



Analyzing Modality in President Jokowi's 78th Anniversary State Speech at the Indonesian Parliament Building

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Abstract:

This article is aimed at analyzing the linguistic modality employed by President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) in a state speech on the occasion of the 78th Anniversary of the Republic Indonesia delivered at Indonesian Parliament Building. It specifically investigates the use of epistemic, deontic, and dynamic modality to unpack the nuances in Jokowi's language use and its political implications. The study reveals the ways in which Jokowi positions his language that are designed to shape particular images of Indonesians as imagined by the audience, his future vision for Indonesia: managing claims to certainty, obligation and possibility. This discourse-analysis also shows how the President uses these modes to emphasize common threads such as national unity, economy expansion, and national building. By conducting a systematic analysis of the rhetorical feature of Jokowi's speech, this article is expected to enlighten how Jokowi employs his communication forms in such a way that he can speak for everyone whatever sector or component they come from within Indonesia gives them both hope and aspiration.

Keywords: Modality; Political Speech; Critical Discourse Analysis; Speech; Jokowi.

Abstrak:

Artikel ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis modalitas linguistik yang digunakan oleh Presiden Joko Widodo (Jokowi) dalam pidato kenegaraan pada kesempatan hari ulang tahun ke-78 Republik Indonesia yang disampaikan di Gedung DPR RI. Secara khusus, artikel ini menyelidiki penggunaan modalitas epistemik, deontik, dan dinamis untuk mengungkap nuansa dalam penggunaan bahasa Jokowi dan implikasi politiknya. Kajian ini mengungkap cara-cara Jokowi memposisikan bahasanya yang dirancang untuk membentuk citra tertentu tentang orang Indonesia sebagaimana dibayangkan oleh audiens, visi masa depannya untuk Indonesia: mengelola klaim kepastian, kewajiban, dan kemungkinan. Analisis wacana ini juga menunjukkan bagaimana Presiden menggunakan mode-mode ini untuk menekankan benang merah seperti persatuan nasional, ekspansi ekonomi, dan pembangunan nasional. Dengan melakukan analisis sistematis terhadap fitur retorika pidato Jokowi, artikel ini diharapkan dapat mencerahkan bagaimana Jokowi menggunakan bentuk-bentuk komunikasinya sedemikian rupa sehingga ia dapat berbicara untuk semua orang dari sektor atau komponen mana pun mereka berasal di Indonesia yang memberi mereka harapan dan aspirasi.

Kata kunci: Modalitas; Pidato Politik; Analisis Wacana Kritik; Pidato; Jokowi.



INTRODUCTION

Speech is a form of oral communication used to convey ideas, views or messages to an audience. “SPEECH is so familiar a feature of daily life that we rarely pause to define it.”(Collinson et al., 1924). Speeches can take many forms, from political speeches delivered by leaders of countries to inspirational speeches spoken at motivational events. Speeches play an important role in a variety of contexts, including politics, education, religion and entertainment, as they are able to influence the thoughts, emotions and actions of an audience. One of the key elements of a speech is its purpose. Every speech has a specific purpose that the speaker wants to achieve. This purpose can vary, such as convincing, informing, entertaining, or motivating. For example, a political leader might give a speech to convince voters to support a certain policy, while a motivator gives a speech to inspire and encourage the audience.

The structure of a speech is also an important aspect. A speech generally consists of three main parts: the introduction, the body of the speech, and the conclusion. The introduction serves to grab the audience's attention, introduce the topic, and convey the purpose of the speech. The body of the speech is the core of the speech, where the speaker presents the argument or key points. This section is usually supplemented with evidence, facts, or concrete examples to support the message being conveyed. The use of strong language and good logic helps build the audience's trust in the speaker.

The conclusion of the speech acts as a summary and closure. The speaker should clearly summarize the main points, give a strong final impression, and perhaps ask a rhetorical question or give a call to action. Some good conclusion can leave a lasting impression on the audience. Speaking style or “delivery” is another element that affects the success of a speech. Intonation, rhythm, facial expressions and body language all contribute to communication effectiveness. A speaker who can manage their voice and gestures well will be better able to capture the attention and understanding of the audience. Word choice and rhetoric also play an important role in speeches. A speech that uses appropriate and effective language can be more memorable and affect the audience. The use of rhetorical figures, such as metaphors or analogies, can reinforce the message and make the speech more memorable. Time is also an important factor in speeches. It also should be mentioned that the speaker should manage time well so that it is neither too



long nor too short. Audience engagement can also be enhanced by providing opportunities for them to participate through questions or responses.

The audience's reaction is the measure of the speech's success. An effective speech will motivate, move, or stimulate the audience's thinking. A positive response from the audience can create an emotional connection between the speaker and the listener. Overall, speech is an art of speaking that involves word choice, good structure, and mesmerizing delivery. Speeches have the power to shape opinions, inspire change, and unite people. Therefore, speech skills are a valuable asset that can help a person succeed in any walk of life.

The author uses the Discourse analysis approach to analyze existing data. It is a research method and theoretical approach used in linguistics, sociology, anthropology, communication studies, and other fields to study written or spoken language in its social context. Inside DA there is also an approach called Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). This approach to discourse analysis is particularly concerned with uncovering hidden power relations, social inequalities, and ideologies embedded in language (Fairclough, 2017). Critical discourse analysts often aim to promote social change by raising awareness of these issues. In the realm of political discourse, the power of language to convey nuanced messages and influence public perception is undeniable.

Presidential speeches, with their eloquence and carefully crafted rhetoric, stand as powerful tools in the arsenal of leaders worldwide. Modality, as a linguistic concept, embodies a multifaceted tool with three primary dimensions: epistemic, deontic, and dynamic. These dimensions offer speakers the means to express their certainty, obligation, and ability, respectively. With that said, I hope we can gain some understanding on how does President Jokowi employ modality in his state speech to influence public perception and convey his vision for Indonesia's future? Through a systematic examination of linguistic elements, the article seeks to shed light on the strategic communication aspects of a key political address.

Previous studies exploring linguistic modality in political discourse have laid the groundwork for understanding how language shapes political communication. The author found that there are several previous studies that use the Discourse analysis approach to analyze political speech, here are the articles that the author found: "IDEOLOGY AND



POLITICAL DISCOURSE: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF ERDOGAN'S POLITICAL SPEECH” by Fatih Bayram. This article discusses about the way human perceive language as a foundation to individual and group relationship and how it's affecting our social construction. The author try to explain about identity realisation and background by the context of language use in a political discourse (Bayram, 2010). It's focuses on the discursive strategies of the Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan during a debate in the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2009 will be examined within the context of his ideological, cultural and language background. “Critical Discourse Analysis of Obama's Political Discourse” by Juraj Horváth. The article analyze the persuasive strategies of President Obama’s speech by using critical discourse analysis to reveal obama’s persuasive strategies (Horváth, 2009). This Article aims is particularly concerned with uncovering hidden power relations, social inequalities, and ideologies embedded in language. The author wants to find out whether there are hidden intentions or other meanings in the speech given by President Jokowi in the framework of the 78th Anniversary State Speech at the Indonesian Parliament Building.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Political Discourse Analysis

The author uses the Discourse analysis approach to analyze existing data. Discourse analysis (DA) is a research method and theoretical approach used in linguistics, sociology, anthropology, communication studies, and other fields to study written or spoken language in its social context. inside DA there is also approach called Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) This approach to discourse analysis is particularly concerned with uncovering hidden power relations, social inequalities, and ideologies embedded in language (Fairclough, 2017). Critical discourse analysts often aim to promote social change by raising awareness of these issues. In the realm of political discourse, the power of language to convey nuanced messages and influence public perception is undeniable. Presidential speeches, with their eloquence and carefully crafted rhetoric, stand as powerful tools in the arsenal of leaders worldwide. These addresses are not mere words;



they are instruments of statecraft, aimed at resonating with a diverse array of audiences, from citizens and dignitaries to the global community.

Modality

According to (Lillian, 2008) the term “modality” subsumes a range of concepts within the fields of philosophy, morphology, syntax, semantics, and discourse analysis. Modality, as a linguistic concept, embodies a multifaceted tool with three primary dimensions: epistemic, deontic, and dynamic. These dimensions offer speakers the means to express their certainty, obligation, and ability, respectively, shaping not only the content but also the tone and impact of their utterances. Thus, the analysis of modality within President Jokowi's state speech serves as a gateway to a deeper understanding of the art of political communication, shedding light on the strategies and implications that underlie this pivotal aspect of the Indonesian political landscape. In this article, we will explore the role of linguistic modality in conveying President Jokowi's vision for the nation's future, deciphering how these linguistic choices serve as tools of influence and persuasion in the realm of political rhetoric.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a qualitative descriptive approach to analyze linguistic modality in President Jokowi's 78th Anniversary State Speech at the Indonesian Parliament Building. Qualitative description is a research method that focuses on providing an in-depth, detailed account of a phenomenon while maintaining a naturalistic and minimally interpretive stance (Sandelowski, 2010). In the context of this analysis, qualitative description allows us to thoroughly examine the use of linguistic modality in the speech, with the aim of uncovering the intricacies and nuances of language choices made by the President.

The primary source of data is the full transcript of President Jokowi's state speech. This written text serves as the corpus for analysis. The choice of a full transcript provides a comprehensive dataset, ensuring that all linguistic elements within the speech are available for examination. Data Preparation: The text is carefully prepared, ensuring accurate transcription and verification. Non-verbal cues and context are documented to account for their potential impact on linguistic choices. Identification and Categorization:

Instances of modality are identified within the text and categorized into three primary dimensions: epistemic, deontic, and dynamic modality. These dimensions are distinguished based on linguistic markers and contextual cues.

The qualitative analysis involves a detailed examination of each modality instance, considering the surrounding context, rhetorical strategies, and implications of linguistic choices. The analysis seeks to uncover how modality is strategically employed in the speech to convey certainty, obligation, or ability, and how these linguistic choices contribute to the persuasive and communicative effectiveness of the speech. Interpretation: The findings from the qualitative analysis are interpreted to understand the role of modality in shaping the message and influencing the audience's perception. This interpretation takes into account the political and rhetorical context in which the speech was delivered. The use of qualitative description as the research method facilitates a rich and nuanced analysis of linguistic modality in President Jokowi's state speech, contributing to a deeper understanding of the art of political communication and its impact on the Indonesian political landscape.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Researchers found data from the speeches of President Jokowi's 78th Anniversary State Speech at the Indonesian Parliament Building

No.	Type of modality	Statement	Description
1.	Epistemic	" <i>Saya tahu ada yang mengatakan saya ini bodoh, plonga-plongo, tidak tahu apa-apa, tolol.</i> " "I know there are those who say I am stupid, plonga-plongo, ignorant, moron."	It reflects the level of confidence or non-confidence in the statement. The president stated that he "knows" that there are those who say negative things about him. Words like "stupid," "Ignorant," and "moron" are examples of the use of epistemic modality that indicate doubt or a negative attitude towards him.
2.	Deontic	" <i>Pilihan kebijakan akan semakin sulit sehingga dibutuhkan keberanian, dibutuhkan kepercayaan, untuk mengambil keputusan yang sulit dan keputusan yang tidak populer.</i> " "Policy choices will be increasingly difficult so it takes courage, it takes trust, to take difficult decisions and unpopular decisions."	It contains a deontic modality that refers to an expected or required action. It states that in the face of difficult policy choices, it takes courage and trust to make unpopular decisions. This suggests that there is an action that is required or expected in this context.

3.	Dynamic	<p><i>"Hilirisasi yang ingin kita lakukan adalah hilirisasi yang melakukan transfer teknologi, yang memanfaatkan sumber energi baru dan terbarukan, serta meminimalisir dampak lingkungan."</i></p> <p>"The downstream that we want to do is one that transfers technology, utilizes new and renewable energy sources, and minimizes environmental impacts."</p>	<p>Reflects dynamic modality, which focuses on the ability or opportunity to achieve certain goals. The president talked about plans to downstream natural resources, which reflects the ability to conduct technology transfer, utilize new energy sources, and reduce environmental impacts. This shows that there are opportunities to develop this sector of the economy by utilizing existing natural resources.</p>
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Epistemic Modality

"Posisi Presiden itu tidak nyaman yang dipersepsikan. Ada tanggung jawab besar yang harus diemban. Banyak permasalahan rakyat yang harus diselesaikan. Dan, dengan adanya media sosial seperti sekarang ini, apapun, apapun bisa disampaikan kepada Presiden. Mulai dari masalah rakyat di pinggiran, sampai kemarahan, sampai ejekan, bahkan makian dan fitnahan bisa dengan mudah disampaikan dengan media sosial. Saya tahu ada yang mengatakan saya ini bodoh, plonga-plongo, tidak tahu apa-apa, tolol. Ya ndak papa, sebagai pribadi saya menerima saja."

"The position of President is not as comfortable as it is perceived. There are great responsibilities that must be carried out. Many people's problems must be resolved. And, with the existence of social media like today, anything, anything can be conveyed to the President. Starting from the problems of the people in the periphery, to anger, to ridicule, even cursing and defamation can be easily conveyed with social media. I know there are those who say I am stupid, plonga-plongo, do not know anything, moron. That's okay, as a person I just accept it."

This statement reflects epistemic modality which indicates the level of belief or uncertainty in the statement. The president states that he knows that there are those who say negative things about him. In this case, "Know" indicates confidence that the statement does exist. Words like "Stupid," "Ignorant," and "Moron" are examples of the use of epistemic modality that indicate doubt or a negative attitude towards him.

"Saya juga sangat menghargai upaya MPR dalam memperkuat fondasi kebangsaan, meningkatkan pemahaman ideologi bangsa, mengkaji substansi dan bentuk hukum pokok haluan negara, serta menguatkan kerja sama internasional untuk berkontribusi pada pemecahan persoalan global."

"I also greatly appreciate the MPR's efforts in strengthening national foundations, improving understanding of the nation's ideology, reviewing the substance and form of the main law of state direction, and strengthening international cooperation to contribute to solving global problems."



When the President says, “I also greatly appreciate the MPR's efforts in strengthening national foundations,” he is expressing his belief or knowledge of the MPR's important role in strengthening the national foundation. This statement can be considered a way to build trust and support cooperation between state institutions.

Deontic Modality

“Tantangan kedepan tidaklah mudah. Pilihan kebijakan akan semakin sulit sehingga dibutuhkan keberanian, dibutuhkan kepercayaan, untuk mengambil keputusan yang sulit dan keputusan yang tidak populer. Oleh sebab itu menurut saya, pemimpin itu harus punya public trust karena kepercayaan adalah salah satu faktor penentu, bisa berjalan atau tidaknya suatu kebijakan, bisa diikuti atau tidaknya sebuah keputusan.”

“The challenges ahead are not easy. Policy choices will be increasingly difficult so it takes courage, it takes trust, to make difficult decisions and unpopular decisions. Therefore, in my opinion, leaders must have public trust because trust is one of the determining factors, whether or not a policy can be implemented, whether or not a decision can be followed.”

“The challenges ahead are not easy. Policy choices will be increasingly difficult so it takes courage, it takes trust, to make difficult decisions and unpopular decisions.” This statement contains a deontic modality that refers to an expected or required action. Here, it states that in the face of difficult policy choices, it takes courage and trust to take unpopular decisions. This suggests that there is an action that is required or expected in this context.

When the President states, “Leaders must have public trust because trust is one of the determining factors” he emphasizes the importance of public trust in leadership and suggests that leaders have a moral obligation to win the trust of the people. Furthermore, when the president states that leaders must have “public trust” and that public trust is a determining factor, this reflects a deontic modality that suggests the leader's moral obligation to win the people's trust. This statement highlights that having the public trust is not just a desire, but also a responsibility that a leader must assume.

“Kita tahu, berdasarkan International Institute for Management Development (IMD), daya saing kita di tahun 2022 naik dari ranking 44 menjadi 34. Ini merupakan, kenaikan ini merupakan kenaikan tertinggi di dunia. Pembangunan dari desa, pembangunan dari pinggiran dan daerah terluar yang pada akhirnya memmeratakan ekonomi kita dengan dana desa yang kita gelontorkan. Total mencapai Rp 539 triliun dari tahun 2015-2023.”



“We know, based on the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), our competitiveness in 2022 will rise from 44th to 34th. This is the highest increase in the world. Development from villages, development from the periphery and outermost regions that ultimately equalizes our economy with the village funds that we have distributed. The total reached Rp 539 trillion from 2015-2023.”

Statements such as “Development from villages, development from the periphery and outermost regions that ultimately equalizes our economy with the village funds that we have distributed” indicate the government's obligation to equalize development and economic justice by using village funds as a tool to achieve this goal.

Dynamic Modality

“Dan ini bisa kita lakukan melalui hilirisasi yang sudah ratusan kali saya sampaikan, puluhan kali saya sampaikan. Hilirisasi yang ingin kita lakukan adalah hilirisasi yang melakukan transfer teknologi, yang memanfaatkan sumber energi baru dan terbarukan, serta meminimalisir dampak lingkungan.”

“And we can do this through downstreaming, which I have said hundreds of times, dozens of times. The downstreaming that we want to do is downstreaming that transfers technology, utilizes new and renewable energy sources, and minimizes environmental impacts.”

“The downstreaming that we want to do is downstreaming that transfers technology, utilizes new and renewable energy sources, and minimizes environmental impacts.” This section reflects dynamic modality, which focuses on the ability or opportunity to achieve a specific goal. The President talks about the plan to downstream natural resources, which reflects the ability to transfer technology, utilize new energy sources, and reduce environmental impacts. This shows that there are opportunities to develop this sector of the economy by utilizing existing natural resources.

“Ini yang bolak balik saya sampaikan di setiap kesempatan. Bahwa Indonesia saat ini punya peluang besar untuk meraih Indonesia Emas di 2045, meraih posisi jadi 5 besar kekuatan ekonomi dunia. Kita punya kesempatan dan tidak hanya peluangnya saja.”

“Bonus demografi yang akan mencapai puncak di Tahun 2030-an adalah peluang besar kita untuk meraih Indonesia Emas 2045. 68 persen adalah penduduk usia produktif. Di sinilah kunci peningkatan produktivitas nasional kita.”

“Selanjutnya, peluang besar yang kedua adalah internasional trust yang dimiliki Indonesia saat ini, yang dibangun bukan sekedar melalui gimik dan retorika semata.”

“This is what I go back and forth on every occasion. That Indonesia currently has a great opportunity to achieve a Golden Indonesia in 2045, to



reach a position to become a top 5 world economic power. We have the opportunity and not only the chance.”

“The demographic bonus that will reach its peak in the 2030s is our great opportunity to achieve the Golden Indonesia of 2045. 68 percent of the population is of productive age. This is the key to increasing our national productivity.”

“Furthermore, the second great opportunity is the international trust that Indonesia currently has, which is built not just through mere gimmicks and rhetoric.”

When the President talks about “great opportunity” such as the demographic bonus and international trust, this reflects a dynamic modality that shows the evaluation of opportunities and the ability to take advantage of them.

While the above analysis describes the types of modality found in the text, it is important to remember that the text is a speech or rhetoric that also contains elements of persuasion, influence and emphasizing certain messages. Modality is used to influence listeners and emphasize certain messages, and this is important in the context of political speeches and public communication.

CONCLUSION(S)

In analyzing linguistic modality in President Jokowi's 78th Anniversary State Speech at the Indonesian Parliament Building, we have delved into the intricacies of language use in a significant political address. The qualitative descriptive approach allowed us to explore the nuances of linguistic modality—specifically, epistemic, deontic, and dynamic dimensions—in the speech. Through this analysis, we have gained insights into how President Jokowi strategically employed modality to convey messages of certainty, obligation, and ability, shaping the overall impact of his address.

The findings reveal that modality was an essential rhetorical tool, enabling the President to not only express his vision for Indonesia but also to influence public perception and garner support. His use of epistemic modality reflected a sense of confidence in the conveyed information, while deontic modality conveyed a sense of obligation and necessity. The dynamic modality dimension showcased his focus on ability and potential, particularly regarding the nation's future. This analysis underscores the importance of linguistic choices in the realm of political communication. The President's ability to harness the power of language and modality is a testament to the art of persuasion



and influence. The impact of these linguistic strategies extends beyond mere words; they play a pivotal role in shaping the political landscape, building public trust, and conveying a vision for the nation's future. As we conclude, it is evident that linguistic modality serves as a vital tool in the arsenal of political leaders, and its strategic use can significantly affect the effectiveness of their communication. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the role of language in politics, shedding light on how linguistic choices can shape perceptions and contribute to the art of persuasive rhetoric in the Indonesian political context.

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