



AN ANALYSIS OF VERBAL HUMOR IN *INI TALK SHOW*

Fitri Nurul Azka¹, Hamzah Hamzah²,

English Department

Faculty of Languages and Arts

Universitas Negeri Padang

email: fitrinurulazka12@gmail.com

Abstract

One of the ways to express the idea or opinion in communication is through humor. It is not only to express the idea, humor also can be functioned to entertain, one of them through television program, talk show. This research aimed to compare the types of verbal humor that found in *Ini Talk Show*. This research was descriptive comparative. The data were the clauses which consist of verbal humor within transcribed video. The total of video were 5 videos. The data were analyzed by using theory of Shade (1996) and General Theory of Verbal Humor (1991). Theory of Shade (1996) was used to analyze the types of verbal humor and General Theory of Verbal Humor (1991) used to analyze the types of verbal humor that found in both object. The result of the research showed that there were 192 numbers of verbal humor found in *Ini Talk Show*. It is found that 10 out of 12 types of verbal humor found in *Ini Talk Show*. It means, the hosts of the show were good in creating humorous situation in the show.

Key words: Humor, Verbal Humor, *Ini Talk Show*

A. INTRODUCTION

One of ways to express the idea in communication is through the humor. Humor can be a part of communication. Sometime, the way people convey something to another can be done through humor. In order to get the deepest definition of humor, Attardo (1994) states that linguists, psychologists, and anthropologists have taken humor to be an all-encompassing category, covering any event or object that elicits laughter, amuses, and funny situation. If something based on that, humor can be called as everything that makes a person laugh or smile in all aspects of life.

Based on Shade (1996) , humor has its forms. They are four forms of humor that proposed by him, they are figural, visual, auditory, and verbal humor. The analysis of figural humor focuses on comic books, comic strips,

¹ English ELLSP of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang graduated on September 2019

² Lecturer of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang



political cartoons, cartoons, and caricatures. Visual humor focuses on impressions, impersonations, mime, pantomime, practical jokes, pratfalls, slapstick, and sight gags. Auditory humor focuses on impressions, impersonations, noises and sounds. Based on those types, the researcher has an interest to do a research in one type of it, that is verbal humor. For more understanding, the researcher has found several researches relate to humor analysis.

In relation to verbal humor analysis, there are also some studies that have been conducted by using the theories of verbal humor to support this research. These studies lead the researcher to conduct a research about verbal humor in different way. The studies was conducted by Shuqin (2013), Masaeli & Shahreza (2016), Cendra (2016) and Saragi (2018). First, Shuqin (2013) analyzed verbal humor in a sitcom by using the relevance theory. The data was analyzed by pragmatic and cognitive method. Second, a research that has been done by Masaeli & Shahreza (2016). This research analyzed the creation of humor in an online joke based on six knowledge resources (KRs). The result was about finding the major aspect of six knowledge of resources. Next, Cendra (2016) analyzed verbal humor in a drama series by using General Theory of Verbal Humor. Saragi (2018) analyzed verbal humor in songs by using General Theory of Verbal Humor.

Based on the previous studies relate to verbal humor, the analysis mostly completed in an object like scripted based concept such as drama series, sitcom, and online joke. Those are arranged in a funny concept to entertain people by delivering funny concept in it. However, what makes this research different is the object that is taken and the way to analyze it. To extend the research, the researcher took one of television programs that is talk show as the object of the research. A talk show is having different concept with comedy show and there is no exact script to trigger people to laugh. The object itself is *Ini Talk Show*. This talk show is popular in Indonesia with having many viewers.

It is possible to take this object because this talk show is not a purely comedy show. It is only a conversation show that can catch the audience attention because they do not deliver a common conversational show but also entertain and amuse the audience with their humor. Jokes can come up naturally and make the show interesting to be watched. It is not arise by the host only, but also from the audience that being invited in that show. That is why the power of language that use by the guest and the audience will make it possible for the researcher to conduct this research and fit to verbal humor field. Moreover, the researcher will do the comparison from two different talk shows to analyze the using of type of verbal humor and the use of six knowledge resources.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was descriptive comparative because the research was comparing two different language phenomena and did the comparison in analyzing the data. Kothari (2004) states that in descriptive studies, the researcher will measure the data without has no control to the variable. It means, the researcher reported what has happened or what has happening. Methods in

descriptive research are the survey methods of all kind, including comparative and correlational methods. Furthermore, the research was based on text so this matter will make it as a corpus library research. In other words, the evidences from the text will be the resources to discover further results.

Based on the type of research above, it is known that this research is also corpus based research, so the source of data is the collection of texts which was obtained by transcribing the selected videos. The data were all clauses which consist of verbal humor.

There were several instruments used in this research. First, the researcher itself. Second, table of verbal humor which guided the researcher in analyzing the data. The last, researcher used laptop as media to transfer the data functions to make an arranged data.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Research Finding

The data were analyzed by using General Theory of Verbal Humour (GTVH) and the types were classified based on Shade (1996). Shade (1996) classified the types of verbal humour into twelve types. They are pun, satire, wit, parody, sarcasm, irony, tall tale, pun, joke, farce, limerick and anecdote. Table below shows the result of types verbal humour found in *Ini Talk Show*.

Table Types of Verbal Humour in *Ini Talk Show*

No.	Type of Verbal Humour	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Pun	21	10,9%
2.	Riddle	0	0%
3.	Joke	4	2,1%
4.	Satire	28	14,6%
5.	Limerick	0	0%
6.	Parody	34	17,7%
7.	Anecdote	1	0,5%
8.	Farce	1	0,5%
9.	Irony	26	13,5%
10.	Sarcasm	17	8,8%
11.	Tall Tale	12	6,2%
12.	Wit	49	25,5%

From the table, there were only 10 types of verbal humour such as pun, joke, satire, parody, anecdote, farce, irony, sarcasm, tall tale and wit found in *Ini*

Talk show within 192 verbal humor that found. The highest frequency was wit with total 49 (25,5%).

The types of verbal humour were analyzed by using General Theory of Verbal Humour (GTVH). In this theory, there were six knowledge resources as the parameters to analysis the verbal humour itself. They are script opposition (SO), logical mechanism (LM), situation (SI), narrative strategy (NS), target (TA), and language (LA).

Tabel Script opposition (SO) in *Ini Talk Show*

No.	Script opposition	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Normal vs abnormal	101	52,6%
2.	Expectation vs reality	12	6,2%
3.	Good vs bad	4	2,08%
4.	Function vs fact	7	3,6%
5.	Possible vs impossible	26	13,5%
6.	True vs false	14	7,3%
7.	Right vs wrong	7	3,6%
8.	Cause vs result	4	2,08%
9.	Cause vs effect	3	1,6%
10.	Actual vs non actual	14	7,3%
Total		192	100%

From the table, There were 10 kinds of SO found in *Ini Talk Show*. The highest frequency was normal vs abnormal with total 101 (52,6%) found and the lowest frequency was cause vs effect with total 3 (1,6%) found within *Ini Talk Show*.

Table Logical Mechanism (LM) in *Ini Talk Shown*

No.	Logical Mechanism (LM)	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Role exchanges	5	2,6%
2.	Faulty reasoning	8	4,2%
3.	Exaggeration	20	10,4%
4.	Proportion	3	1,6%
5.	None	131	68,2%
6.	Coincidence	4	2,08%
7.	Referential ambiguity	1	0,5%
8.	Meta humor	2	1,04%
9.	Parallelism	9	4,7%
10.	Potency mapping	8	4,2%
11.	Negation	1	0,5%
Total		192	100%

There were 11 of logical mechanism (LM) found in *Ini Talk Show*. The highest frequency was exaggeration with total 20 (10,4%) and the lowest were referential ambiguity and negation with only found 1 (0,5%).

Table Situation (SI) in *Ini Talk Show*

No.	Situation (SI)	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Disappointed	3	1,6%
2.	Misunderstanding	1	0,5%
3.	Confusing	29	15,1%
4.	Annoying	21	10,9%
5.	Absurd	86	44,8%
6.	Curious	6	3,1%
7.	Ridiculous	32	16,7%
8.	Happy	8	4,2%
9.	Concern	1	0,5%
10.	Scary	1	0,5%
11.	Insulting	14	7,3%
12.	Surprise	6	3,1%
13.	Anxiety	1	0,5%
Total		192	100%

From the table, There were 13 kinds of situation (SI) found in *Ini Talk Show* with the highest frequency was absurd situation with total 86 (44,8%). the lowest frequency were misunderstanding, concern, scary, and anxiety with 1 (0,5%).

Table Target (TA) in *Ini Talk Show*

No.	Situation (SI)	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	None	73	38,02%
2.	Individual	118	61,4%
3.	Group	1	0,5%
Total		192	100%

From the table, the highest frequency was individual target (TA) with total 118 (61,4%) within *Ini Talk Show*.

Table Narrative Strategy (NS) in *Ini Talk Show*

No.	Narrative Strategy (NS)	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Conversation	191	99,5%
2.	Monologue	1	0,5%
Total		192	100%

From the table, the highest frequency was conversation with total 191 (99,5%) and 1 (0,5%) found in form of monologue.

Table Language (LA) in *Ini Talk Show* and *Sarah Sechan*

No.	Language (LA)	<i>Ini Talk Show</i>	
		F	%
1.	Set up	192	100%
2.	Punch Line	192	100%
Total		192	100%

From the table, both set up and punch line in the same amount with total 192 (100%).

2. Discussion

In this research, The male hosts in *Ini Talk Show* tended to use wit more to exploit the humorous situation. As Shade (1996) states that wit is connecting the idea spontaneously, it is concluded that male hosts tended to give quicker idea rather in this case of research. It means, in *Ini Talk Show*, the hosts tended to get straight to the point when created the humorous situation and later come to the details.

However, there was no riddle and limerick found for both *Ini Talk Show*. It showed that from gender case, hosts did not attempt to use these two types to arise the funny situation. These two types of verbal humor were quite different with other types because they were puzzling and tricky. Riddle was in the form of a tricky formulation and limerick appeared in the form of creation the non-sense lyrics. It means, none of those talk shows use this types of verbal humor which showed one of their similarities.

In the case of analyzing types verbal humor by Genereal Theory of Verbal Humor (GTVH), there were 10 types of situation (SI) found in *Ini Talk Show* and *Sarah Sechan*. They were normal vs abnormal, expectation vs reality, good vs bad, function vs fact, possible vs impossible, true vs false, right vs wrong, cause vs result, cause vs effect and actual vs non-actual. There were 12 numbers of LM found in *Ini Talk Show* and 5 numbers of LM found in *Sarah Sechan*. It showed

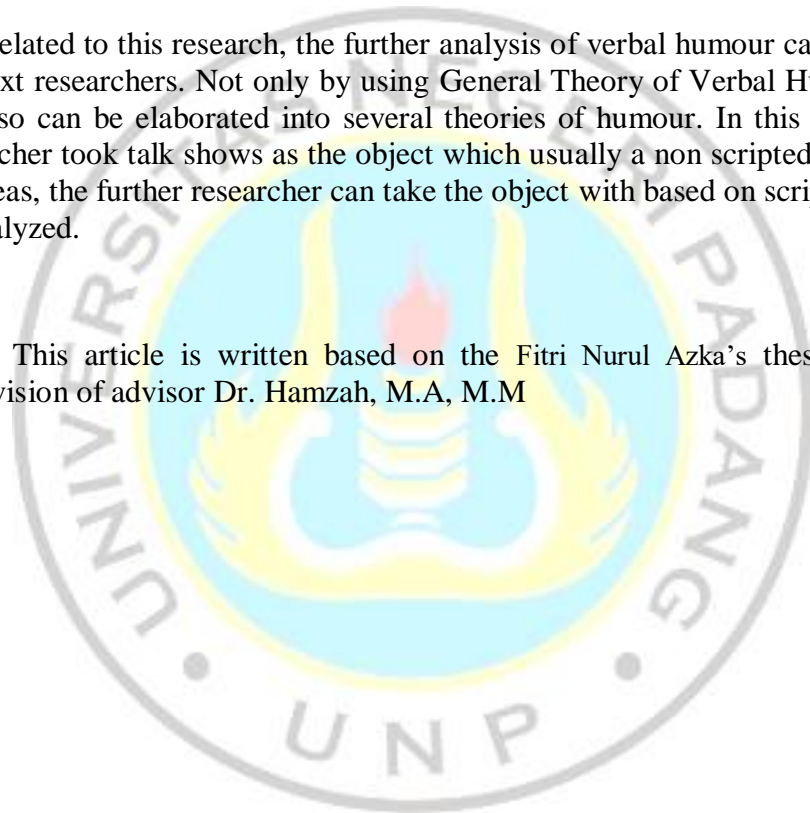
that the use of logical mechanism (LM) to make the joke becoming functional more found in *Ini Talk Show*. The situation (SO) in *Ini Talk Show* was 13 in total.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The result in this present study showed that the types of verbal humour and the use of six knowledge resources of General Theory of Verbal Humour to analyze the humour creation in *Ini Talk Show*. The findings showed some differences between these two talk shows. For the types of verbal humour, it is found that the use of verbal humor in talk show which hosted by man in *Ini Talk* in a big quantity.

Related to this research, the further analysis of verbal humour can be done by the next researchers. Not only by using General Theory of Verbal Humor (1991), but also can be elaborated into several theories of humour. In this research, the researcher took talk shows as the object which usually a non scripted based show. Whereas, the further researcher can take the object with based on scripted based to be analyzed.

Note: This article is written based on the Fitri Nurul Azka's thesis under the supervision of advisor Dr. Hamzah, M.A, M.M



BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adrjan, P., & Basols, J. M. (2003). The Sound of Humor: Linguistic and Semantic Constrains in the Translation of Phonological Jokes. *Sky Journal of Linguistics*, 246.
- Attardo, Salvatore. (2017). *The Routledge Handbook of Language and Humor*. New York: Routledge.
- Attardo, Salvatore. (1994). *Linguistics Theories of Humor*. New York: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Cendra, A. N. (2016). *A Linguistic Analysis of Verbal Humor Found in BBC Radio Drama Series Cabin Pressure: Abu Dhabi*. (Sarjana Pendidikan Degree, Sanata Dharma University, 2016).
- Dynel, Marta. (2013). *Developments in Linguistic Humor Theory*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Hempelmann, C. (2014). *Puns*. In S. Attardo (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of humor studies*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Masaeli, B & Heidari-Shahreza, M. A. (2016). Journal of Applied Linguistics and Language Research. *A linguistic Analysis of Persian Online Joke in Light of General Theory of Verbal Humor*, 3, 230-239.
- Ruch, Willibald; Attardo, Salvatore; Rakin, Victor. (1993). HUMOR: International Journal of Humor Research. *Toward an Empirical Verification of The General Theory of Verbal Humor*, 6(2), 123-136. DOI: [https:// doi.org/ 10.1515/ humr. 1993. 6. 2. 123](https://doi.org/10.1515/humr.1993.6.2.123).
- Saragi, Mandasari Yessi. (2018). *Verbal Humor Found in Ajo Buset Songs and Nedi Gampo Songs*. (Strata One Degree, Universitas Negeri Padang, 2018).
- Saude, Christian Jaernes. (2018). *Application of the General Theory of Verbal Humor to texts in The Onion*. (A thesis submitted to Department of Literature, University of Oslo).
- Shuqin, HU. (2013). A Relevance theoretic analysis of verbal humor in The Big Bang Theory. *Studies in Literature and Language*, 1, 10-14.