

THE CONJUNCTIONS USED IN OPINION COLUMNS OF *SINGGALANG* NEWSPAPER

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Abstrak

Konjungsi adalah kata hubung yang mempunyai peran penting dalam wacana di surat kabar, salah satunya kolom opini. Makalah ini bertujuan untuk menemukan jenis konjungsi yang sering digunakan di dalam kolom opini pada surat kabar harian *Singgalang*. Data penelitian ini diambil dari kolom opini yang terdiri dari 8 edisi surat kabar *Singgalang* yang diterbitkan selama bulan Mei 2013. Dari 8 edisi tersebut, diperoleh 102 penggunaan konjungsi yang terbagi kepada konjungsi koordinatif, konjungsi subordinatif, dan konjungsi korelatif. Pengelompokan konjungsi kepada koordinatif, subordinatif, dan korelatif merujuk kepada teori tipe konjungsi yang dikembangkan oleh Leech (2006) dan fungsi konjungsi berdasarkan pendapat Werner (2002). Dari hasil analisis data, ditemukan bahwa konjungsi berjenis koordinative paling sering digunakan dengan frekuensi 52 kali (50,98%). Sementara itu, konjungsi subordinatif digunakan sebanyak 32 kali (31,37%) dan konjungsi korelatif paling sedikit digunakan dengan 18 kali (17,64%). Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa konjungsi yang terdapat dalam kolom opini surat kabar *Singgalang* lebih sering menggunakan konjungsi koordinative, yaitu penggabungan dua kalimat yang setara yang berfungsi untuk memberi keterangan lebih lanjut kepada pembaca tentang kalimat atau fakta yang muncul di awal.

Keywords: types, functions, conjunction.

A. Introduction

Conjunction plays an important role in communication. It acts as a link or a connector between the clauses with other clauses. Conjunction also combines a set of grammatical functions into larger grammatical units. This is reinforced by the opinion of Ramlan (1985: 13) who says conjunctions are words that connect words, parts of sentences, and sentences.

The conjunctions will always be used in our daily conversation. Conjunctions can be used in the form of oral and written. However, the function of the use of the conjunction itself will be seen more clearly in the written term. The use of conjunction can be found in all written forms, such as novel, magazine, and newspaper.

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One of the written form which uses conjunction is newspaper. Newspaper is a tool in the form of written media which provides information for people. The study of conjunction in the newspaper media is important since it studies the coherence of the articles or decreases the ambiguity of the paragraph in articles. The sentences in those paragraphs will not be kept together without using the conjunction because the idea does not relate each other.

The conjunction usually can be found in the argument sentences which is analyze one fact combine with the other facts or opinions. Opinion column in *Singgalang* newspaper is one of the examples which use conjunctions mostly. *Singgalang's* opinion column is one space of newspaper which contains the opinion of experts to analyze the scientific facts. .

Conjunctions have a role to connect two clauses or more, which each has an equal position in the constituent of sentence structure. In diagrammatic, conjunctions are not included in any clauses. However, conjunction has its own constituent. Alice and Hogue (1998: 153) state that there are three groups of words that are used to connect clauses in order to form different kinds of sentences.

According to Keraf (1980: 78), "Conjunction comes from the word *conjunctio*, which means words that connect words, parts of words, or connecting sentences". Then, Thornbury (2011) states that conjunction is a word like *and*, *but*, *which*, and *so*, which links two clauses, phrases, and words. Based on the opinions of experts above, it can be concluded that a conjunction is a word that connects words with one another to form a complete sentence.

Leech (2006: 26) argues that conjunction is a term which refers generally to words that have a linking role in grammar. He also divides the conjunction into three parts; *coordinating conjunction* which means the joining of two or more constituent of equivalent status; *subordinating conjunction*, as a linker of the two relating two clauses by making one clause to another; *correlative conjunction*, a term using construction in two parts of sentences which are linked together by two words. In conclusion, conjunction will be different based on their status in a sentence.

According to Halliday and Hasan in Brown and Yule (1983:191) said that conjunctions such as *and*, *but*, *so*, and *then* make a sentence to be cohesive. Cohesion occurs when the interpretation of some elements in the discourse depends on each other. It conclusion, cohesion has important role in the meaning of sentence. They also add four types of conjunction which are additive, adversative, causal, and temporal.

Alice and Hogue (1998:154) divide the conjunction into three main parts. They are subordinating conjunctions: *after*, *although*, *as*, *as if*, *as soon as*, *because*, *before*, *even though*, *how*, *if*, *since*, *so that*, *before*, *how*, *if*, *since*, *so that*, *that*, *though*, *unless*, *until*, *what*, *when*, *whenever*, *where*, *wherever*, *whether*, *which*, *while*, *who*, *whom*, *whose*. Coordinating conjunctions *for*, *and*, *nor*, *but*, *or*, *yet*, *so*. Conjunction adverb *accordingly*, *besides*, *consequently*, *for example*, *furthermore*, *hence*, *however*, *in addition*, *in contrast*, *indeed*, *instead*, *likewise*, *meanwhile*, *moreover*, *nevertheless*, *nonetheless*, *on the other hand*, *otherwise*, *therefore*, *thus*. Based on that group of conjunction, the coordinating conjunction

will be easily remembered with use of the clue “FANBOY” -For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet.

Klammer (2000: 128) says:

Conjunction includes two types –coordinating and subordinating conjunctions- together with a related category traditionally considered with conjunctions, conjunctive adverbs.

Based on what Klammer said above, it can be concluded that there are four types of conjunction: coordinating conjunctions (words that join the similar form of grammatical structure and transform into a single grammatical unit), correlative conjunctions (the words that connect syntactic units in convention and have the same grammatical form), conjunctive adverbs (conjunction which is connect the sentences that have relationships), and subordinating conjunctions (joins the two unequal grammatical element, such as independent and dependent clause).

Leech (2006: 26) also divides the conjunction into three parts; coordinating conjunction, which means the joining of two or more constituent of equivalent status; subordinating conjunction, as a linker of two relating clauses by making one clause to another; correlative conjunction, a term used construction in two parts of sentences which are linked together by two words.

There are 17 main points in the function of conjunction based on Ramlan (1985: 60) they are; to explain about the addition: *dan, atau*. To explain about the sequence are *lalu, kemudian*. To explain about the choice is *atau*. To explain about the option are *walaupun, meskipun, kendati, biar(pun)*. To explain about the excessive are *bahkan, malah, malahan*. To explain about the time are *sejak, takkala, tengah, sedang, sewaktu, semasa*. To explain about the comparison are *lebih, daripada, seperti, bagai*. To explain about the causes are *karena, olehkarena, sebab, berhubung, lantaran, berkat*. To explain about the result are *hingga, sehingga, sampai, sampai-sampai*. To explain about the condition are *jika, apabila, bila, bilamana, manakala, jikalau, asal(kan)*. To explain about the supposition are *andaikan, andaikata, seandainya, sekiranya, seumpama*. To explain about the expectation: *agar, supaya, biar*. To explain about the clarify is *yang*. To explain about the point or the content are *bahwa, kalau(-kalau)*. To explain about the manner are *dengan, tanpa, sambil, seraya, sembari*. To explain about the excuse are *kecuali, selain*. And the last is to explain about the function: *untuk, guna, buat*.

Werner (2002: 108) explains the functions of conjunction. *And* is to show addition. *But* is to show contrast. *So* is to show result. *For* is to show reason. *Yet* is to show contrast. The last one is *or* which is to show choice. Those are the function of coordinating conjunction. The functions are different with conjunction in correlative conjunction. They are; *either... or* which is to show choice, *not only... but also* which is to show addition, *neither.... nor* which is to show negative addition, and *both... and* which is to show addition. Conjunction has many types which also have different functions in the sentence.

B. Discussion

The data analyze in this study are conjunctions which were used in the opinion columns of *Singgalang* newspapers. The opinion columns from 8 editions of *Singgalang* newspapers were taken as the source of data. Opinion columns that were collected were published during May 2013.

Conjunction Dan (And)

Analisan ide
cemerlang wartawan akan selaludibutuhkan untuk kesejahteraan masyarakat.
The analysis and the bright idea of journalist will always be needed to the prosperity of the society.

In this sentence, there is the conjunction “and (dan)” as coordinative conjunction. This conjunction is one of the coordinative conjunctions which were linking the two nouns in one idea. The nouns are “analysis (analisa)” with “idea (ide)”. This conjunction belongs to the coordinative conjunction because it links two similar grammatical forms which transform into a single grammatical unit (Klammer 2000:128).

Conjunction Karena (Because)

Kita
memperingati hari bumi, karena kita menyadari penting nyabumi untuk kehidupan kita.
We celebrate the earth day, because we realize the important of earth for our life.

The subordinate conjunction is found in the sentence above. The sentence “We celebrate the earth day” is independent sentence linked with the dependent sentence “We realize the important of earth for our life”.

Conjunction Tidakhanya/ tapi juga (Not only/ but also)

Perempuan tidakhanya menjadi anggota legislative yang
membahas politik, tapi juga sebagai media yang
mengaplikasikan segmen kehidupan lainnya.
Women are not only the politics discussing members of legislative, but also media implicating another segment of life.

The sentence above shows the use of correlative conjunction. “Not only... but also (tidakhanya... tapi juga)” is the one of correlative conjunctions. This conjunction links the syntactic units which have same grammatical form (Klammer 2000:129). In this case, the conjunction links the phrases “members of legislative” with “media implicating”.

Conjunction to show contrast concession.

Walaupun banyak guru diberitak tidak bisamenggunakan komputer dan internet, dalam beritanya tidak dijelaskan berapa jumlah guru yang masuk dalam kategori ini.
Eventhough many teachers are reported that they cannot use computer and internet. In that news, there was no explanation about the total number of teachers in this category.

The conjunction “even though (walaupun)” in the sentence above applies as subordinate conjunction. This conjunction have role to link the independent sentence “Many teachers are reported that they cannot use computer and internet” with the independent sentence “In that news, there was no explanation about the total number of teachers in this category”. This conjunction has a function to show contrast concession. The first fact is many teachers cannot use computer and internet and the journalist give additional fact which is different with the first fact,

there are many teacher cannot use computer and internet, but the total number is not mentioned.

Conjunction “and (dan)” as coordinating conjunction appears in order to links the word “computer” and “internet”. This conjunction roles as an additional and linker two nouns.

The frequency of the use of conjunction
in opinion column *Singgalang* newspapers

No	Types of conjunction	Frequency	
		Number	Percentage
1	Coordinative conjunction	52	50,98%
2	Subordinate conjunction	32	31,37%
3	Correlative conjunction	18	17,64%
Total		102	100%

From 92 sentences, 102 conjunctions were found. Coordinative conjunction is used 52 times (50,98%), subordinating conjunction is used 32 times (31,37%), and the correlative conjunction is used 18 times (17, 64%).

The coordinative conjunction is more frequently used in the opinion column because, in the opinion column, the opinion giver gave their opinion upon a fact. To link the fact with the other opinion, the writer tends to use subordinate conjunction. As Patmono (1993:18) says that a journalist has to be able to choose the certain words in newspaper. Those words will expand into sentences, and the sentences will expand into paragraph. From those paragraphs, the articles will establishes. The words in articles have to be arranged well and to be understandable for reader. There are three aspects in newspaper’s language; grammar, spelling, and choice of words. From the explanation above, conjunction has an important role in the expanding the words become an article. Conjunction is a part of grammar, and grammar is one of the criteria in writing articles. With the proper use of conjunction, the grammar in the article of a newspaper will be understandable to the readers.

C. Conclusion and Suggestion

The sentences in the opinion columns in *Singgalang* newspaper use three types of conjunction. They are coordinating conjunction, subordinating conjunction, and correlative conjunction. Each conjunction has different functions. The coordinating conjunction appeared 50,98%, the subordinating conjunction appeared 31,37%, and the correlative conjunction appeared 17,64%. From the data analysis, it can be concluded that the coordinating conjunction appeared more frequently than coordinating and correlative conjunction. It happened because the content of the opinion columns is a kind of argument about the fact that usually followed by the additional explanation about the fact. Most of the sentences usually used one fact which is connected with the explanation of the fact. This case is related to the coordinating conjunction that also connects two or more clauses in one sentence.

The writer recommended everybody who is interested in the study of conjunction to find another sources in order to found another types and function of conjunction. It is also suggested to use other theories concerning the classifications or types of conjunction in order to get more specific explanation about conjunction.

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