

# The Realization of Appraisal in Male Newspaper Articles

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**Abstract-** Appraisal concerns with language for evaluation. It is the extended theory of interpersonal meanings from Halliday and Matthiessen (2004). It is then developed by Martin and White (2005). The Appraisal system is deployed to explore texts in detail from discourse semantics perspectives (Martin & Rose, 2003). Appraisal covers three major systems including attitude, engagement, and graduation. This study was intended to find out the manifestation of Appraisal systems found in male newspaper articles. It employed descriptive qualitative method in the form of discourse analysis. It examined eight online newspaper articles written by male authors within the theoretical framework of Martin and White (2005). Besides, gender and psychological theories from Coates (2008); Shields (2000) and Guimond (2008) were employed. The findings found out that those three systems of Appraisal manifested in the male articles. Engagement was dominantly perceived. On the other side, attitude was scarcely found. This study is beneficial for writers in all levels, especially for English Language Learners. It gives awareness about how to convey emotions and voices effectively by using Appraisal.

**Keywords-** realization, appraisal, male, newspaper, articles

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Appraisal system evaluates language meanings in the frame of discourse. In general, this theory is developed by Martin and White (2005) which is under guided by a theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). Appraisal frames how the taxonomy of the language is employed in communication and evaluation (Yuningsih, 2018). It evaluates the language use in utterances. Besides, Martin and Rose (2003) mentioned that Appraisal concerns with the evaluation of attitudes which are negotiated in a text. The feelings are involved in a text in which values are sourced and the readers are aligned.

Appraisal includes three major systems namely attitude, engagement, and graduation. Attitude is the first sub-system in Appraisal. It relates to emotion and personal feelings. Moreover, it aims to negotiate the social relationship between speakers and hearers in writers and readers positively or negatively (Nuraisiah et al., 2018). Martin and White (2005) defined that attitude is then divided into affect, judgment, and appreciation. Affect is associated with emotional reactions. Judgment is then concerned with judgment of behaviour. Appreciation deals with things evaluation. In short, attitude reveals feelings.

The second sub-system of Appraisal is engagement. It is concerned with the positions of speakers' voices with respect to other voices (Marsakawati et al., 2019). Engagement is important in representing the writer's voices in the text. A good academic writing requires the writer to present clear position and engagement (Yuliana & Gandana, 2018). It comprises how writers communicate their views and engage the readers in the text. The term engagement is then divided into heterogloss and monogloss. Monogloss refers to the writer neglect the other voices in the text. Meanwhile, heterogloss involve them. There will be shift of meanings in heterogloss clauses. Heterogloss clauses include disclaim, proclaim, entertain, attribute clauses. In short, engagement relates to how the writers locate themselves to other voices. Disclaim is rejecting. It is the textual voice position itself as at odds with, rejecting, some contrary position. There are two types of disclaim namely deny and counter. Deny is contrary negation by using negative sentences. The next is counter. It deals with concession / counter expectation. The sentence indicates negative meaning but positive sentence. Proclaim is supporting. It deals with representing the proposition as highly warrantable (compelling, valid, plausible, well-founded, generally agreed, reliable, etc). In short, proclaim clause is a clause which supports or agrees towards a topic. There are three types of proclaim including concur, pronounce and endorse. Concur refers to some types of 'rhetorical' or leading questions such as *naturally...*, *of course...*, *obviously...*, *admittedly...*, etc. Entertain is about individual subjectivity. It refers to explicitly representing the proposition as grounded in its own contingent. The authorial voice represents the position as but one of a range of possible position. Therefore, entertain evokes some dialogic alternatives such as appearance (*seem; apparently; suggest*), probabilities (*perhaps; maybe; probable; I believe; in my view*), and hearsay (*I hear; It's said*). Attribute is subjectivity of an external voice. It refers to representing proposition as grounded in the subjectivity of an external voice. Then, attribute evokes some dialogic alternatives such as acknowledge (*direct speech*) and distance (*indirect speech*).

The third sub-system is graduation. It is closely related to "adjusting the volume" of items (Martin & Rose, 2003). Graduation reveals the measurement of values through force and focus. The domain of force covers intensification and quantification. On the other hand, focus include sharpening and softening. Graduation determines the text organization.

Male characteristics are associated with gender and psychological theories. Men and women use language in similar and different pattern (Coates, 2008). There were several previous studies which investigated gender language in use such as Argamon et al. (2003); Robson et al. (2004); Francis et al. (2003), and Berninger et al. (2008). Gender language use can be spotted from linguistic features and psychological effects. The linguistic differences might happen because of topic discussions. Men prefer public issues to personal topics (Amir et al., 2012). Meanwhile, women like discussing and gossiping personal topics better than public cases. Hence, men tend to convey information rather than women who are likely to maintain communication for social and personal purposes (Newman et al., 2008). Different topics might produce different linguistic features. It is supported by a previous study conducted by Amir et al. (2012). They claimed that gender differences can be seen from linguistic features such as adverbials, repetition, nouns, synonyms, and hyponyms. Another study was carried out by Francis et al. (2003). They argued that male tend to use logic and focus language rather than female in their writings. Males are more objective, concise and on point. Males are likely to write straightforward and simple ways. They go directly to what they intend to. In short, they are bold and to the point. This phenomenon might be affected by psychological effects. There were several psychological attributes which distinguish men and women in language use (Guimond, 2008). Men are perceived as independent and self-agentic construal. No wonder, males are more objective and concise in their writings. Meanwhile, women are likely to frame their social connection and relationship. Furthermore, men are perceived to develop assertiveness. On the other hand, women are developed their

**II. METHOD**

This study employed descriptive qualitative method. A discourse analysis is used to sharpen the analysis findings. Discourse analysis looked for broad themes and functions of language in action using approaches called conversation analysis and genre analysis (Hodges et al., 2008). This study was intended to reveal the realization of attitude, engagement, and graduation in online newspaper articles written by male authors. The object of the study The objects of this study were online newspaper articles from 8 male authors. The articles belong to the opinion sections. They were taken from three famous newspaper sites namely The Guardian, The Jakarta Post, and The Jakarta Globe. The topics were about politics, crime and law, health and lifestyles, environmental issues, and educational matters. The data was written articles, which are in the form of clauses or complex clauses as the units of analysis. They were analyzed and classified as the 'appraising items' which were included in the attitude system in this study. The data classification applied appraisal instrument of analysis proposed by Martin and White (2005). During classifying the data, the writer highlighted attitude items in all the articles. Some procedures of analyzing data were classifying, quantifying, evaluating, finding, and reporting. To minimize the writer's subjectivity, the writer needs triangulation. The term triangulation is divided into five, namely time triangulation, space triangulation, combined levels of triangulation, theoretical triangulation, and investigator triangulation (Cohen et al.,

tendermindedness. This theory goes hand in hand with Shields (2000). She stated that women are more emotions and expressive in their writings. No wonder, female authors employ more emotions and feelings in their text.

Systemic Functional Linguistic is closely associated with journalism (Iedema & Feez, 2004) and (Hanitzsch, 2007). Appraisal system, which is under developed by Systemic Functional Linguistic, is introduced to reveal objectivity and subjectivity in the journalistic discourse. It is intended to explore how different voices are spotted and analyzed based on the Appraisal system, in the newspaper articles. The term "voices" is closely related to Appraisal system. Those are dealt with engagement. Journalism is then related to Appraisal. A previous study conducted by Stenvall (2008) claimed that emotions determine subjectivity and objectivity in journalistic ideals. Hence, appraisal determines the objectivity of articles in newspapers. There are several types or sections of newspaper articles such as editorials, headlines, opinions, news items, etc. This study only focuses on opinions as to the term of online newspaper articles. Opinions involve the authorial's voices. Therefore, the authors might mention their ideas in their articles.

This current study presents a new insight about the relation of Appraisal system and gender in journalism. It creates a new novelty in the findings. This study is investigated the manifestation of three sub-systems of Appraisal namely attitude, engagement and graduation in the male newspaper articles. And the articles are categorized as opinion sections.

2017). Then, the writer employed investigator triangulation to validate the data. The expert validator is not only validating the data but also giving suggestions to the writer.

**III. Results and Discussions**

Based on the Appraisal system analysis adapted from Martin and White (2005), the result was that male authors displayed three systems of Appraisal including attitude, engagement and graduation. The writer will elaborate each findings. The first finding comes from attitude. Attitude is the first system of Appraisal. It covers affect, judgment, and appreciation. The domain of affect construes emotions and personal feelings of the writer (Lv, 2015). On the other side, judgment pertains to the attitudes toward human behaviours or characters. The domain of appreciation relates to things evaluation. And here is the result.

**Table.1 The Distribution of Attitude**

Author	Attitude			Total
	Affect	Judgment	Appreciation	
Male 1 (M1)	0	19	15	34
Male 2 (M2)	0	8	6	14
Male 3 (M3)	0	12	21	33

Male 4 (M4)	2	20	7	28
Male 5 (M5)	2	12	10	23
Male 6 (M6)	3	33	10	43
Male 7 (M7)	0	14	14	28
Male 8 (M8)	0	3	7	11
Total	7	120	90	215
%	2,3%	55,8%	41,9%	100%

From the table.1, it can be highlighted several findings dealing with the realization of attitude in articles written by male authors. The eighth online newspaper articles use three subsystems of attitude including affect, judgment, as well as appreciation. The classifications of attitude resources found in the eighth articles written by male authors are elaborated as follows. The most frequent attitude used by the male author is judgment. The percentage of judgment usage is 55,8%. On the other side, they also use appreciation to appreciate or praise or criticize things or phenomenons. The percentages are 41,9%. Furthermore, there is only 2,3% of affect distribution to the eighth articles.

**Table. 2 The Distribution of Affect**

Affect	Polarity (+ / -)	Male (M)
Dis/Inclination	(+)	0
	(-)	0
Un/Happiness	(+)	2
	(-)	0
In/Security	(+)	0
	(-)	3
Dis/Satisfaction	(+)	2
	(-)	0
Total		7

In order to bring detail findings and elaboration. The writer presented several excerpts from the eight male articles which indicate the use of attitude, especially affect. Form the data findings, the male authors did not show off many emotions and feelings in their articles. Here are the excerpts.

- (1) It added that<sup>1</sup> the case sets a bad<sup>2</sup> precedent that could<sup>3</sup> make victims reluctant<sup>4</sup> to come forward, as many<sup>5</sup> may<sup>6</sup> now **worry**<sup>7</sup> that they could<sup>8</sup> end up like Nuril.

This excerpt was found in the article written by the fourth male author. He brought Baiq Nuril's case as the topic. The word "worry" indicates his personal feeling of insecurity. He was insecure towards several women who had the same problem as Nuril.

- (2) But<sup>1</sup> this optimism<sup>3</sup> is turning into **pessimism**<sup>2</sup>.

The fifth male author talked about the political condition in Papua. This excerpt above shows the authorial personal feeling of insecurity. He felt so pessimistic regarding Papua's condition recently. He thought that the optimism was fading away and turning into pessimism.

- (3) As far as I can<sup>1</sup> tell, no paper reported on that guidance; its publication was seen<sup>2</sup> as **the routine activities of a government department**.<sup>3</sup>
- (4) Looking back on Starmer's management of the media while DPP, **the sense is of an individual with a radical past making peace with the power**

The sixth male author tried to bring a political issue in the UK as his topic. He showed off his emotions several times in his writing. He highlighted his dissatisfaction with Keir's Starmer achievement. Excerpt number (4) indicated that the author thought Keir Starmer used his power to force peace in silence, especially labor protesters.

**Table 3. The Distribution of Judgment**

Judgment	Polarity (+ / -)	Male (M)
Normality	(+)	7
	(-)	6
Capacity	(+)	26
	(-)	23
Tenacity	(+)	4
	(-)	8
Veracity	(+)	5
	(-)	8
Propriety	(+)	14
	(-)	19
Total		120

The Table.3 shows that male authors employed a lot of judgment. They more evaluate human behaviours rather than express their personal emotions. In order to perceive detail findings and elaboration, the writer captured several excerpt from the male articles which notified as judgment. Here are the excerpts.

- (1) The poor<sup>1</sup> **cannot**<sup>2</sup> get piped water because they lack legal property rights.
- (2) The two private companies **have not fulfilled**<sup>1</sup> their promise<sup>1</sup> to provide good<sup>2</sup> piped water throughout Jakarta, especially<sup>3</sup> to poor<sup>4</sup> residents.

Those excerpts are found in the article written by the first male author. The topic was about water supply in Jakarta. Excerpt number (1) indicated the author's negative judgment of poor people. He thought that poor people were unable to get sufficient water access. Meanwhile, excerpt number (2) also showed the author's negative judgment of private companies. He thought that they failed to fulfill their promises to provide good water access for poor people in Jakarta.

- (3) Plans to push ahead with reopening schools in England are in **disarray** after the government admitted that **not** all primary school pupils **be able to** return to the classroom before the end of summer.
- (4) But<sup>1</sup> Johnson's announcement of a 1 June return **was greeted**<sup>2</sup> with **scepticism**<sup>3</sup> by parents and opposition from school unions and local authorities, wary of the

health and safety difficulties for both staff and pupils in England's aging and cramped classrooms.

A plan to reopening schools during the pandemic is an interesting topic. The sixth male author also displayed several judgments. Excerpt number (3) showed that the author gave negative judgment to primary school pupils. He thought that not all of them were able to come back to school during the pandemic. Then, excerpt number (4) also gave negative judgment to Jhonson. The author thought that Jhonson's judgment was not accepted well by students' parents and schools' teachers.

**Table 4. The Distribution of Appreciation**

Author	Appreciation		
	React	Comp	Val
M1	3	4	8
M2	5	1	0
M3	5	6	10
M4	4	1	1
M5	3	3	4
M6	4	3	3
M7	5	3	6
M8	3	2	2
Total	36	23	32
%	<b>40</b>	25	35

Table 4 maps out that the distribution of three kinds of appreciation in which reaction, is the most frequently used. On the contrary, the composition is the least frequently identified. The term "reaction" in this case indicates that both authors express their positive or negative reactions towards the things or phenomena in the topics. When the author is supporting or coming around the topic, then he/she is going to use more positive reaction items. On the other hand, when the author is against the topic, then he/she is going to employ more negative reaction items. This data finding goes hand in hand with a previous study from Souza (2006). He claimed that appreciation was done to reveal re-contextualization of the field of identification concerning evaluations of things and phenomena.

The male authors framed their things appreciation to their articles as follows. Here are the excerpts.

- (1) Recent **riots**<sup>1</sup> in West Papua and Papua, the two easternmost provinces in Indonesia collectively known as Papua, have put the spotlight of the international media on Indonesia in recent weeks.
- (2) Nevertheless<sup>1</sup>, the law has also come in for **heavy**<sup>2</sup> criticism.

The second male author (M2) also framed several negative appreciations to things around the condition of Papua recently. The word "riots" addressed the negative situation happening in Papua. Then, the word "heavy" also indicated negative appreciation for law and criticism in Papua.

- (3) The Supreme Court's decision to jail Baiq Nuril Maknun for spreading an **"immoral"**<sup>1</sup> audio recording documenting **unwanted**<sup>2</sup> sexual advances from her former boss is the most<sup>3</sup> recent example of injustice<sup>4</sup>

against women in Indonesia, and could<sup>5</sup> have an **unfortunate**<sup>6</sup> ripple effect, a women's rights coalition said.<sup>7</sup>

- (4) The Supreme Court sentenced<sup>1</sup> Nuril to six months' imprisonment and a fine of Rp 500 million (\$34,000) earlier this month for defaming Muslim, her **alleged**<sup>2</sup> harasser, after a recording of his **lustful**<sup>3</sup> phone call to her leaked to the public.

The fourth male author (M4) displayed several appreciation items due to Baiq Nuril's case. He used several negative appreciations to address things or phenomena regarding Baiq Nuril's condition. The word "immoral" is intended to give negative appreciation to audio recording documents. Then, the word "unwanted" and "lustful" also indicated a negative reaction towards sexual harassment done by her former boss.

The next finding is engagement as the second system of Appraisal. Engagement shows whether the authors support or against the topic which they are talking about. It can be seen from the utterances or clauses used by the authors. From the data findings, it can be concluded that most of the male authors use heterogloss in their utterances /clauses. Afterward, the researcher classified the heterogloss clauses into 4 types including disclaim, proclaim, entertain, and attribute. Below is the table finding.

**Table 5. The Distribution of Engagement**

Authors	Engagement (Heterogloss)				Total
	Disclaim	Proclaim	Entertain	Attribute	
Male 1 (M1)	7	6	0	7	19
Male 2 (M2)	5	3	1	0	8
Male 3 (M3)	7	1	8	1	17
Male 4 (M4)	2	0	1	6	19
Male 5 (M5)	9	3	6	3	22
Male 6 (M6)	7	2	7	4	30
Male 7 (M7)	5	1	1	1	8
Male 8 (M8)	1	1	1	4	15
Total	41	19	26	29	115
%	35,7%	16,5%	<b>22,6%</b>	<b>25,2%</b>	100%

From the table, it can be seen that male authors mostly use disclaim in their utterances or clauses. There is 35,7% of the whole clauses indicate disclaim. Meanwhile, the second-place distribution goes to attribute. The attribute indicates external subjectivity (author's opinions). The percentages are 25,2%. The Clauses or utterances which indicate personal/internal subjectivity

or entertain are 22,6%. The fewest distribution goes to proclain which is only 16,5%.

The last finding is graduation. Graduation analysis includes analyzing the uses of focus and force in the eight male articles. The findings show that most of the authors display quantification items to address the “force” in the text. The intensification items include numbers, time, and space. On the other hand, most of the authors try to give a sense of “sharpening” in their articles. Though, the numbers are not as much as the quantification items. The table below shows the distribution of the uses of graduation in the online newspaper articles written by male authors.

**Table 6. The Distribution of Graduation**

Author	Force		Focus		Total
	Intensification	Quantification	Sharpening	Softening	
Male 1(M1)	0	7	6	0	13
Male 2(M2)	2	4	5	0	11
Male 3(M3)	1	18	7	1	27
Male 4(M4)	0	2	2	0	4
Male 5(M5)	1	5	4	0	10
Male 6(M6)	3	10	3	1	17
Male 7(M7)	0	7	1	0	8
Male 8(M8)	1	4	1	0	6
Total	8	57	29	2	96
%	8,3%	59,3%	30,2%	5,2%	100%

Most of the authors use force items in their articles. They highlight their ideas by adding quantification items including numbers, mass, and time. The highest distributions of quantification items go to number items. They are “some”, “several”, “many”, “more”, “little”, “less”. In addition, the author also displayed several quantification items which indicate time distribution such as “sometimes”, “immediately”, “often” and “every”. Meanwhile, they also give a sense of level in their articles by adding intensification items. Those are “very”, “highly” and “best”. The authors also highlight their clauses by using focus items, especially sharpening items. The researcher found that several sharpening items used by the eighth authors are “real”, “only”, “indeed” and “still”.

From the attitude findings, the writer drew a line that male authors did not expose their emotions so much. This finding coincides with Robson et al. (2004). They argued that male are perceived as independent and self-construed. Therefore, they are likely to use more logic and objective language. No wonder, there were little emotions and personal feelings found in the male articles. The graduation findings reveal that the male authors locate their authorial voices through their texts. The authorial voice represents the position as grounded in its contingent (Martin & White, 2005). It goes hand in hand with a previous study carried out by Liu (2013). The authorial voices build up strong persuasion. Pascual and Unger (2010) also strengthen this finding. They said that addressing entertaining voices might highlight and build up confidence or convince and persuade the readers. This research finding is also influenced by the psychological point of view. Francis et al. (2003) argued that there were several notions of gender differences. Men tend to use logic and focus. Therefore, they are more objective, get to point, and concise. Men are likely to write in more straightforward or simple ways. Meanwhile, women adopt more personal, intimate, and emotional responses to a subject-matter. Therefore, regarding engagement analysis, the researcher found male authors tend to more logical and objective in their online newspaper articles. They presented their articles got to the points and concise. Thus, they employed few entertain clauses in the forms of personal authorial subjectivity voices.

#### IV. Conclusions

There are three major conclusions found in this study. First, the male authors framed attitude in their articles. Judgment is dominantly perceived. Meanwhile, affect is the least expressed in their articles. The second conclusion is that male authors employed more heterogloss clauses. Disclaiming clauses are dominantly spotted. The male authors mostly position themselves as opposing the topics of the articles. Furthermore, they also employ more attribute clauses. It means the male authors involve several citations and quotation from other voices. The last conclusion deals with the finding of graduation. The male authors cover both of focus and force. Quantification items were dominantly spotted in the articles.

The conclusions explained above lead the writer to draw several suggestions. It is very beneficial for the English language learners to pay more attention to interpersonal meanings, particularly the use of Appraisal. They need to explore more about Appraisal to shape their voices effectively and efficiently. Furthermore, as English teachers, the appraisal is also needed to be introduced at school levels. Students need to know to frame their subjective voices into their writings

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