# Study of Modality Literature in Text or Discourse

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed to examine the modalities in the text or discourse of some scientific articles. The method used is the study of literature. The data source comes from thirty scientific articles. The article was reviewed based on the purpose of the researchers analyzing modalities, the data sources used are the theories of modality that become guidelines for concluding, research methods applied, as well as the results and discussions presented by the researchers. Based on the results of the study obtained the purpose of the research of thirty articles studied is to identify, analyze, and describe modalities that are often used and identify modalities used to compile modalities in the text or discourse studied. The most widely used data source by researchers to analyze modalities is news text or newspapers. The theory used in the articles studied is the theory of systemic functional linguistic modality put forward by Halliday, Palmer, Alwi, and Bieber. In the process of reviewing the article found two types of research used, namely qualitative research type and type of research that combine qualitative and quantitative. The methods used are quite diverse, but the most widely used method is the corpus method. From the results and discussions, known modality plays an important role in the delivery of messages on text or discourse

## Keywords

LFS, modality, text, literature studies

#### Introduction

Every human has the ability to speak understand each other. The communication use signs, such as words and gestures, or tools to interact and communicate to convey thoughts, ideas, concepts or feelings. It showed how important the role or function of language is live. This is in line with the concept of Systemic Functional Linguistics (LFS) which emphasizes the functionality of language based on the needs of its speakers. From an LFS perspective, Language has three communication functions, namely ideational functions, interpersonal functions and textual functions.

Language as an interpersonal function describes the role of language as a medium to establish and maintain social relationships in communication. Communication is not limited to oral but communication can be established in the form of writing. Suppose in the text of the novel, the author certainly positions himself as a speaker to communicate with the readers. Readers can judge the author's attitude through words or sentences described in text or discourse. The term is called modality.

Chaer (1994). states that modality is a description in a sentence that states the speaker's attitude towards the matter spoken about the actions, circumstances, events, or attitudes towards the interlocutor. This attitude can be a statement of possibility, desire, or permission. In Indonesian, modalities are expressed lexically.

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Bruno in Gosselin (1994) says that the basic idea of modality comes from an action expressed in private, both in the form of questions and statements arising from our judgments, feelings, and desires, with very different characters. Meanwhile, Aristotle in Chaer (1994) as the first to mention the idea of modality mentioned that, the fundamental problems of this modality include (1) necessity, (2) possibility, (3) impossibility.

Halliday (1994) stated that "orientation: that is, the distinction between, subjective and objective modality, and between the explicit and implicit variants." Saragih (2001) states in terms of orientation, modality is subjective or objective. With these orientation criteria, modalities can also be explicit or implicit.

Based on the above exposure to the real modality there are several forms and functions in the language. Therefore, researchers are interested in conducting literature study research by tracing the researches contained in national and international journals on modalities in a text or discourse. This study summarized researchers from the findings of the analysis of thirty articles.

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# Methodology

This study uses qualitative research that is a literature study. Writing review literature has several stages/steps. The stages in this study follow the Polit & Hungler stage in Carnwell (2014) which is divided into five stages, namely (1) defining the scope of the topic to be reviewed, (2) identifying relevant sources, (3) reviewing the literature, (4) writing a review and (5) applying literature to the study to be conducted. Researchers study ideas, opinions and findings contained in the literature to provide a theoretical picture of the use of modalities contained in text or discourse. The data source in this study is thirty scientific articles

### **Results and Discussion**

Based on the results of the literature study obtained thirty articles conducted a modality assessment on relatively different research objects, delivered as follows. Analysis of the use of modalities of news text or newspapers is found in articles Adegbola (2019). Ahmadi, (2016), Amrullah et al., (2020)., Arifianto, (2019)., Ahmad, Mahmood & Farukh, (2020), Gigl, & Zaoussou, (2018), Harun, et al., (2018), Khalid (2013), Musdolifah (2018, Prihantoro & Fitriani. (2015), and Sadia & Ghani (2018). Besides, the analysis of modalities in other types of text such as research articles is described in articles Alwi (1992) and Peacock, M. (2014), translated text in articles Markhamah, (2019), letter text in articles Arabzouzani (2019) literary works in articles Afyolanda, Widjajanti, A., & Husniah, F. (2018)., Aristyanto, D., & Poerbowati, E. (2019)., Arvianti, G. F. (2015)., Aulia, Wahyono & Asmara (2018), Widiyani & Lukitasari, A. (2019), and other discourses that can be found in articles Mutia (2016), Oktavianti & Prayogi (2018), and Widiyani & Lukitasari (2019). Assessment of modalities is not only limited to research objects in the form of text or written discourse. Other types of research objects that are also in the analysis of modalities are oral speech described in articles Arabzouzani, Pahlavannejad, & Seyyedi (2019), Charmilasari, (2019), Erwany, (2019),Faradi (2015), Gigla, & Zaoussou (2018).Khaofia, (2018) and Sari (2017). Based on research classification objects was obtained that most of the articles studied analyzed modalities in

news text or newspapers for objects that are written text. While other types of written text are still relatively few to be studied. Besides, oral speech became the object of research that was widely studied for the category of unwritten and the object in the form of the video became the only other unwritten object found in only one article of the entire article studied.

In the process of reviewing the article found two types of research used, namely qualitative research type and qualitative and quantitative combination. The research methods used are quite diverse, but the most widely used method is the corpus method that combines qualitative and quantitative research types. The Corpus method is a method that is done by collecting data sources corpora or computerized databases created for linguistic research. Articles using the corpus method are Adegbola (2019), Ahmad at al (2020), Khalid, (2013). Ngula (2017), Oktavianti, & Prayogi, (2018), Peacock, (2014, and Sadia, S., & Ghani, (2018). Most of the research in this article uses a corpus method that analyzes the modalities of a news text or newspaper. In addition to news text or other newspaper articles that use corpus studies as research, the method is an article that analyzes modalities in research articles in the form of final assignments of students as well as discourses that compile modalities in English and Indonesian.

Specifically, the research method used for data sources that are not in the form of text is a method of view and note. These methods are found in articles Charmilasari, (2019) Erwany (2019), Faradi (2015) and Khaofia (2018). After going through the process of listening and recording data that is not in the form of text is transcribed before analyzed. Especially for research whose, data sources are literary works such as novels found in articles Aristyanto & Poerbowati (2019, Arvianti, (2015), Aulia, Wahyono, & Asmara (2018), and Lukitasari (2019)Widiyani & combining qualitative and quantitative methods. Where quantitative methods are used to help researchers calculate the amount of dominant modality contained in a literary work and qualitative methods are used to describe the type of modality. While the literary work in the form of short stories found in the article Afyolanda, Widjajanti & Husniah (2018) used descriptive qualitative design

through documentation methods and content analysis.

The research objectives of the thirty articles studied are generally divided into two types. The first type is articles that identify, describe, and analyze the modalities used and or dominantly used. The second type of research objective is to identify the modalities used to compile modalities in the text or discourse studied.

The theory used in the articles studied is the theory of systemic functional linguistic modality put forward by Halliday, Palmer, Biber, Alwi, and Chaer. By type, Halliday (1994) said there are two types of modalities namely modalization and modulation. Modalization consists of: probability: 'possibly, probably and certainly and ii) usuality: sometimes, usually and always' while modulation comprises (i) obligation: 'allowed to, soup-posed to, required to' and (ii)inclination: willing to, anxious to determined to'. While the function of modality serves as an ideational function related to the expression of one's experience, interpersonal functions related to the development of social relationships, and textual functions related to the arrangement of one's speech or writing in a text.

Analysis of the dominant use of modularization and modulation is presented in the results of research articles Charmilasari (2019). The use of "probability modalization" is very dominantly used by teachers in classroom discourse. This shows that the element of doubt is still dominant in the class discourse. Besides, the type of modulation that is widely used is "tendency modulation" which expresses the opinion of teachers to demand students be more active in the classroom. In contrast to the article Charmilasari, (2019), the results of the article Setiawan, Laksana & Udayana, (2018) showed the use of "probability modalization" with normal frequency and the use of "mandatory modulation" with mandatory or dominant usage frequency in the text of presidential candidate debates.

On the other hand, the article Faradi (2015). analyzes the comparison of the amount of modality used in the text of the presidential debate which is then the results of the study are reflected with the learning of discourse in schools using systemic functional linguistic theory. The results of the study that was reflected in the learning process are also stated in the article Mutia (2016).

by looking at the modality of the dominant type of modulation used as much as 112 (60.87%) and capitalization of 68 (36.96%) in the translation of the Barzanji text. Besides, researchers also revealed that 96% of students do not yet understand the material modalities. So it was concluded that Barzanji text can be used as teaching material for students. In line with Aristyanto & Poerbowati (2019) showed the use of modulation is more dominant in a novel than capitalization. Related to use modalities, the dominant type of modulation obtained in the article (2020) states hoax news using modality markers as much as 60% of which 33.78% is modulation. This indicated that hoax news is not informative.

The discussion of modalities presented by Palmer (2001) related to the status of propositions describing a condition. Palmer also said that modality has to do with the attitude of the speaker. Such attitudes are about the factual status of an event and the attitude of the speaker that arises in concerning an event that has not yet occurred but it has the possibility to occur.

The realization of the function of modality demonstrated by Palmer can be obtained in articles Arifianto (2019), Ahmad, Mahmood & Farukh (2020), Gigla, & Zaoussou, (2018), Harun at al., (2018)., and Sadia, & Ghani, (2018). The four articles describe the attitude of the speaker or author to what is said and what is written. Specifically for articles Ahmad, M., Mahmood & Farukh (2020), Harun at al, (2018), and Sadia & Ghani (2018). The researchers communicated the use of modalities in disseminating authentic information from news texts or newspapers. The results of their analysis concluded that the same news would be displayed with a different point of view if through different editors. Specifically for the article Arabzouzani et al., (2019) researchers used palmer's theory to describe the mood structure of the author (Nahjl Al-balagheh) in writing a text letter.

Biber, et al. (1999) presented several modal and functional categories, including the following. (1) possibilities: can, could, may, and might. (2) bonds: must, should, (had) better, have (got) to, need to, be supposed to. (3) predictions: will, will, shall, be going to. Beiber's theory can be used to filter news text that can be recommended for reading, as described in the article Ahmad, M.,

Mahmood, M. A., & Farukh, A. (2020) the use of "probable modality" is widely used in a news text rather than "need modality" and "predictive modality". Modality also plays an important role in constructing research articles from various disciplines.

According to Alwi (1992) modality consists of four types, namely intensional modality, epistemic modality, modality, deontic and dynamic modality. Intensional modality is used expressions in the form of wishes, invitations, and requests. Epistemic modalities are used to reveal imperatives, possibilities and certainties. Deontic modalities are used to express permissions or orders. Dynamic modalities are used to reveal an ability. The types of modalities expressed by alwi are found in the analysis results in articles Afyolanda, Widjajanti & Husniah (2018), Aisha (2019), Aristyanto & Poerbowati (2019), Aulia, Wahyono, & Asmara (2018), Erwany (2019), Oktavianti, & Prayogi (2018). Prihantoro, & Fitriani, (2015) and Sari (2017). Where the researchers compile which type of modality is dominant appears in a text or discourse. Especially for text used from debate or discussion results tend to use epistemic type modalities because discussion activities usually contain errors and tend to be irreparable. In addition, the modality of the epistemic type contains affirmations containing information, as stated in the article Aisha (2019). For deontic modality, the dominant is found in the analysis of article Biber, (1999) about Basuki Cahaya Purnama speech in Kalijodo discourse. This shows that the attitude of the speaker is powerful.

In line with Alwi's opinion, Chaer (2012). also said there are four types of modalities in the language, namely intensional modality, epistemic modality, deontic modality, and dynamic modality. In addition, Chaer (2002) says modality is a description in a sentence that describes the speaker's attitude towards the things spoken about. In this case with the use of certain modals the author or speaker can position himself when communicating with the reader or listener. Chaer's theory is used in articles Markhamah et al., (2019) and Widiyani & Lukitasari (2019) through the process of identifying the structure of meaning and the use of modalities in a novel and text translation of the Koran.

### Conclusion

Based on the results and discussions obtained that most of the modality analysis is done on news texts or newspapers. This is because news text or newspapers are not only used as a medium to report and present information but also used to direct readers to a certain point of view that can be done through the use of appropriate modalities. In addition, some articles analyze modalities in a data source that can be recommended as teaching materials in language and literature learning.

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