

# The Construction of Ideology through Syntactic Strategy in the Novel *Bumi Manusia*

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Abstract: The author is the carrier of ideological messages embodied through the selected and arranged text. Structuring of lingual units is one of syntactic strategies. Searching for the syntactic strategies is an attempt to explore the ideology contained in discourse, literary works. This study focuses on exploring the ideology of the novel *Bumi Manusia* through a syntactic strategy that includes: sentence mode, experience process, passive-active, pronoun, nominalization, modalities, limitations, negation, and speech acts. The sentence mode shows how the author accentuated or weakened the concepts. The active/passive sentence becomes a way to show the person in charge of the event, whether good or bad. Pronouns show inter-concepts, agents, or status. Nominalization is used to generalize "justified" concepts. Modalities describes the attitude or the author's perception of something. The limitations are intended to make a positioning of high or low status. Negation is a way to invite readers to subtly agree on certain concepts. Finally, through speech acts the author explains the concepts that are considered true by raising the general statement and detailed explanation. Overall, syntactic strategies strive for humanitarian values.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Novel *Bumi Manusia* is one of Pramoedya Ananta Toer's works that was once banned during the New Order government. The reason the government is the novel is considered to spread the communist ideology. The assumption is more due to political factors, and not through scientific studies. It caused the researcher's interest to uncover his ideology. Research Teuw (1997) and Hun (2011) indicate that the novel is more indicative of things related to the value of nationalism. However, Scherer's (2008) study, which also uses a literary approach, agrees that the novel contains communist ideology.

These two differences lie behind this research which aims to reveal the ideology of the novel *Earth Man* through linguistic aspects. This research adopts the previous research on the disclosure of ideology to the discourse of mass media (Van-Dijk, 1991; Fairclough and Wodak, 1997). Similar research has also been conducted on poetry (Fowler, 1981). The study of ideological disclosure is part of critical discourse analysis (Min, 1997).

The analysis of critical discourse reveals the ways in which social power abuse, domination, and inequality prevail, are produced and opposed by text

and conversation in social and political contexts (Van-Dijk, 1995). Like the mass media, literary works are an effective medium for the dissemination of ideology. Literature is more subtle convey ideology. Literature does not utilize the ways of imperative authority but by way of experiencing together. Awareness developed side by side is not a tutorial.

The delivery of ideology can be traced through the use of language. The syntactic strategy is a way of exposing ideology by focusing on an arrangement of a lingual unit which includes: sentence mode, transitivity, active-passive, pronoun, nominalization, modalities, and speech acts. The study was intended as a new strategy in assessing and critiquing literary works.

## 2 METHODS

This study uses a pragmatic approach that considers the novel text as an utterance that represents the writer's feelings and thoughts. Research data in the form of lingual units of words, phrases, verbs, and sentences that represent the author's view. Data is

collected through identification and selection process; then analyzed based on the lingual unit arrangement functions associated with the novel content and the views of the community.

### 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the analysis of the data in the text of the novel Bumi Manusia are presented in the following table 1.

Table 1: Syntactic Strategies

Elements Syntax	Linguistics clue	Function
Sentence mode	declarative interrogative, imperative	explains, informs, persuades, persuasive, invite, order
Transitivity	relasional, material, mental, verbal, behavioral, eksistensial active	explaining concepts, to respond positioning a character, explain the concept
Active-Passive	passive	debilitating, corroborating,
Pronomina	general, a name, a group	eliminate, coveying the concept of humanity
Nominalization Modality	verbal, adjektival>N conditional, cause, limitation negation	positioned compares concepts and facts justified/corroborated , degrading
Speech act	assertive, directive, declarative, expressive, comissive	determines the position of the concept, personal views, ask for follow up

Based on the results as shown on table 1, the following describes each syntactic strategy contained in the novel text.

#### 3.1 Sentence Mode

A Proposition is a picture of reality that resides in the author's mind. The proposition states the description of the existence of something so that it is a declarative sentence. The description implies the existence of arguments and predicates so that the propositional analysis is performed against the argument and predicate elements. The placement of arguments and predicates affect the sentence mode.

Sentence modes relate to the way expressions are expressed against communication partners, which include declarative, interrogative, and imperative modes.

The novel as a discourse which expresses the idea through the story then resulted in the dominance of the declarative sentence in the text. In the *Bumi Manusia*, declarative sentences are used to convey information to the speakers (characters) in the story, as well as the reader. Generally intended to convey a detailed explanation of the author's ideas. Thus the reader understands the truth from the author's perspective. As an example of the data associated with it can be seen in the following description.

The writers convey an idea that humans have equality with other human beings. This idea opposes the view of society that is considered unfair in positioning the community. The author uses women, *gundik*, as a party who has the same ability as men. The similarity of position can be seen in detail capable of leading, profiles of figures as entrepreneurs, highly capable, and exceeds other women of his era. A detailed explanation is a way the author persuades the reader to perform defense of the character.

Basically, the interrogative and imperative modes are not different in function. Both are enabled to persuade and invite to subtly for an agreement or action that parallels the author's ideas. The sentence of *Dan apa bisa diperoleh dalam hidup ini tanpa bea?* (Toer, 2010), is enabled to persuade. The author invites the reader to ponder the answer to the question then lead the reader to agree with the author. The agreement is based on self-awareness that human life always requires a cost or a substitute in any form. With her self-awareness, the reader follows the idea conveyed by the author.

#### 3.2 Transitivity

Transitivity is a picture of the process of experience. Halliday (1985) states transitivity as a process, i.e. the concept of reality that contains events. Events are sorted by process and participants and expressed in clauses. Selection of process types affects agents, and every option is ideological. The process description is represented by verbs.

The dominant process of experience in the *Bumi Manusia* is a relational process which shows that the author intends to inform humanity concepts by using his point of view he template is used to format your paper and style the text. For example, *Tetapi manusia tetap yang dulu juga dengan persoalannya. Terutama dalam perkara cinta* (Toer, 2010). The author emphasizes the love affair. It is done through

the second sentence. The second sentence has no carrier, contains only the attribute as its keyword. The sentence puts attributes more important than the carrier. The word love is the focus of both sentences. The interpretation of the sentence is that the author considers the love affair to be an important part of human life.

### 3.3 Active-Passive

Active and passive is a matter of voice. Relates to the way of expressing the relationship between the phrase verb and the noun phrase, as well as the various things associated with that relationship (Richards et al., 1992). Two sentences may be different in the voice, although they have the same basic meaning. It relates to changes in emphasis according to certain considerations (ideological). There are various reasons for expressing the emphasized meaning (Van-Dijk, 1988). The use of passive phrases without an agent is often intended to allow a non-authoritative mutuality. The difference between active and passive expressions indicates the difference in focus emphasized. The focus emphasis is related to the purpose of messaging.

*Agen polisi itu mengangkat barang-barangku dan dibawa keluar* (Toer, 2010). The sentence is an example using an active-passive sentence. It consists of two clauses with a subject which also plays the perpetrator, *the police agent*, and the target object, *ie my goods*. Two processes *lifted* and *carried*. Both verbs are manifested in active clauses and passive clauses. Active clause actors are explicitly stated, while passive clauses are implicitly implied. Although the offender is not shown the passive cluster can be traced from the previous sentence object. The purpose of the sentence is not only to highlight the perpetrators, but also to highlight the actors' actions. In this case, the perpetrator is a police agent who performs the act of lifting and carrying goods from someone he picks up. It can be interpreted, that the author demeaned position a police agent than my character who should be positioned as a prisoner. Humility indicates that one's education and position can create inequality among people

### 3.4 Pronouns

Expressing a textual representation of concrete actions, events, circumstances, and relationships or imagination, underlying the different types of processes and participants, and the selection made has a certain ideological significance. Furthermore, the use of greetings indicates power, solidarity,

intimacy, familiarity, distance equation, reverence and others (Braun, 1988).

In *Bumi Manusia*, the use of pronouns referring to general forms, such as *manusia, orang*, and *mereka* indicate that the concepts or ideas conveyed are widely viewed and generally agreed upon by the author. Meanwhile, the mention is specifically used to express ideas that are specific to represent the views of authors who are not parallel to the views of the community, *ie pribumi, tuan, papamu*. Self-esteem pronouns are used in order to position certain parties as rulers or controlled in an event. The existence of pronouns strengthens the construction of ideology, in particular, expressed equality, kinship relations, educational differences, racial differences, social status differences, and humanitarian concepts

### 3.5 Nominalization

Nominalization is a strategy to eliminate the participants, both the offender and the target of an action. Nominalization transforms the action into a concept or thing, as well as an event. The event does not require concrete information, *ie the subject and the object*. The author ideologically uses nominalization to convey the concepts of humanity. This way is used to reinforce the author's arguments that contradict the views of society. The following sentence is excerpts of the use of nominalization *Kasihannya hanya kemewahan, atau satu kelemahan* (Toer, 2010).

In that quote, there is a nominalization, *kasihan* merely *kemewahan, atau kelemahan*. The sentence calls the concept of pity to be positive, but also negative. The explanation of the subject of pity is expressed in the following sentence, *ie my character/Jean Marrais who has no ability to love and thus needs to be pitied*.

### 3.6 Modality

A text can be understood coherently if there is the coherence of its parts. Coherence is a semantic device of discourse based on the interpretation of intercostal links. Coherence is a mental process that represents text (Givón, 2005). Coherence is manifested by a combination of sentences and sequence of sentences. To declare the intercostal relationship is used a device called cohesion with modalities. A modality is a form of language that describes judgment based on the speaker's reasoning, feelings, or desires regarding the perception or expression of his soul (Bally, 2003).

The context of the sentence in the text of the *Bumi Manusia* is manifested through the use of modalities to express conditional ie *selama, kalau/kalu*, cause-effect relationships ie *karena* and *maka*, boundaries ie *hanya*, and negations ie *tidak, tak, tiada, bukan, tanpa, jangan, belum*. The use of these relationships serves to position a person or concept as a ruler-overpowered, degrading, the cause/effect of the action in an event. In general, relationships not only refer to the views that people believe but also refute or show the weakness of that view.

### 3.7 Speech Act

Speech act is a way of describing power in the text. Speech indicates which parties have authority over others, for example, in the matter of wealth insight (explanation), giving directive (directive), which is positioned high (politeness). According to Chaer and Agustina (2004), speech acts are psychological and its sustainability is determined by the speaker's language skills in facing certain situations. Speech has a variety of functions in everyday life. The *Bumi Manusia's* writer uses speech acts to convey the concept of humanity, invites the reader, determines the position, expresses personal views, and asks a particular follow-up reader. The example can be seen in the following sentence: *Dan tak ada yang lebih sulit dapat difahami daripada sang manusia* (Toer, 2010). The author assumes assertiveness that understanding human is the most difficult thing. The statement is a human construction in life. Readers are invited to agree on the author's personal opinion. It indirectly leads the reader to justify other ideas related to the difficulty of human understanding.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

Syntactic strategies serve to reinforce arguments expressed by the author, so as to lead the reader to agree and justify the author's view. The views conveyed are supported by sentence forms that persuade the reader that the author is more human in view of human life.

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