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THE ANALYSIS OF ANAPHORA AND ITS THEMATIC ROLES ON A NEWS ITEM

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Abstract: Nowadays, the issue about muslim population is being discussed and Indonesia is one of the world's largest Muslim population. At the same time, Indonesia has released film "Rahmat Islam Nusantara" which was written in detail in online media and widely consumed by the public. Based on the excitement, this study focused on the analysis of anaphora to know the reference in every antecedent and continued with thematic roles theory to know the theme of its antecedent on news item to make the news being clear. The study was formulated to answer research questions (1) what does anaphora refer to?. (2) what is thematic roles of that anaphora?. This study employed the qualitative method as research design. The researcher picked archive document analysis research procedure in breaking down the information. "English Syntax : A grammar for English Language Professionals" by Roderick A Jacobs (1995) and "English syntax" by Aarts (2001) were used as the main reference. The analysis showed that there are 31 anaphors found in this article. An anaphora can be found in the same clause with its antecedent whereas thematic roles found is undergoer or theme. Theme role agents create states of affairs, whereas thematic role experiencers have sensory, cognitive, and emotional experiences. Thus, the article demonstrates that what is being said is based on the writer/emotional speaker's experience and his subjective opinion about the problem.

Keyword : anaphora, news item, syntax, thematic roles

INTRODUCTION

A news item text is a factual text that educates newspaper readers about current occurrences that are deemed noteworthy or essential. The communicative objective of news item text is to tell others about something or events that are significant to them (Korzen & Buch-Kromann, 2011). This study intended to analyze an article on a news item about a muslim challenge to the ideology of the islamic state. The text was gained from times.com which is an American weekly news magazine published in New York City.

Recently, the issues of ISIS is being a topic to be discussed as a group of people who have different ideas with other Islamic countries. Specifically, the issue of ISIS and its ideology related to Indonesia, on of the biggest Muslim population. The number of criticisms against ISIS and the view about Muslim in Arab and non-Arab countries make the author feel curious when she wants to know the antecedent and thematic role gained from the process of the anaphora. And the idea of this ISIS face glare of NU in Indonesia so it is interesting enough to be chosen as material analysis.

A previous study conducted by (Arnold, 2001) entitled 'The effect of thematic roles on pronoun use and frequency of reference continuation'. This paper's data showed two truths concerning aims and sources. First, using a pronoun to refer to target referents is more frequent than using a pronoun to refer to source entities. Second, speakers are more likely than source referents to refer to target referents. The second finding is proposed to explain why goal-referents are more accessible than source-referents. It was claimed that referent accessibility is determined by comprehenders' expectations that a particular referent will be maintained in the discourse, based on their knowledge of the frequency of continuation of target and source referents.

At the same time, these data reveal that thematic roles have a very small influence when compared to stronger elements such as order of mention. Only after adjusting for grammatical function was the accessibility of goal-referents over source-referents quantifiable. Both the experiment and the corpus analysis indicated an interaction, with thematic roles having the largest influence on pronoun usage and reference continuation for object-of-PP referents. In other words, thematic roles influence referent accessibility only when other factors (such as order of mention effects) are less restrictive. Despite the fact that many specifics have to be worked out, this method provides predictions about how different thematic roles may affect reference processing. If it can be demonstrated that speakers more commonly refer to entities that have performed specific thematic functions, then both speakers and comprehenders should find pronouns more natural than broader forms of reference.

This study focuses on the analysis of anaphora and thematic roles are used to know the reference in every antecedent and continued with thematic roles theory to know the theme of its antecedent. Whereas in previous studies, researchers focused on pronouns, this study focused on references as well as thematic roles that show the author's position. Because the topic of the Islamic state is currently developing, the purpose of this research is to determine how the author of the news item that discusses the issues mentioned above views the issue. The usage of anaphora and thematic roles demonstrates the resolve. Commonly, reference is defined as an act in which a speaker or writer use language terms to assist a listener or reader in identifying something. In other words, reference is concerned with linguistically naming entities in the world. Matthews (1997) elaborates that "reference is the relation between a part of an utterance and an individual or set of individuals that it identified". Those issues are What does anaphora refer to? And What is the thematic roles of those anaphora?. This paper analyzing raced on Jacob's theory (1995) and (Aarts, 2001) that explores about averomentioned issues.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Anaphors

Anaphora is the process of referring back to a prior item in a speech. (Culicover & Jackendoff, 2005). Discourse is a collection of connected and collocated sentences. The process of locating the referring phrase to the right antecedent in a conversation is known

as anaphora resolution. Consider the following: "Anu bought a book. She likes reading." This is an example of anaphora resolution. Here "She" refers to "Anu". However, the process of anaphora resolution can become increasingly complex when we encounter following sentence: "Fruits were given to children because they were there." In the above sentence "they" is either refer to "Fruits" or "children". This anaphora produces ambiguity and either settles one or both. Because this form of knowledge has not yet been fully realized in software, anaphoric resolution is presently an ongoing subject of study. Many applications, including as machine translation, opinion mining, autonomous summarization, and information extraction, can benefit from the addition of anaphoric resolution.

Anaphors are forms whose primary function is to indicate reference, but their use is much more restricted. Sugiharto (2004) elaborates reference is typically defined as an act in which a speaker or writer use language forms to assist a listener or reader in identifying something. In other words, reference is concerned with linguistically naming entities in the world. Singh et al (2014) states that A reference is the connection that exists between a segment of an utterance and the person or group of people that it names.

Observe the short passage below:

In the film, a man and a woman were trying to wash a cat. The man was holding the cat while the woman poured water on *it*. *He* said something to *her* and *they* started laughing.

The pronouns (*it*, *he*, *her*, and *they*) in the sentence are anaphoric references to previously specified referents, which is known as anaphora. Technically, the following reference is known as anaphor, whereas the original or previously introduced reference is known as antecedents. Jacobs (1995) states that Anaphors are pronouns that have their antecedent in the same minimal sentence or noun phrase. Anaphors must have an antecedent that is included inside the same smallest sentence. Anaphors must have antecedents in their smallest clause, but pronouns must not have any antecedents in their smallest clause.

Reference

Dowty (1991) denotes the link between a word and an item, similar to how word references may refer to anything. Malaia et al., (2012) states that references are interpreted as behaviors directed at the speaker or written component. So, a reference is an activity taken by the speaker or writer to employ language that helps the listener or reader to identify something. According to M. A. K. Halliday (1976), The unique type of information tagged for retrieval is referred to as a reference. This indicates that a reference is an action that refers to the preceding or succeeding element.

1) A: my uncle's coming home from Canada on Sunday. He's due in.

2) B: how long has he been away for or has just been away?

3) A: Oh no they lived in Canada, he was married to my mother's sister. Well, she's been dead for a number of years now.

In the following conversational fragment, speaker A (1) uses the expressions he that refers to "my uncle". While speaker B (2) uses the expression he too and its meaning was same. Then speaker A (3) uses three expressions those are they refers to "my uncle" and "my mother's sister", he refers to "my uncle" and she refers to "my mother's sister". References here are actions where the speaker, or listener, or user of linguistic can identify the purposes of communication.

Thematic Roles

An English sentence, like any other phrase, is made up of units that work together to provide an overall meaning interpretation. According to Malaia et al., (2012), noun phrases and clauses both operate as arguments of their predicate and as semantic roles, with roles like 'doer' being fundamentally semantic relations within the wider language structure. The term "semantic role" refers to a semantic idea that is larger than the collection of responsibilities ascribed to arguments known as "thematic role."

As soon as feasible, thematic roles are temporarily allocated to verb arguments; any active thematic roles that are incompatible with such an assignment become more inactive (Tutin, 2002). Any open thematic roles in the discourse model that are not allocated to an argument appear as free variables or unnamed "addresses" in the model.

- *Laddy Macbeth painted her nails*
- *Gomer Pyle shampooed the poodle*

From the semantic point of view, the subject (*Lady Macbeth, Gomer Pyle*) refer to the participant who do the actions, while the grammatical objects (*her nails, the poodle*) refer to the entities that undergo the actions. To understand the thematic role of each argument in a sentence, the learners would just have to be able to pick out the subjects and any objects. In fact, it is likely that, at one early stage, second or foreign language learners do employ this strategy of matching up the noun phrase before the verb with the "doer" and the noun phrase after the verb with the "undergoer". The subject is the "doer", the role called "agent" and the object is "undergoer", the role called "theme". The theme is an entity to which the action happens.

- Noel liked those colors

From above sentence there is no agent. Noel doesn't do anything and those colors does not undergo an action. This is because verb *like* express psychological states rather than actions. In psychological predicate as *like* the subject is assigned a role called *the experiencer role*, while the role object is assigned as *theme role* despite the fact that it undergoes no action. An experiencer is an entity engaged in a mental process or state involving *cognition, perception, emotion* (Patel, 2019). To be known, passive voice clauses do not have agents in subject position. They either omit them or relegate them to a by phrase after the passive verb unit, which is the combination of a form of *be* followed by a verb in its past participle form. Jacobs (1995) explores some kinds of thematic roles such as agent, theme, experiencer, and benefactive.

Thematic roles, the agent is a mind-possessor who acts, generally on purpose. The topic of an active voice phrase is usually the agent. The role of theme is the most difficult to define. There are some definitions of it.

1. Entity to which the action happened
 - The girders were rusting
 - The ball rolled down the slope
 - Cavour rolled the ball down the slope
2. The role assigned to clause. Clause can be argument which dont do anything and dont undergo anything.

The experiencer is the person who is aware of a mental state or process including cognition, perception, or emotion. The experiencer does nothing; he simply feels. While the benefactive function is that of the individual whose advantage some action is done.

METHOD

The qualitative technique was utilized in this study since the goal was to comprehend and find what lies behind a phenomenon. According to (Creswell, 2009) Qualitative research is a technique for investigating and grasping the significance that individuals or groups place on a social or human issue. Most qualitative research produces unambiguous information in the form of a predefined frame. It comprises creating a representation of a person or setting, evaluating information for subjects or categories, and eventually translating or making conclusions about its personal and theoretical relevance (Winda, 2021).

The data is a text which was taken on 26th November 2015 from http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/27/world/asia/indonesia-islam-nahdlatul_ulama.html. And, the procedure of this research can be explained as follows. First, the data downloaded from the internet was chunked into clauses. Each clause was then analyzed further through anaphora theory. The theory of Roderick A Jacobs (1995) and (Aarts, 2001) are used to reveal the anaphora and its thematic roles.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The investigation of the text showed that there were 31 anaphors found. Some of them, are in the same clause which indicate same reference.

“Islamic state soldiers march a line of prisoners to a riverbank, shoot **them**¹ by one and dump **their**² bodies over a blood-soaked dock into the water”.

The antecedents for anaphors *them* and *their* are refer to the **prisoners**. The reference is straightforward because the word had already stated clearly that *them* and *their* refer to the word *prisoners*. When it is connected with the previous clause that Islamic state soldiers march a line of prisoners, so here prisoners who becomes the object. Thus, the thematic roles of those antecedents is *prisoners* who function as object or undergoer. Continued to shoot them and dump their bodies, certainly it was referred to the prisoners as they are objects who get any actions from the Islamic state soldiers.

“Many who memorize the Quran and Hadith love to condemn others as infidels while ignoring **their**³ own infidelity to God, **their**⁴ hearts and minds still mired in filth”.

Both antecedents of anaphors *their* indicate **infidels** as reference. It is evident from the use of the word 'Infidelity' and 'filth' that shows a negative meaning that relates to the word '**infidels**' which has a negative meaning as well. Here, the only possible antecedent to bind *their* is **infidels**, which is within the same local domain noun phrase; *their* cannot refer to many who memorize the Quran and Hadith. Jacobs (1995) defines that the notion local domain is thus valid for anaphors. In thematic roles, he (1995) also said that the theme is the entity to which the action happens. It is an object of the clause which is called as *undergoer* or as *theme*. Thus, *infidels* is the object because infidels can be seen as argument from the verb 'love'.

“The spread of a shallow understanding of Islam renders this situation critical, as highly vocal elements within the Muslim population at large-extremist groups-justify **their**⁵ harsh and often savage behavior by claiming to act in accord with God's commands, although **they**⁶ are grievously mistaken”.

The antecedent from anaphor *their* and *they* indicate **extremist groups**. The anaphors have antecedent within the same smallest clause, *extremist groups justify their harsh*. Both extremist groups and their harsh are in the same local domain. Those clause is composed of two arguments and the verb. Therefore, the clause has been qualified to determine *their harsh* as thematic role. Fuller longer, the theme for the clause is *their harsh*

and often savage behavior by claiming to act in accord with God's command. While **they** are grievously mistaken do not have theme because they are consist of one argument.

"According to the Sunni view of Islam," **he**⁷ said, "every aspect and expression of religion should be imbued with love and compassion, and foster the perfection of human nature".

Anaphors **he** refers to mr.A Mustafa Bisri, the spiritual leader of the group, Nahdatul Ulama, an Indonesian Muslim organization. It can be seen from the previous clause which told about mr.A Mustafa Bisri "The spread of a shallow understanding of Islam renders this situation critical, as highly vocal elements within the Muslim population at large-extremist groups-justify their harsh and often savage behavior by claiming to act in accord with God's commands, although they are grievously mistaken,"said A Mustafa Bisri, the spiritual leader of the group, Nahdatul Ulama, an Indonesian Muslim organization. In thematic role, this clause "every aspect and expression of religion should be imbued with love and compassion, and foster the perfection of human nature" placed as theme and he (A Mustafa Bisri) as experiencer.

"As world leaders call for Muslims to take the lead in the ideological battle against a growing and increasingly violent offshoot of **their**⁸ own religion, analyst say the group's campaign is a welcome antidote to jihadism".

Anaphors of **their** connected with **muslim** as its antecedent. As well anaphor and its antecedent are in the same local domain noun phrase, **their** can not refer to world leaders. Jacobs (1995) formulates that an anaphor must be bound within its local domain. Its thematic roles is their own religion which refer to Muslims. Here, Muslims placed as thematic role benefactive. The benefactive noun phrase is often introduced with the prepositional *for*.

"**I**⁹ see the counternarrative as the only way that Western governments can deal with the ISIS propaganda, but there's no strategy right now,"said Nico Prucha".

This data shows that anaphor **I** has antecedent **Nico Purcha**. This process of anaphors called as Cataphora. Cataphora is the relationship between an anaphoric phrase and a subsequent antecedent (Radford, 2004). The position of anaphor comes before antecedent so when the anaphor 'I' comes, it directly associated with who is speaking and at back, there is addition word that Nico prucha is the speaker. Besides that, "I" or Nico Prucha as an experiencer and the theme is "the counternarrative as the only way that Western governments can deal with the ISIS propaganda, but there's no strategy right now" which placed as object.

"And Western leaders often lack credibility with those most susceptible to jihad's allure. "**They**¹⁰ don't speak Arabic or have never lived in the Muslim world," Mr.Prucha said.

They refers to Western Leaders. Sugiharto (2004) states that anaphoric reference is used when the uniqueness of reference of a phrase the X is supplied by information presented earlier in the discourse. The previous sentence offered background information about who they are. It is connected with the thematic roles, "Arabic or have never lived in the Muslim world" placed as thematic roles *theme* from the experiencer *they*.

"In a way, **it**¹¹ should not be suprising....."

The conditions for this kind of interpretation is pragmatic, not grammatical. Therefore, this anaphor cannot be referred to who. When comes to thematic roles, the noun phrase subject is the pronoun *it*, which has no intrinsic meaning of its own and is not assigned a thematic role by the predicate *surprising*. This *it* is not an argument of the predicate *surprising*.

“**We**¹² are directly challenging the idea of ISIS, which wants Islam to be uniform, meaning that if there is any other idea of Islam that is not following **their**¹³ ideas, those people are infidels who must be killed,” said Yahya Cholil Staquf, general secretary to the NU supreme council. “**We**¹⁴ will show that is not the case with Islam”.

The anaphora of *We* has NU as its antecedent. Actually, *we* refers to the speaker, Yahya Cholil which the member of NU. When speaking, he represents NU. Thus, he prefer used *we* than *I*. The anaphora *we* indicates subject as agent and ‘the idea of ISIS’ indicates the thematic roles theme. While anaphora *their* get ISIS as its antecedent. It proved by the first clause that ‘we are directly challenging the idea of ISIS’. Here, between Islam and ISIS has different idea. Islam represented by NU and anaphora *we*, while ISIS represented by anaphora *their*. That anaphora indicates as thematic roles of theme ‘their ideas’. Data 14 shows that the anaphora of *we* refer to NU. For this reason, data 14 has the same characteristic with data 12. But for thematic role, *we* is as a thematic role agent who will show that is not the case with Islam.

“The problem with Middle East Islam is **they**¹⁵ have what **I**¹⁶ call religious racism,” said Azyumardi Azra, an Islamic scholar and former rector of the State Islamic University in Jakarta. “**They**¹⁷ feel that only the Arabs are real Muslims and the others are not”.

The antecedent of anaphora *they* is *Middle East Islam*. Both the anaphora and its antecedent are in the same local domain. The anaphora *they* placed as experiencer because they do not act anything. For data 16, anaphora of *I* connect with antecedent Azyumardi Azra. It links back to the people to talk. Azyumardi Azra introduced later, thus the anaphora *I* refers to him. Besides, the anaphor *I* also called as experiencer while *religious racis* as its thematic role *theme*. Data 17 has the same anaphor with data 15, *they*. The anaphor *they* link forward to the first noun phrase of that clause. Thematic roles for this clause is “only the Arabs are real Muslims and the others are not”, while the anaphor *they* as the experiencer.

“The best known of the Indonesian jihadi groups, Jemaah Islamiyah, a onetime Southeast Asian branch of Al Qaeda, has been crushed, but splinter groups still exist, as well as other militant Muslim groups like the Islamic Defenders Front, which occasionally smash up bars and attack religious minorities and **their**¹⁸ houses of worship”.

Anaphora *their* indicates the antecedent *religious minorities*. The previous noun phrase before *their* is religious minorities which tell that it used as antecedent of the anaphora *their*. Specifically, religious minorities’ houses of worship attacked by other militant Muslim groups. Thus, their or religious minorities is the thematic roles theme of the agent other militant Muslim groups like the Islamic Defenders Front.

“**They**¹⁹ want to show to Indonesian society, “Look **we**²⁰ are Islamic and **we**²¹ have universal values, but **we**²² also respect local cultures,” **he**²³ said. “ **We**²⁴ are not like Islam in the Middle East.”

They refers to NU’s campaign, implicitly, *they* refers to NU itself. From the previous statement said that “NU’s campaign applied equally to local radicals”, then continued to next clause which started with anaphora *they*. The position of *they* is thematic role agent who want to show to Indonesia. The speaker is a vice chairman for the executive board of the Setara Institute for Democracy and Peace in Jakarta, therefore, data 20, 21, 22, 24 refer to the same atecedent, *Setara Institute for Democracy and Peace* which comes from Jakarta, Indonesia. In short, anaphors *we* (data 20,21,22,24) refer to *Indonesia*.

Data 20 is relational clause which the anaphora *we* is theme as subject. *We* in data 21 functioned as experiencer with “universal values” as its theme, while *we* in data 22 also as experiencer with “local cultures” as its theme. *We* in data 24 indicates the thematic role experiencer because the subject *we* experiences a mental state, “are not like” as predicate which also as process of mental (feeling). Roderick (1995) states that the experiencer is the one who experiences a mental state or process such as thinking, knowing, believing, understanding, seeing, hearing, feeling, hoping, being surprised, etc.

Anaphora *he* in data 23 refer to *Bonar Tigor Naipospos* as its antecedent. Bonar Tigor Naipospos as speaker and it supported in the previous clause which represent him. The previous clause is “Bonar Tigor Naipospos, vice chairman for the executive board of the Setara Institute for Democracy and Peace in Jakarta, said NU’s campaign applied equally to local radicals”. Therefore, *he* refers to vice chairman for the executive board of the setara Institute for Democracy and Peace in Jakarta, Bonar Tigor Naipospos. Besides, he or Bonar Tigor Naipospos used as thematic role experiencer because he experiences a mental state.

“Hedieh Mirahmadi, president of the World Organization for Resource Development and Education, an organization based in Washington that works to combat extremism, said that, according to open source data, supporters of the Islamic State were sending an average of 2.8 million messages a day to **their**²⁵ followers on Twitter”.

Their followers refer to *the Islamic State*. They are in the same local domain and the word “their followers” is closer to “the Islamic State who have many supporters” neither to Hedieh Mirahmadi or organization based in Washington. Because of “the Islamic State” is antecedent of “their followers”, thus their followers is a thematic role goal because it tells the purpose of sending messages is aimed to their followers.

“Who’s going to counter that?” **she**²⁶ asked.

Anaphora *she* indicates antecedent *Hadih Mirahmadi*. It connected with the previous clause which introduces Hadih Mirahmadi who give statement about supporters of the Islamic State. Besides, “she” also used as thematic role experiencer who experiences a mental state.

“It’s what **they**²⁷ are doing in Indonesia, it’s what **we**²⁸ are doing in the U.S, and in other places,” **she**²⁹ said. “**You**³⁰ flood the space, and **you**³¹ hope people get the right messages.”

Both anaphora *they* and *we* in data 27 & 28 refer to the same antecedent, *supporter of Islamic State*. And they are both as thematic roles agent who do something in Indonesia, US and another places. While, anaphora *she* in data 29 indicates antecedent *Hadih Mirahmadi*. It connected with the previous clause which introduces Hadih Mirahmadi who give statement about supporters of the Islamic State. Besides, “she” also used as thematic role experiencer who experiences a mental state.

Data 30 and 31 have same anaphora ‘you’ which also refer to one antecedent ‘Islamic State’. It can be gained from “flood the space” and “get the right messages” which connect with the previous clause ‘supporters of the Islamic State’. But ‘supporters of Islamic State’ is hard to believe as antecedent of data 30 & 31. Thus, by considering the phrase “hope people get the right messages” implicitly, the right messages is from their supporter. Therefore, the Islamic State is antecedent of anaphora “you”. You also used as thematic role experiencer which tell about what the speaker has experienced .

Anaphoras can be found in the same phrase as their antecedents, indicating that they are in the same local domain. The antecedent might be in before or behind the subject.

When seeking for antecedent, it is required to look forward or backward, and it is also vital to comprehend the context. Those forefathers played theme roles of agent and experiencer. Theme role agents create states of affairs, whereas thematic role experiencers have sensory, cognitive, and emotional experiences. Thus, the article demonstrates that what is being said is based on the writer/emotional speaker's experience and his subjective opinion about the problem.

CONCLUSION

From this article, there are 31 anaphors found. An anaphora can be found in the same clause with its antecedent, thus, the anaphors are in the same local domain. The antecedent can be located in front or behind. When will seek antecedent, then looking forward or backward it is necessary and also understanding the context was needed in the search for antecedent.

Those antecedents used thematic role agent and experiencer. Thematic role agent which bring about state of affairs while thematic role experiencer are argument that undergo a sensory, cognitive and emotional experience. This article shows that what being talked is based on emotional experience of the writer/speaker and state his affair opinion about the issue.

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