

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

In Indonesia, especially in big cities, the media, whether they are newspapers, magazines, television, etc., play an important part in the life of the people. It is the newspaper however, that has a larger readership. There are Indonesian and English language newspapers whose readerships differ in terms of education level, social class and age group. While Indonesian language newspapers, such as Kompas, are popular among intellectuals. The readership of English language newspapers, such as The Jakarta Post, is comprised of ex-pats and English speaking Indonesians, the

reason being its great variety of news coverage in state, local and political developments deeply affect readers.

A reporter can specialize in business, crime, sport, politics, or anything else that is important in life. Reporters have to go and look for news, not wait for it to come to them. At any hour of the day, they may have to cover the news sources of the city where the paper is located, report the news from other cities and from international sources. The work is never the same and quite exciting. There are so many happenings to report at one time that news reports that go into the paper have to be short and written in an interesting manner. No wasted words, no ugly and unnecessary sentences. In short, news reports demand discourse skills on the part of reporters.

It is this challenge in reporters' work that motivates the researcher to conduct textual discourse analysis in news reports, besides the opportunity to see the world, meet important and interesting people, and find out their views in certain matters. The data which is analyzed by the researcher is taken from an article at www.thejakartapost.com edition March 27, 2012. The title of the article is "Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly." The article tells about clashes which happen in several places in Indonesia because of refusing subsidized fuel price hike that the government has planned. There are many Indonesian people disagree with this government's policy. The disagreement is expressed by them through a demonstration in several places in Indonesia. Police officers as state apparatus try to

disperse the demonstrators by shooting tear gas and rubber bullets. Then the protesters respond by throwing rocks at the police. The reason why the researcher is interested in this topic is that writing and arranging the content of news and the topic tells about and involves Indonesian's life.

1.2. Statement of Problems

The problems discussed in this thesis are as follows;

- 1.2.1. Which textual level does this article entitled "Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly" belong to?
- 1.2.2. What are textual level elements used in the article?

1.3. Research Objectives

The objectives of this thesis are as follows:

- 1.3.1. To find out the textual level that the article entitled "Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly" belongs to.
- 1.3.2. To find out textual level elements that are used in analyzing the article.

1.4. Scope and Limitation

The object of this research is an article published on March 27, 2012, in www.thejakartapost.com entitled “Fuel protests across the country turn ugly.” Focusing only on the textual analysis of the article by means of Norman Fairclough’s model of discourse analysis, the research aims to disclose the textual level that this article belongs to and the textual elements used in the article.

1.5. Research Methodology

1.5.1 Method

The method which is used in this thesis is a descriptive - qualitative method which describes how the textual level is applied to the news report the researcher downloads from www.thejakartapost.com and analyzes it by means of Fairclough’s model of discourse analysis.

1.5.2. Data

The data which the researcher analyzes is an article taken from thejakartapost.com on March 27, 2012, entitled “Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly.” The article consists of thirteen paragraphs and twenty one sentences.

1.5.3. Data Source

The data is taken from online media. The name of the online media is thejakartapost.com. The data is from an article entitled: “Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly”, which was published on March 27, 2012.

1.5.4. Data Collection

The steps of collecting data are as follows:

- a. Browsing articles which contain news about action of refusing fuel price hike.
- b. Reading the articles which contain news about action of refusing fuel price hike.
- c. Choosing an article entitled “Fuel Protests across the Country Turn Ugly”

published on March 27, 2012.

1.5.5. Data Analysis

The data is analyzed by using the theory of discourse analysis proposed by Fairclough. It applies the level of text, discourse practice and socio-cultural practice. This thesis focuses on one of the parts, the level of text. There are three elements to analyze the data; representation, relation, and identity. Therefore, the purpose of the research is to analyze how the actors are represented and are related to each other. Moreover, there is the analysis of the identity of the reporters/the journalists in writing the article.

1.6. Organization of Writing

There are four chapters in this thesis. The first chapter, the introduction, consists of the background of research, statement of problems, research objectives, scope and limitation and research methodology. The second chapter, theoretical framework, presents the theories that support the thesis. The third chapter, analysis and discussion, describes the process of data analysis. In the last chapter, the conclusion, the researcher wraps up the thesis by reporting findings of the research and makes a recommendation for further research.