, and rhetorical devices. Stylistics aims to understand how these elements contribute to the effectiveness, expressiveness, and overall impact of a text. By analyzing style, scholars can gain insights into the author's intention, the text's meaning, and its effect on the audience.

Syntactical, refers to the arrangement of words and phrases to create well-formed sentences. Syntactic choices can influence clarity, emphasis, and the portrayal of agency and responsibility. Implicit assumptions that are taken for granted in the discourse. Rhetorical, refers to use of the techniques like metaphors, analogies, repetition, and rhetorical questions to enhance persuasion and impact.

SUGGESTION

Based on the conclusion above, there are some suggestions for the further research. To the lectures and students, it is suggested to explore the microstructure aspect in different issues. This study primarily centred its investigation on the netizens' comments- related to Mario Dandy news on Detikcom Twitter (X) since it went viral first on Twitter (X). By exploring diverse issues, it is expected that the next research is not only the microstructure aspect. Furthermore, the researchers can conduct subsequent research related to the other netizens comments on a social media platform like Twitter (X).

To the readers, it is suggested to expand their research of additional facets within the study of Critical Discourse Analysis by Van Dijk or by another Experts. These aspects of microstructure in CDA aim to provide deeper insight into deep knowledge of critical discourse analysis. Although most semantic theories incorporate concepts like interpretation, meaning, reference, intension, extensions, truth, values, or facts, and primarily aim to establish rules for assigning meaning units, such as propositions, to expression in natural or formal languages, we do not need to restrict ourselves to these traditional notions of abstract linguistic, philosophical, or logical theories.

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