THE DISCOURSE OF AHOK`S INDEPENDENCY IN JAKARTA GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION: A STUDY OF APPRAISAL

THESIS

Written by:

SITI FITRIAH
NIM 120110101077

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2016

THE DISCOURSE OF AHOK`S INDEPENDENCY IN JAKARTA GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION: A STUDY OF APPRAISAL

THESIS

Presented to the English Department,

Faculty of Humanities, Jember University as One of the Requirements

To get the Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree in English Studies

Written by:

SITI FITRIAH
NIM 120110101077

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2016

## DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

- My beloved father, Mulyadi, my beloved mother, Maryati, and both of my beloved sisters, Siti Nurul Aini and Siti Zulfa Agustin, who never give up to support me throughout my life.
- Beloved man, Muh. Hisam, who always motivates me to work hard and never surrender in doing everything.
- All of my precious friends: Hanifa, Ismi, Tanti, Ajeng, Feny, Umay, Anggun and all of my friends in English Department 2012.
- My Alma Mater.

MOTTO

" you are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream"

Lewis Carrol
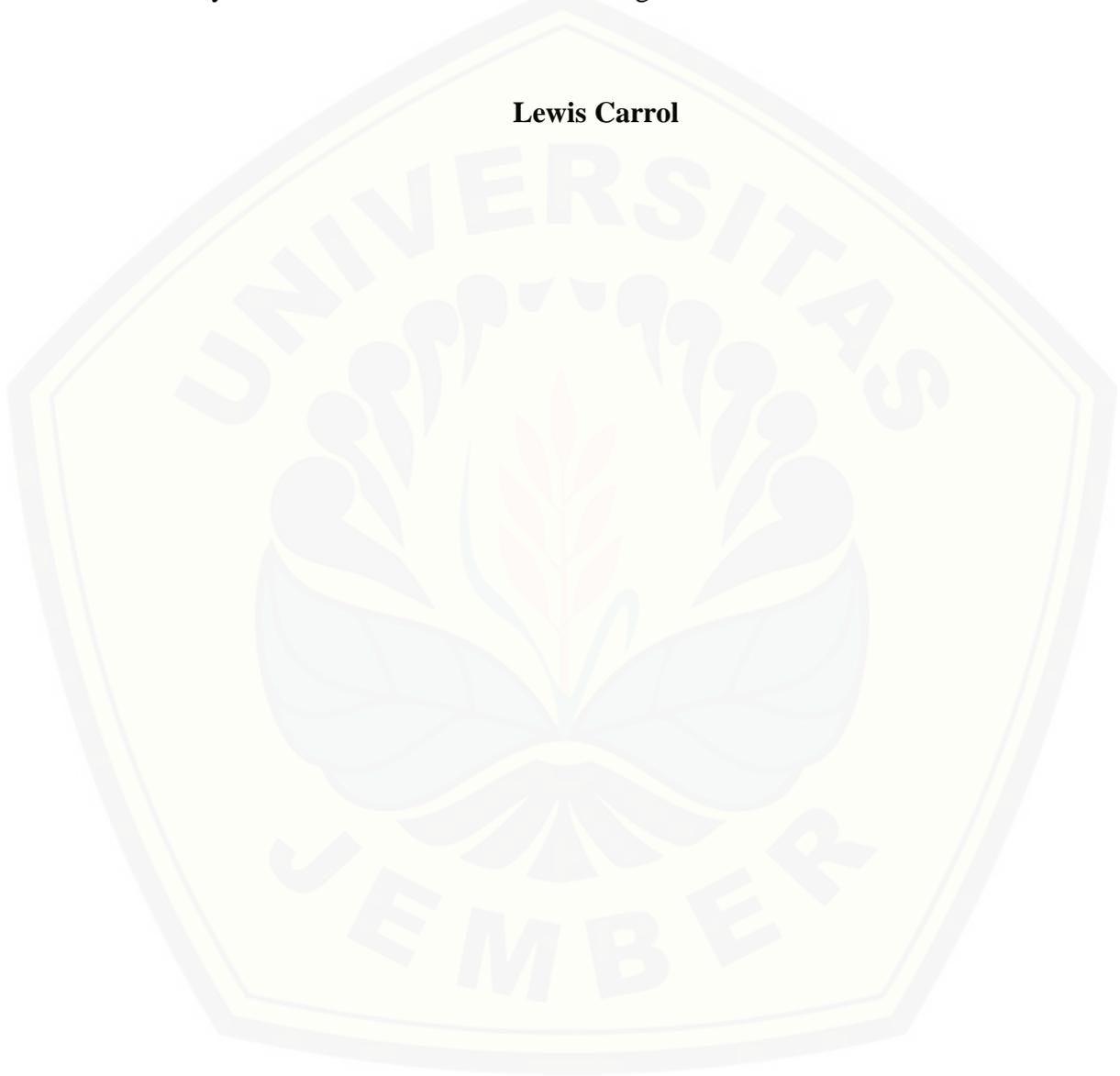
DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled **The Discourse of Ahok`s Independency in Jakarta Gubernatorial Election: A Study of Appraisal** is an original piece of writing. I declare that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publication. I certify to the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember,

The Writer,

Siti Fitriah

120110101077

APPROVAL SHEET

Approved and received by the Examination Committee of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Jember University.

Jember,

Examination Committee

Chairman   Secretary

Drs. Albert Tallapessy, M.A., Ph.D   Hadi Sampurna, S.S., M.A.
NIP. 196304111988021001   NIP.197601192008011005

The Members:

1. Prof. Dr. Samudji, M.A.   (.....................................)
   NIP. 194808161976031002

2. Indah Wahyuningsih, S.S., M.A   (....................................)
   NIP. 196801142000122001

Approved by

The Dean

(Prof. Dr. Akhmad Sofyan, M.Hum.)
NIP. 196805161992011001

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All praises to the highest and the Almighty God to whom I ask and pray for his blessing and mercies so that I can finish my study. In this apportunity, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to those who have given me a great help and contributions in supporting my study. Thanks to:

1. Prof. Dr. Akhmad Sofyan, M.Hum., the Dean of Faculty of Humanities, and Dra. Supiastutik, M.pd., the Head of English Department for the chance to accomplish this thesis;

2. Drs. Albert Tallapessy, M.A., Ph.D., my first advisor and Hadi Sampurna, S.S., M.A., my second advisor who have given me advice, guidance and nutritional discussions along the writing of this research;

3. All of the lecturers of the English Department who have taught me precious knowledge;

4. The librarians of Faculty of Humanities and the Central Library of Jember University.

Every mistake in this thesis belongs to my being common creature. Hopefully, this research contributes to the development in English language.

Jember,   Siti Fitriah

SUMMARY

The Discourse of Ahok`s Independency in Jakarta Gubernatorial Election: A Study of Appraisal; Siti Fitriah, 120110101077; 2016: 60 pages; English Departmen Faculty of Humanities, Jember University.

The research analyses about the discourse of Ahok`s independency which is announced at 7 of March 2016. Ahok`s independency occurs because of the dissatisfaction of reform-minded young people who are united as *Teman Ahok* (the term of volunteers) upon political parties which mostly cannot be relied anymore. Therefore, *Teman Ahok* escorts Ahok to run as an independent candidate in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election. Spountaneously, the decision creates many reactions from many sources whether they agree or disagree, endorse or criticize upon this event. Hence, the researcher selects three electronic newspapers: The Jakarta Post, Jakarta Globe, and Giv News, to reveal the attitude of the journalists in presenting the news about Ahok`s independency.

The main goal of this research is to uncover the real attitude of the journalists in presenting the news. Therefore, there are two questions designed to achieve the goal. First, to find out how the language reflects the attitude of the journalists. Second, to find out how the journalists express their attitude toward the readers. In order to answer these questions, the researcher applies Appraisal theory which is proposed by Martin and White (2005). This theory focuses on analysing the feeling or emotional reaction of the journalists through the three elements of appraisal theory: Attitude, Engagement and Graduation.

The results of the selected data: *The Jakarta Post, Jakarta Globe, and Giv News* reveal that the journalists mostly use aknowledgment, judgment, force and focus in presenting the news. The journalists mostly apply aknowledgment through engaging the external voice in order to hide their attitude upon the readers and also to strengthen their opinion upon the proposition which is being discussed. Under judgment which deals with moral assessment of behaviour, the

journalists apply positive and negative judgment through *adjective, modal adjunct, verb, noun phrase, and adverbs.* Under force sub-category which deals with the degree of evaluation, the journalists use intensification and quantification which belong to median and high-scaled in order to enhance the reader`s agreement upon the information which is presented in the news. Meanwhile, under focus, the journalists only use sharpening in high-scaled in order to strengthen their alingment or disalingment in presenting the news. In more specific, according to the results of each data, The Jakarta Post through its lexical choice mostly shared the word *risky, dismiss, pressure, not easy, a lot at stake,* in describing Ahok`s independency which relate to a criticism of the journalist upon Ahok`s independency. Conversely, in Jakarta Globe and Giv News, the journalists mostly employed the lexical choice through the word *leading compared, accesible, the most popular, against political parties, ideal leader* which relate to the agreement of the journalists upon the decision of Ahok.

Thus, it can be concluded that through mass media, the journalists want to share their opinion to the readers about this heated news of Ahok`s independency. However, the way of transfering the opinion is not in explicit way. Therefore, as a reader, we have to read the news in a critical way so that we can comprehend what is actually behind the language used.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

The main aim of this research is to investigate the three articles from different media sources in order to know the intended meaning of the journalists toward the discourse of Ahok's independency in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election. In order to get a clear discussion, this chapter provides the background of study, research topic, research problem, research questions, and the goals of study.

1.1 The Background of study

The heating up of the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election will potentially disrupt some political parties since "Ahok" Basuki Thahja Purnama, the current governor, announced to run as an independent candidate in 7 of March 2016. It began when *Teman Ahok* the term of volunteer of Ahok is afraid that the political parties will not nominate Ahok as a candidate if Ahok chooses to run under political parties. Moreover, political parties often break its decision in sudden time. Hence, *Teman Ahok* decided to escort Ahok as an independent candidate by collecting one million identities cards of Jakarta citizen to fulfill the requirement of General Election Commission (KPU).

However in 27 of July 2016, Ahok changed his mind to be an independent candidate. He accepted political partie`s offer to run with them instead. This decision spountaneously surprised *Teman Ahok*, as the volunteers who collected the identity`s cards of Jakarta citizenship. Additionally, this transition decision emphasizes that politics cannot be predicted and surprising. Eventhough Ahok does not run as an independent candidate, the discourse of Ahok`s independency ever existed in the political field in Indonesia and heated political movement at that time. Thus, this is interesting to know the real evaluation of mass media when Ahok announced to be an independent candidate in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election, because this happening rarely happens in the political movement in Indonesia.

This study focuses on electronic newspapers related to the announcement of Ahok`s independency in 7 of March 2016. In this study, the information is

collected to scrutinize how Indonesian electronic newspapers portrayed the heated political movement toward Ahok`s independency. In order to get a clear discussion, the researcher decides to collect three articles from different sources to construe the main point of each journalists in expressing their attitude upon Indonesian mass media readers. The three articles are collected from online mass media: The Jakarta Post, entitled: *Ahok thumbs nose at politicians by going solo*, Jakarta Globe, entitled: *Basuki`s decision to run as independent a lethal blow for political partiest: researcher*, and Giv News, entitled: *The reason why Ahok chose to run as an independent contestant in Jakarta.* These articles are collected from electronic newspapers posted between 8-11 March, 2016, after Ahok announced that he chose to run independently by getting support from his volunteers (*Teman Ahok*).

Furthermore, in order to evaluate the articles clearly, Appraisal theory which is proposed by Martin and White (2005) is conducted. Appraisal theory is the extension of interpersonal meaning which is part of systemic functional linguistics (henceforth SFL). It is used to evaluate the emotional reaction (affect), evaluating behaviour (judgement) evaluating aesthetics (appreciation) as well as dialogistics backdrop and gradability (Martin and White, 2005:35). Appraisal itself concerns in evaluating the subjective stance of speaker or writer about a certain object or event which is presented and with whom they communicate (Martin and White, 2005: 1). In other words, this theory is used to evaluate how the writers`s emotion or feeling about certain object or event, and how they agree or disagree, endorse or criticize upon the object itself.

In more specific, appraisal concerns in three interacting domains: Attitude (the way how person expressing his feeling), engagement (the way how the authorial voice incorporates the additional voices in the discourse to support his opinion and to implicitly stated that he stands upon the proposition which is being advanced in the text) and graduation (adjusting the degree of evaluation).

1.2 Research Topic

The object of this research is three articles from three different sources: The Jakarta Post, entitled: *Ahok thumbs nose at politicians by going solo*, Jakarta Globe, entitled: *Basuki`s decision to run as independent a lethal blow for political partiest: researcher,* and Giv News, entitled: *The reason why Ahok chose to run as an independent contestant in Jakarta.* Since this research is used to reveal the journalist`s attitude about Ahok`s independency toward mass media readers, the three elements of appraisal theory are applied in this reserach.

1.3 Research Problem

The heated political movement happened since Ahok decided to run independently by getting support from his volunteers `*Teman Ahok`.* This event spountaneously may disrupt the image of political parties and made a various comments from public about Ahok`s independency. Therefore, the analysis of appraisal theory is applied in this research in order to investigate the linguistics features in the three articles from different sources which were applied by the journalists. Specifically, appraisal theory refers to evaluate how the journalists express their attitude and how they position themselves whether they agree or disagree, criticise or endorse about Ahok`s independency in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election toward mass media readers.

1.4 Research Questions

In order to get a clear discussion, the research questions are composed as follows:

    a. How does the language reflect the attitude of the journalists?

    b. How do the journalists express their attitude toward their readers?

1.5 The Goals of study

In this case, the goals of the study are composed to answer the research questions above.

    a. to examine how language reflects the attitude of the journalists

    b. to investigate how the journalists express their attitude toward their readers

CHAPTER. 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter discusses about some theories that are applied in this research. The main theory which is used to analyse this research is appraisal theory, and it concerns in evaluating the attitude of the journalists in the articles.

2.1 Previous Research

In this sub-chapter, there are two previous researches as the guidance of this research. The first previous research is a journal which is written by Hai bin-Wu (2013) from Guangdong Polytechnic college, Guangzou, China, entitled: *Appraisal perspective on attitudinal analysis of public service advertising discourse*. This journal focuses on analysing the attitudinal meaning of public services advertisements by using appraisal theory as a tool to investigate the linguistic system in the object. In specific, this journal investigates the three sub key systems of attitude: affect, jugdement and appreciation which are mostly observed than engagement and graduation. Meanwhile, in this research, the three elements of appraisal are applied in order to reveal the journalist`s point of view about Ahok`s independency. Moreover, the result of this journal is that the judgement mostly appeared in the text rather than affect and appreciation. It means that the public service advertising discourse concerns in human behaviour instead of emotional field (Wu, 2013:64).

The next previous research is also a journal which is written by Sudrutai Arunsirot (2012) from Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, entitled: *The use of appraisal theory to analyze Thai newspapers commentaries*. In this case, he focuses on construing the attitudinal commentator by using appraisal theory as a tool to analyse the lexical items in the electronic newspapers. More specifically, he only concerns in evaluating the attitude and graduation in analysing the text. Meanwhile, in this research, the three elements of appraisal are applied in order to reveal the journalist`s point of view about Ahok`s independecny. Moreover, the result of this journal is that the writer uses both positive and negative emotional response toward the event which is discussed. However, the negative emotional response is mostly dominant rather than the positive one. It means that, the

4

reaction of thai newspapers upon the disruption of the ASEAN summit on April 11, 2009 is negative (Arunsirot, 2012:71).

2.2 SFL (Systemic Functional Linguistic)

SFL or systemic functional linguistics is the study of language use in spoken or written text which is proposed by Halliday and others. In the SFL area, there are three fundamental components of meaning called metafunction; ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning and textual meaning. These meanings are located in the semantic stratum. In addition, Ideational meaning refers to how language represents the world. It enables people to construct their experience by considering a mental picture of reality of what is going on around them (Halliday and Matthiessen, 1999: 7). Interpersonal meaning deals with the interaction between people, how they exchange the information and how they negotiate their attitude to each other (Halliday and Matthiessen, 1999: 7). Meanwhile, textual meaning concerns in organizing both ideational meaning and interpersonal meaning as a discourse in order to make a coherent meaning (Halliday and Matthiessen, 1999: 7).

Moreover, in order to get the meaning much clearer, the context of situation is considered. According to Halliday and Hasan (1985:12) there are three elements of context: field, tenor and mode. Field refers to setting in which the language is taking place. Tenor refers to the relationship between people and mode refers to the role of language which is used to interact with people (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:12). Besides that, in accordance to the modal of language, there are five strata of language: context, semantic, lexicogrammar, phonology, and phonetic, in which context is placed in the first scale of the four remaining (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004:24-25). It means that without context the meaning of the text will be vague. As citing in Eggins (2004:52), Firth wrote:

> "Learning to say what the other fellow expects us to say under the given circumstances, Once someone speaks to you, you are in a relatively determined context and you are not free just to say what you please" (Firth, 1935/57:28).

From the quotation above, it can be infered that when you have a conversation with your friend, fellow or someone else, you have to determine the context of the topic that the adresser is talking about, because without context, you will not understand what exactly means by the adresser.

2.3 Register

Register is a concept of meaning (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:38). It is used to understand the context of situation that is constructed through the variation of language. For example; the language which is used by man to the doctor will be different to the language which is used by woman, young person or old person. It means that the variation of language will construct certain aspect of situation: field, tenor and mode. Field refers to what is going on, to where the social action is taking place (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:12). In the semantic level, it is realized as ideational meaning. Tenor refers to the relationship between participants, how they exchange the information to each other cross status and role, and how they negotiate their attitude in regard to construct temporary or permanent relationship (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:12). In the semantic level, it is realized as interpersonal meaning. Mode refers to the role of language which is used to interact with people (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:12). In the semantic level, it is realized as textual meaning

In accordance to the appraisal system, tenor is the most valuable to this research. Tenor is the projection of interpersonal meaning which positions language as not the representation of reality, but it is also a reflection and action which is used to interact with people to make a good relationship (Halliday and Hasan, 1985:20). How we feel about something, it will be reflected to the language that we produce when we do the interaction.

2.4 Appraisal

Appraisal is a theory which focuses on semantic system. This theory is the extension of interpersonal meaning which concerns in evaluating the attitude of the writers or speakers (Martin and White, 2005:1). It is used to evaluate the subjective stance of the journalists and how they position themselves whether they

6

agree or disagree, endorse or criticise toward the object which they present. In more specific, it can be analysed through the three domains of appraisal theory; Attitude, Engagement and Graduation.

Attitude is concerned with feeling, emotional reaction, jugdement behaviour and evaluating things (Martin and White, 2005:35). Engagement is concerned with the way how the authorial voice incorporates the additional voices in the text in order to strengthen the opinion and to implicitly stated that he stands upon the proposition which is being advanced in it (Martin and White, 2005:35). Graduation is concerned with gradability. It refers to strengthen or to weaken the statement (Martin and White, 2005:35). Finally, each domains of appraisal will be explained clearly in the following pages.

Attitude is divided into three elements: affect, judgment, and appreciation. Affect deals with evaluating emotions or feeling whether negative or positive (Martin and White, 2005:43). Jugdement deals with evaluating ethics, behaviour or what do people say or believe in (Martin and White, 2005:52). Appreciation deals with evaluating aesthetics toward object and how it gives value to a certain thing (Martin and White, 2005:56).

Moreover, Engagement is divided into monoglossia and heteroglossia. Monoglossia is a bare assertion which does not have any acknowledgement from the external voice. While, heteroglossia is a text which is used to engage with the external voice in order to support the writer`s statement in the text (Martin and White, 2005:102).

Finally, graduation is divided into force and focus. force refers to intensity or amount which is used to grade the quality and entities of the evaluation text (Martin and White, 2005:152). On the other hand, focus itself refers to prototypicality which is used to elaborate the phenomenon which is scaled the degree of semantic category (Martin and White, 2005:137). To give a big picture of appraisal theory, the outline of appraisal is presented as below:
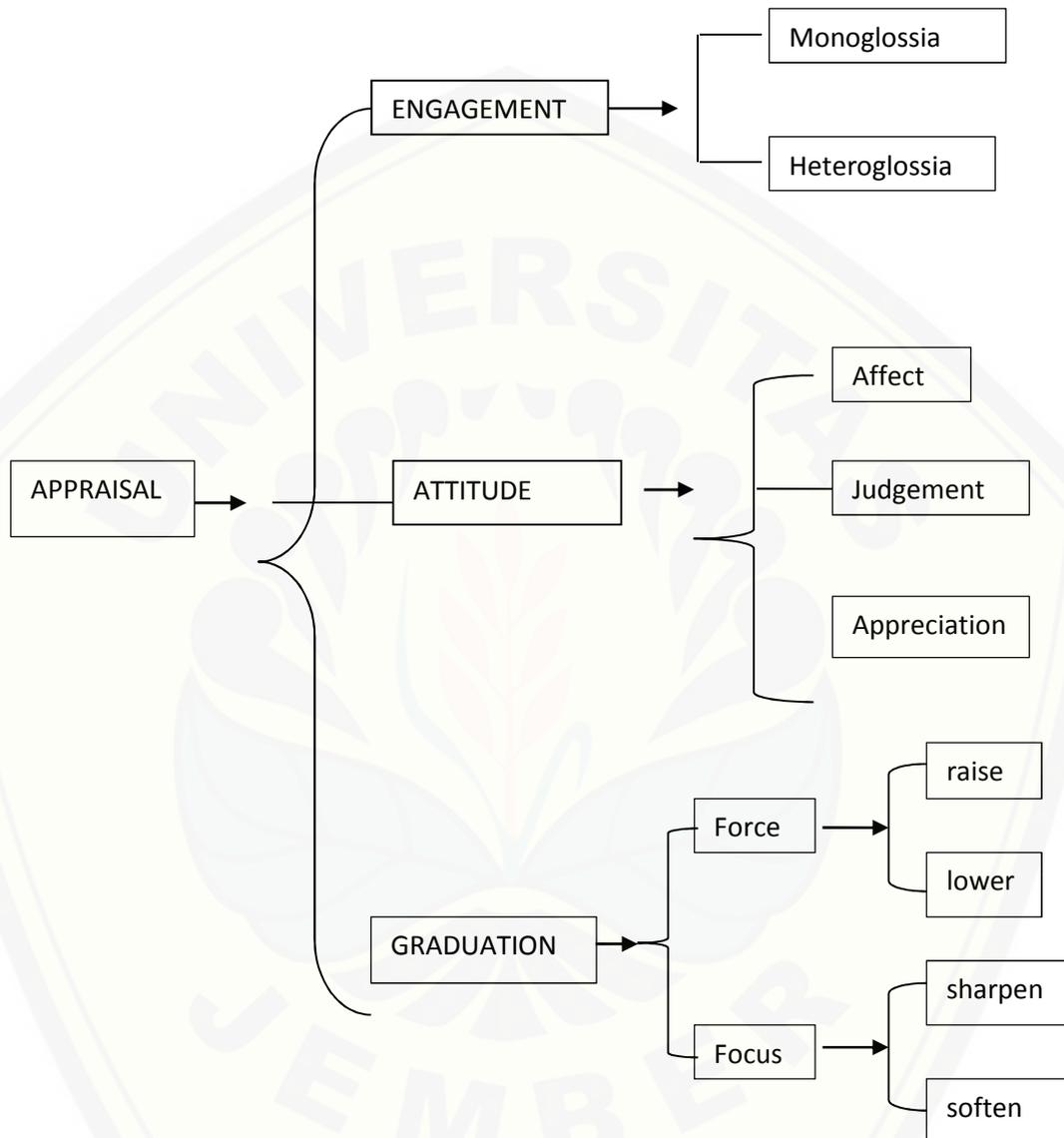
Martin and White (2005:38)

Figure 1. an outline of appraisal framework

2.4.1 Attitude

Attitude is concerned with feeling, emotional reaction, jugdement behaviour and evaluating things (Martin and White, 2005:35). Attitude is divided into three key sub-categories: affect, judgement and appreciation. Affect deals with evaluating emotions or feeling whether negative or positive. For example feeling sad or happiness toward event or anything else. Jugdement deals with evaluating ethics, behaviour or what do people say or believe in. For example, criticism toward govermental policy. Appreciation deals with evaluating aesthetics toward object and how it gives value to a certain thing. For example, admire to something (Martin and White, 2005:43). To get the explanantion much clearer, the elaboration of attitude sub-categories will be explained as follows:

2.4.1.1 Affect

As what has been discussed above (Martin and White, 2005:43), affect deals with evaluating emotions or feeling whether negative or positive. In grammatical structure, it is comprised into quality, process and comment (Martin and White, 2005:46). Affect as quality refers to give the attribution to the participant (attribute) (e.g.the captain was sad), describing partincipant (epithet) (e.g.a sad captain) and gives a manner of process (circumstance) (e.g.the captain left sadly). Affect as process refers to mental and behavioural process. A mental process is a process of affection: love, enjoy, like, fear, regret and etc. While, behavioural process is a process of behaving: cry, laugh, smile and etc. Affect as comment is part of modal adjunct which provides additional information. For example: sadly, he had to go.

Affect itself also construes the negative and positive feeling. For example, feeling happy and sad, confident or anxious, interested or bored and etc. (Martin and White, 2005:42). In further, affect is also realised through emotion types: dis/inclination, un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfaction. Dis/inclination is a term which is used to analyze fear and desire. It is used to describe the direct action of fear and desire (Martin and White, 2005:48). In/security deals with insecurity and security. It refers to the feeling of peace and anxiety (Martin and White, 2005:49). Un/happiness is a term which is used to analyse unhappiness and

happiness. It is used to describe the feeling of sad or happy and the possibility of direct action by liking or disliking it (Martin and White, 2005:49). Dis/satisfaction deals with dissastisfaction and satisfaction. It refers to the feeling of achievement and frustation (Martin and White, 2005:50).

To identify the emotion types, it will be categorised into positive and negative affect as follows:

Table 1. Affect

Affect	Positive	Negative
dis/inclination	miss, yearn	wary, fearful, terrifying
un/happiness	like, love, cheerful	hate, unhappy,sad
in/security	confident, comfortable	anxious, uneasy
dis/satisfaction	satisfied, pleased	bored, angry

2.4.1.2 Judgement

Judgement refers to attitudinal evaluation which is used to evaluate human behavior whether negative or positive based on social norms (Martin and White, 2005:52). In general terms, judgement is divided into two sub categories: social esteem and social sanction. Social esteem deals with the oral culture, such as: chatting, gossip, jokes, and various kind of stories (Martin and White, 2005:52) While social sanction deals with the written text, such as: edicts, decrees, rules, regulations and laws about construing our behaviour as a surveillance under church and state (Martin and White, 2005:52).

The realisation of social esteem can be identified through analysing of its sub categories: normality, capacity and tenacity. According to Martin and White (2005: 53), normality refers to how special someone is, capacity refers to how capable someone is, and tenacity refers to how dependable someone is. In analysing these sub-categories, it would be advisable to place them into two categories: positive (admire) and negative (criticise). The same like affect, judgement also has its positive and negative evaluation. The example of the sub-categories will be drawn as the table below:

10

Table 2. judgement – social esteem

Social Esteem	Positive (admire)	Negative (criticise)
Normality	lucky, fortunate	unlucky, obscure
Capacity	powerful,vigorous	mild, weak
Tenacity	plucky, brave	timid, cowardly

On the other hand, the realisation of social sanction can be identified through analysing its sub categories: veracity and propriety. According to Martin and White (2005:53), veracity deals with how honest someone is and propriety deals with how ethical someone is. In analysing these categories, it would be advisable to place them into positive (praise) and negative (condemn). The example of these sub categories will be drawn as the table below:

Table.3 Judgement – social sanction

Social sanction	Positive (praise)	Negative (condemn)
Veracity	truthful, honest	dishonest, deceitful
Propriety	good, moral	bad, immoral

2.4.1.3 Appreciation

Appreciation deals with evaluating aesthetics toward object and how it gives value to a certain thing (Martin and White, 2005:56). In general terms, appreciation is divided into three sub systems: reaction, composition and valuation. The same like affect and judgement, appreciation also has negative and positive evaluation rather than grading the evaluation into high, median and low. According to Martin and White (2005:56), reaction deals with how people react to something, composition deals with balance and complexity, and valuation deals with how people give value to things. Moreover, in grammatical term, as what stated by Eggins in Martin and White (2005: 57-58), the sub types of appreciation are just like a mental process. reaction is related to affection (emotion),

11

composition is related to perception (point of view) and valuation is related to cognition (opinion). Finally, here are the examples of reaction, composition, and valuation.

Table.4 types of appreciation

	Positive	Negative
reaction	arresting, fine, good	dull, boring, bad
composition	balanced, elegant, simple	unbalanced, unclear
valuation	penetrating, innovative	shallow, reductive

2.4.2 Engagement

Engagement is concerned with the way how the authorial voice incorporates the additional voices in the text in order to strengthen the opinion and to implicitly stated that he stands upon the proposition which is being advanced in it (Martin and White, 2005:35). It focuses on analysing the utterences of the speaker or writer because utterences are seen as the representation of people attitude. More specifically, engagement deals with the notion of dialogism in which all verbal communication whether spoken or written is a dialogic (Martin and White, 2005:92). In this case, engagement refers to how people standing as against, undecided or as neutral toward others attitude. It is used to engage the authorial voice with the external voice in the current context. Moreover, in general terms, engagement is divided into monoglossia and heteroglossia. Monoglossia is a bare assertion which does not have any acknowledgement from the external voice. While heteroglossia is a text which is used to engage with the external voice to support the statement in the text (Martin and White, 2005:102).

2.4.2.1 Heteroglossia

Heteroglossia is a term which recognizes the dialogistic alternative or in grammatical term, it is known as reported speech. Heteroglossia is divided into two kinds: contractive and expansive. Contractive refers to challenge the dialogically alternative position and voices while expansive refers to allow the dialogically alternative positions and voices (Martin and White, 2005: 103).

2.4.2.1.1 Dialogically Contractive

Dialogically contractive is divided into two kinds: disclaim and proclaim. Disclaim is also divided into two elements: deny and counter (Martin and White, 2005:117). Deny refers to negation or something you may reject. It can be identified through the word "no, never, didn't " ect. Meanwhile, counter is similar with deny but specifically it is indirect way. Counter can be identified through conjunctions and connective such as; though, eventhough, although, however, but and so on.

On the other hand, proclaim is divided into concur, pronounce and endorse (Martin and White, 2005:121). Concur refers to something that the speaker or writer agrees with or has the same idea. It can be identified through such locutions such as: of course, naturally, not supprisingly, admittedly and so on. Endorsement places the external voice as undeniable and valid data. It can be identified by investigating the verb process such as: show, prove, demonstrate, find , point out and etc. Pronouncement covers authorial interventions. For example: I contend..., the facts of the matter are that..., and so on (Martin and white, 2005).

2.4.2.1.2 Dialogically Expansive

Dialogically expansive is divided into two elements: entertain and attribute. Entertain refers to proposition which deals with likelihood (Martin and White, 2005:104). It identifies the probability via modal auxiliaries such as: may, might, could, must etc, and via modal adjunct such as: perhaps, probably, definitely, etc, and via modal attributes such as: it`s possible that......, it`s likely that......, etc, and via circumstance such as: in my view...., and via certain mental verb or attribute projections such as: I suspect that....., I think, I believe, and so on (Martin and White, 2005: 105).

On the other hand, attribute deals with mentioning the external source to strengthen the internal voice. In grammatical term, it is known as direct and indirect reported speech. In further, it is divided into two kinds: acknowledge and distance. Acknowledge deals with reported speech and citation. It identifies the reported verb such as: say, report, state, declare, announce, believe and think

(Martin and White, 2005: 112). Finally, distance is actually much similiar with acknowledge but the difference is it is used a verb which may give a powerful statement. For example: the using of verb " claim" rather than "say, demand and etc.

2.4.3 Graduation

Graduation is concerned with gradability (Martin and White, 2005:35). It is used to grade the attitude and engagement systems in term of greater degree or lesser degree whether in positive or negative evaluation (Martin and White, 2005:135). In other words, it deals with up-scaling and down-scaling. Up-scaling is defined as how strong the statement is while down-scaling refers to define the degree of the statement is low. More specifically, graduation operates two elements of scalability: intesity or amount and prototypicality. Intensity or amount deals with identifying the assesment of gradability whether negative or positive evaluation in term of size, vigour, extent, proximity and so on (Martin and White, 2005:137). Prototypicality on the other hand deals with the phenomenon which is scaled by the degree of semantic category. For example via locution (true, real, genuine and so on) to signify the sharpening statement, and also via locution such as (kind of, of sorts) to signify the marginal membership of category or softening the statement (Martin and White, 2005:137). Furthermore, in general terms, graduation is divided into two kinds: focus and force.

2.4.3.1 Focus

Focus itself refers to prototypicality which is used to elaborate the phenomenon which is scaled the degree of semantic category (Martin and White, 2005:137). Focus refers to up scale or `sharpen` the evaluation text in order to know the greater degree of the evaluation text by signifying prototypicality(e.g. a real father, a true father) and it also refers to down scale `soften` in order to know the lesser degree of the evaluation text by signifyng the marginal category (e.g. They are kind of crazy).

The instances of sharpening above (e.g. a real father, a true father) are strongly aligned to positive category and the effect is to indicate the strong

14

assessment of the writer or speaker either positive or negative to the news which is being advanced. Then, it is used to drive the reader to be agreed to the news which is presented (Martin and White, 2005:139). Conversely, the instances of softening above (e.g. they are <u>kind of</u> crazy) are portraying for the negative assessment. The effect is to indicate the lessening value of the text which is made by the writer or speaker.

2.4.3.2 Force

On the other hand, force refers to intensity or amount which is used to grade the quality and entities of the evaluation text (Martin and White, 2005:152). The degree of intensity or intensitifacation is used to elaborate the quality or process of text by using such locutions: slightly, extremely, very and etc. In grammatical term, intensification is realised through, isolated lexeme (e.g.slightly, greatly), semantic infusion (e.g.happy), repitition (e.g. laughed, laughed, laughed) and figurative (e.g. crystal clear) and non-figurative (e.g. very clear) (Martin and White, 2005: 148).

Meanwhile, in term of amount or quantification, it is used to elaborate the entities of evaluation text by using such locutions: few, many, small, large and so on. (Martin and White, 2005:141). Force of quantification is used to signify the amount such as: size, weight, strenght, number etc. Also, the extent in the scope of time and space such as: how long lasting, how near and so on.

2.5 The Heating Up of the 2017 Jakarta Gubernatorial Election

In 7 of March 2016, Ahok, the incumbent Jakarta governor, announced himself to run as an independent candidate in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election which is backed by his volunteers *Teman Ahok*. Spontaneously, this decision potentially disrupt the image of political parties which gradually lose its credibility and integrity in public eye and heated the political movement at that moment. It happened when the volunteers of Ahok persuaded Ahok to take a brave decision to accept the offer of *Teman Ahok* to run as an independent candidate, because they were afraid if Ahok chose to run under political parties,

the political parties will not nominate him, because it often breaks its decision in sudden time.

According to Oxford dictionary, independent is a term which is used to describe the candidate or parliament that is not backed by political parties. Thereby, Independent is such a criticism toward political parties which cannot be relied on and often upset the society by its huge promises during campign. Then, the constitution of independent is created. As it is stated in the law number 12 of 2008 in article 59 and clause 1 about a pair candidate can be backed by a gorup of society. In other words, the candidate who is backed by group of society is known as an independent candidate. This constitution is actually created to change the law number 32 of 2004 which states that a pair of candidate only can be backed by political parties which have fullfilled the conditions. Therefore, because this constitution still cannot represent society voice to choose a figure who they think better than a figure who proposed by the political parties, the law of an indpendent candidate is created

However, to be an independent candidate is not the easy way to win the election because '*Teman Ahok*` should collect one million identities card of Jakarta citizenship. Not only that, the new law which is declared by General Election Commission (KPU) requires the supporters of an independent candidate to be registered in DPT (final voters list). In other words, for those who are not registered in DPT in Jakarta, they are not allowed to give their supports for Ahok. Hence, this revised requirement made Ahok in a risky place. Thereby, in 27 of July 2016, he changed his mind to be an independent candidate, and accepted political parties offer to run under a political vehicle.

Thus, this happening makes society feel distracted toward Ahok`s independency, and he is assessed to be inconsistence toward his first decision. However, according to Yunarto, political observer, this is a new political education, because eventhough Ahok already declared himself to be an independent candidate in 7 of March 2016, he still opened an opportunity for

political parties, in order to anticipate if only '*Teman Ahok'* cannot fullfill the requirement from KPU. However, this is actually as what happened today, Ahok changed his mind and running under political vehicle because the revised requirements which almost cannot be fulilled by his volunteers. Instead of taking a risk, Ahok immediately makes up his mind and takes the offer of political parties.

Eventhough Ahok does not run as an independent candidate in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election, the discourse of Ahok`s independency ever exists in the political field in Indonesia and heated political movement at that time. Thereby, this is an interesting topic to discuss to investigate the real evaluation of mass media whether they agree or disagree, criticize or endorse upon the announcement of Ahok who declared to be an independent candidate in the 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial election. In order to get the meaning much clearer, the articles of Ahok`s independency which are published by *The Jakarta Post, Jakarta Globe and Giv News* are analysed. Then, appraisal theory which is the extension of interpersonal meaning in the SFL (systemic functional linguistics) is applied in this research to reveal the attitude which is expressed by the journalists, and how they position themselves about the announcement of Ahok`s independency whether they agree or disagree, endorse or criticise about that event.

CHAPTER 3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses about the method of doing the research. There are four discussions in it; type of research, data collection, data processing and data analysis. These processes are the steps in order to get the objective result and the goals of this research.

3.1 Type of Research

The goal of this research is to reveal the journalist`s attitude in presenting the news. So, the interpretation of the evaluation text is needed to get a clear discussion. Since the object of this research is in the form of text which contains of words, clauses and sentences, then it includes in qualitative research type (Denscombe, 2007:248). Moreover, the analysis of qualitative research is not in numerical data nor statistical methods. This is actually in line with Dornyei (2007:24) who states that "qualitative research involves data collection procedures that result primarily in open-ended, non-numerical data which is then analysed primarily by non-statistical methods." Therefore, in this case, the process of interpretation of evaluated text is categorized as descriptive qualitative research (Denscombe, 2007:248).

3.2 Research Strategy

According to Denscombe (2007:37) case study refers to elaborate the phenomenon that naturally occurs or normally something that already exists. Moreover, this is in line with the case which is investigated in this research about the discourse of Ahok`s indpendency which occur naturally. In addition, case study also refers to choose a few data among a number of data that is deliberately investigated based on purposes (Denscombe, 2007:39). And, this is in line with the data which were collected in this research which serve the opinion of each journalist whether they agree or disagree, endorse or criticise upon this event. Thus, a case study is an appropriate research strategy in conducting this research.

3.3 Data Collection

Since the object of this research is electronic newspapers which were taken from three sources: The Jakarta Post, Jakarta Globe and Giv News, the

researcher applies documentary sources as a method of collecting data. This method is conducted through collecting many documents, paper, journal, newspaper, and etc (Denscombe, 2007:227). Besides that, the researcher also employs purposive sampling in this research. Purposive sampling is a technique which allows selecting the data based on particular knowledge or certain criteria (Mackey and Gass, 2005:122). Firstly, the data were collected from certain electronic newspapers which are posted between 8-11 March, 2016, in order to capture the immediate response from each sources. Secondly, the data collected were only those which responded to that event.

3.4 Data Processing

The main point of this research is to identify how the journalists express their attitude about Ahok`s independency and how they position themselves in reacting upon this event. Thereby, processing the data will be drawn under the heading of situational context and appraisal system as follows:

a. Identifying each data into three elements of situational context: field, tenor and mode.

b. Identifying the data into three elements of appraisal system: attitude, engagement, graduation (Martin and White, 2005).

c. Categorising the structure into three resources of appraisal: attitude, engagement, and graduation. Afterwards, labelling the data into its internal structure of attitude, engagement and graduation. In term of attitude, it is categorised into affect, judgement, and appreciation, and it can be labelled on quality expressed in adjective and adverb, process expressed in mental and behavioural process, and comment expressed in modal adjunct. In term of engagement, it is categorised into deny, counter, concur, pronounce, endorse, entertain, acknowledge, and distance, and it can be labelled on the verb and modality. Finally, in term of graduation, it is categorised into force, and focus, and it can be labelled on the intensification of the linguistic choice.

d. Interpreting the linguistic finding by considering the context of situation.

e. Finally, after the previous section have been done, the diagram of appraisal theory is drawn to capture the three elements of appraisal theory which occur in the data. Afterwards, drawing the patterned of arrow in the diagram to indicate the recursive source.

3.5 Data Analysis

In order to reveal the journalist`s attitude about Ahok`s independency toward mass media readers, the linguistic features in the data are analysed. To analyse the data, the three elements of appraisal systems are applied as below:

a. Attitude deals with investigating the feeling or emotional reaction of the writer toward that event. It is categorised into three sub-systems: affect (emotional reaction), judgement (behavioural analysis), and appreciation (evaluating things). Moreover, it is used to analyse how the writer`s emotion by identifying the linguistics choice of the three sub-systems of attitude which were applied by the journalists in the data analysis.

b. Engagement deals with engaging the authorial voice with the external voice in the current context. It is categorised into monoglossia and heteroglossia. Moreover, it is used to analyse how the journalists position themselves about Ahok`s independency by identifying the linguistic choice of the sub-systems of heteroglossia: contractive and expansive. Contractive covers deny and counter which belong to disclaim field. meanwhile, concur, and pronounce belong to proclaim field. On the other hand, expansive covers entertain, acknowledge and distance. These sub-division will be analysed to know how the journalists position themselves about Ahok`s independency.

c. Graduation deals with grading the system of attitude and engagement in term of greater degree or lesser degree whether in positive or negative evaluation, and it is categorised into force and focus. Moreover, it is used to analyse how strong or weakness the statement which is stated by the journalists by identifying the intensification of the linguistic choice which were applied in the data analysis.

The examples of analysis:

a) Attitude
The Jakarta 2017 election **could potentially be disruptive** [*judgment: +capacity / intensify: high scaled*] to political parties.

By labelling positive judgment which refers to capacity, the journalist implicitly stated that he agrees with Ahok`s independency and giving his opinion that the political parties will be disruptive because they do not have a candidate who can defeat the popularity of Ahok.

b) Engagement
Ahok **said** [*expand: akcnowledge*] that he had initially preferred his current deputy, Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P) member Djarot Saiful Hidayat, as a running mate.

The appraisal pattern above through the word 'said' which is labelled as acknowledge indicates that the journalist interactively engages the external voice by expanding the voice in the text. In other words, the journalist stands with the proposition which is being advanced by the external voice.

c) Graduation
The most popular [*force: intensification / high-scaled*] candidate so far, who is also the current governor of the Indonesian capital, decided to contest as an independent candidate.

The appraisal pattern above through the word 'the most popular', the journalist wants to intensify his statement that Ahok who has a good credibility and integrity in managing the government wants to contest as an independent candidate. In other words, the journalist wants to share his opinion that by being an independent candidate, the governor does not rely on political parties.

d. Interpreting the analysed data by considering the context of situation.
e. Drawing the conclusion

CHAPTER 5. CONCLUSION

The main problem to discuss in this research is to investigate the real attitude of the journalists upon Ahok`s independency through electronic newspapers which have been selected. That is to say, the journalists of three electronic newspapers: The Jakarta Post, Jakarta Globe, and Giv News, deliver their opinion in implicit way whether they agree or disagree, criticise or endorse toward Ahok`s independency. The main goal of this research is to uncover the hidden opinion of the journalists upon the discourse of Ahok`s independency, so that the main point of the journalists upon this event can be revealed. In order to reveal the main goal, the are two research questions designed. This chapter is conducted to elaborate the solutions of the research questions.

The first research question is to know how the language reflects the attitude of the journalists. To answer this question, the theory of appraisal which is proposed by Martin and White (2005) is conducted. There are three dimensional elements of appraisal theory: attitude, engagement and gradution. These elements are working simoultaneously in order to reveal the emotional reaction or the feeling of certain journalist in commenting something. Attitude deals with feeling, emotional reaction, jugdement behaviour and evaluating things (Martin and White, 2005:35). Meanwhile, engagement deals with the way how the authorial voice incorporates the additional voices in the the text in order to strengthen the opinion and to implicitly state that he stands upon the proposition which is being advanced in it (Martin and White, 2005:35). Finally, graduation deals with gradability (Martin and White, 2005:35). It is used to grade the attitude and engagement systems in term of greater degree or lesser degree whether in positive or negative evaluation (Martin and White, 2005:135).

Thus based on its functions, the researcher can reveal what is behind the language used. Thereby, by using appraisal theory which concerns in evaluating the attitude of the journalists (Martin and White, 2005), the researcher can reveal what is actually behind the language used. Furthermore, it can be achieved through labeling the linguistic features such as; adjective, adverb, modal adjunct,

and verb into appraisal domains: attitude, engagement, and graduation. Thus, the hidden meaning of the journalists upon Ahok`s independency can be revealed.

In conclusion, there are three results have been revealed. The first results is from The Jakarta Post which mostly applies heteroglossia especially acknowledgement. Then, attitude which concerns in negative judgment, and the next is under graduation term which focuses on intensification and sharpening in median and high-scaled. The second results come from Jakarta Globe. In this case, the journalist mostly applies the attitude which concerns in positive judgment. Then, heteroglossia which concerns in akcnowledgement, and the next is under graduation term which focuses on intensification and sharpening which belong into median and high-scaled. Finally, the last results come from Giv News. In this article, the journalist mostly applies graduation which concerns in intensification, quantification and sharpening which refer into median and high-scaled. Then, under heteroglossia which mostly employs aknowledgment, and the next is under attitude which concerns in positive and negative judgment. However, in this case, the positive judgment is mostly dominant rather than the negative one.

In sum, the linguistic features which are labeled into appraisal theory are mostly aknowledgment, jugdment, intensification and sharpening. These terms are frequently used by the journalist in each articles. Thereby these dominantly terms are given rise to reveal the implicit opinion of the journalists upon Ahok`s independency.

The second research question is to know how the journalists express their attitude toward their readers. Based upon the answer of the preceeding question, the solution of the second research question can be answered through interpreting the solution of the first research question that is by interpreting the linguistic features that have been labeled. However in order to interpret the linguistic features, the researcher should consider the situational context: field, mode, and

tenor to give a big picture about the article which is being discussed. As the result, the are three findings as the solution of the second research question.

The first finding of the article is published by The Jakarta post. In this case, the journalist mostly applies aknowledgment, negative judgment, intensification and sharpening. The journalist frequently cites the acknowledgment to hide her attitude about Ahok`s independency by passing the negative judgment in it, because by citing acknowledgment the journalist indirectly shares her opinion upon Ahok`s independency. Beside that, the journalist also adjusts the degree of evaluation through intensification and sharpening in order to enhance the agreement of the readers upon the proposition in the text. In sum, the journalist wants to share her negative opinion upon the decision of Ahok who wants to be an independent candidate through citing the acknowledgment which mostly shares the negative judgment upon Ahok`s independency.

The second finding of the article which is published by Jakarta Globe is that the journalist mostly uses the positive judgment, aknowledgment, intensification and sharpening. In this case, the positive judgment is mostly shared in the aknowledgment and it makes the real evaluation of the journalist upon Ahok`s independency vaguely. Because by citing the aknowledgment, the journalist wants to hide his opinion. Thus, by applying the positive judgment which is shared through aknowledgment, the journalist wants to show that being independent is a good choice for Ahok since the political parties can not be relied anymore. In other words, the journalist endorses Ahok who wants to be an independent candidate, and it is also as the representative of Jakarta citizenship who against political parties which are almost never kept their promises. To strenghten the statement in the text, the journalist also applies intensification and sharpening into median and high-scaled to drive the reader`s agreement upon the proposition in the text.

52

The third or the last finding of the article which is published by Giv News is that the journalist mostly shares his positive judgment through acknowledgment in order to hide his attitude. The next which is mostly shared is under graduation: intensification, quantification, and sharpening which refer into median and high-scaled. It is applied in order to emhasize the journalist`s statement that Ahok is a figure that public relies on. Finally, by grading up the statement, the journalist wants to enhance the agreement of the readers upon the information which is delivered in the text.

Having answered the two research questions that have been elaborated in chapter one, the problem to discussed in this research have been solved. The answers of the two research questions may enlighten our ability to read the article in critical way.

REFERENCES

Books:

Denscombe, M. 2007. *The Good Research Guide: For Small Scale Social Recearch Project*. Third Edition. McGrawHill: Open University Press.

Dornyei, Z,. 2007. *Research Method in Applied Linguistic*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Eggins, Suzanne. 2004. *An Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics 2nd Edition*. London: Continuum International Publishing Group.

Halliday, M.A.K, and Matthiessen, C.M.I.M. 2004. *An introduction to functional grammar third edition.* London: Hodder Headline Group.

Halliday, M.A.K. 1985. *Spoken and Written Language*. Victoria. Deakin University.

Halliday, M.A.K. and Hasan, Ruqaiya. 1985. *Language, Context, and Text: Aspects of Language in A Social-Semiotic Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Halliday, M.A.K. and Matthiessen, C.M.I.M. 1999. *Construing Experience through Meaning*. London: Cassel

Hornby, A.S. 1995. *Oxford Advanced Learner`s Dictionary Fifth Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Mackey, A. and Gass, S.M. 2005. *Second Language Research Methodology and design.* London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Martin, J.R. and Rose, David. 2007. *Working with Discourse: Meaning Beyond the Clause 2nd Edition.* London: Continuum.

Martin, J.R. and White, P.R.R. 2005. *The Language of Evaluation*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Journals:

Arunsirot, Sudrutai. 2012. *The Use of Appraisal Theory to Analyze Thai Newspapers Commentaries*. Mahidol University.

Wu, Hai-bin. 2013. *Appraisal Prespective on Attitudinal Analysis of Public Service Advertising Discourse*. Guangdong Polythecnic college. Guongzhou, China.

Websites:

Jegho, Leo. 2016. *The Reason Why Ahok Chose to Run as An Independent Contestan in Jakarta*. http://www.globalindonesianvoices.com/25327/the-reason-why-ahok-chose-to-run-as-an-independent-contestant-in-Jakarta/,[11March 2016].

Paat, Yustinus. 2016. *Basuki`s Decision to run as independent A Lethal Blow for Political Parties: Reseracher*. http://Jakartaglobe.beritasatu.com/Jakarta/basukis-decision-run-independent-lethal-blow-political-parties-researcher/,[10March 2016].

Saputra, Ridian E. 2016. *Ahok Pilih Jalur Independen, Pengamat: Realistis dan Idealis*. https://m.tempo.co/read/news/2016/03/10/231752493/ahok-pilih-jalur-independen-pengamat-realistis-dan-idealis, [10 March 2016].

Undang-undang RI Nomor 12 Tahun 2008 Tentang Pemerintahan Daerah. http://www.sjdih.depkeu.go.id/fulltext/2008/12tahun2008uu.htm , [28 April 2008]

Wardhani, Dewanti A. 2016. *Ahok Thumbs Nose at Politicians by Going Solo*. http://www.theJakartapost.com/news/2016/03/08/ahok-thumbs-nose-politicians-going-solo.html, [8 March 2016].

Appendix 1: Text 1

Ahok thumbs nose at politicians by going solo

Dewanti A. Wardhani, The Jakarta Post, Jakarta | Headlines | Tue, March 08 2016, 8:43 AM

Incumbent Jakarta Governor Basuki 'Ahok' Tjahaja Purnama took a risky gamble on Monday, announcing that he would run as an independent candidate in the 2017 gubernatorial election, dismissing overtures from political parties that had pledged to back his reelection bid.

In another surprise move, Ahok also named a civil servant without a political background, Heru Budi Hartono, head of the City's Financial Asset Management Board (BPKAD), as his running mate.

Ahok arrived at the decision, which he claimed was not an easy one, after receiving pressure from his supporters, Teman Ahok (Friends of Ahok), who demanded that the governor quickly make up his mind as the deadline for submitting documents for his bid was approaching.

Ahok said that he had initially preferred his current deputy, Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P) member Djarot Saiful Hidayat, as a running mate.

However, Ahok changed his mind after the PDI-P declined to approve the pairing and Djarot refused to resign from the party to join Ahok on an independent ticket.

'I have decided to join the race with Pak Heru, 'Ahok told reporters at City Hall on Monday.

Ahok said that he settled with Heru as he was an experienced and competent civil servant and had a squeaky clean track record.

Before being inaugurated as head of the BPKAD late in 2014, Heru was mayor of North Jakarta and has previously been head of the Gubernatorial and Foreign Affairs Bureau. Heru also once served as an aide to then governor Joko 'Jokowi' Widodo, and was in charge of arranging his impromptu visits (blusukan) around the city.

55

Ahok acknowledged that his decision to go it alone in the gubernatorial election carried its own risks and that he was completely relying on his supporters.

'If Teman Ahok can't collect enough valid ID cards, then I may not be able to run for a second term,' he said.

Separately, Heru said that he would resign once the Jakarta General Elections Commission (KPUD) officially registered his and Ahok's candidacy.

'I am honored that Pak Ahok has put his trust in me. I am aware of the risks and I am ready to deal with them,'Heru said on Monday, adding that he would intensify his communication with Ahok as he prepared for the election.

Spokesperson for Teman Ahok Amalia Ayuningtyas said the group was grateful for Ahok's decision.

'We are honored that Pak Ahok chose us. We understand that Pak Ahok puts a lot at stake choosing us because we all know that it would be much more comfortable to seek support from a political party,'
Amalia said.

Amalia said her team would introduce changes in the group's campaign to get support for the Ahok-Heru ticket.

Starting on Monday, volunteers will print out new forms that bear Heru's name for collecting residents' identity cards. On its website, temanahok.com, the group has already put up information about Heru.

Amalia said that volunteers needed to begin sorting out ID cards and forms that they had collected so far to add Heru's name to them.

Thus far, Teman Ahok has collected 774,552 ID cards from their total target of 1 million. Independent gubernatorial candidates in Jakarta must collect roughly 532,000 ID cards, about 6.5 percent of the city's population.

PDI-P Jakarta chapter meanwhile has not decided what move it will make following Ahok's decision.

The party's Jakarta branch secretary Pantas Nainggolan said the party had several

qualified individuals that it could nominate if Ahok went ahead running as an independent candidate.

'The PDI-P has its own decision-making mechanism. We want to be sure before making any announcement,'Pantas told *The Jakarta Post.*

The NasDem Party has said it will support Ahok's candidacy and has set up the Ahok Youth Group (Muda Mudi Ahok) to help collect copies of ID cards to support his bid.

Some PDI-P politicians have said they would support Ahok's candidacy also, but only if the party could dictate its terms.
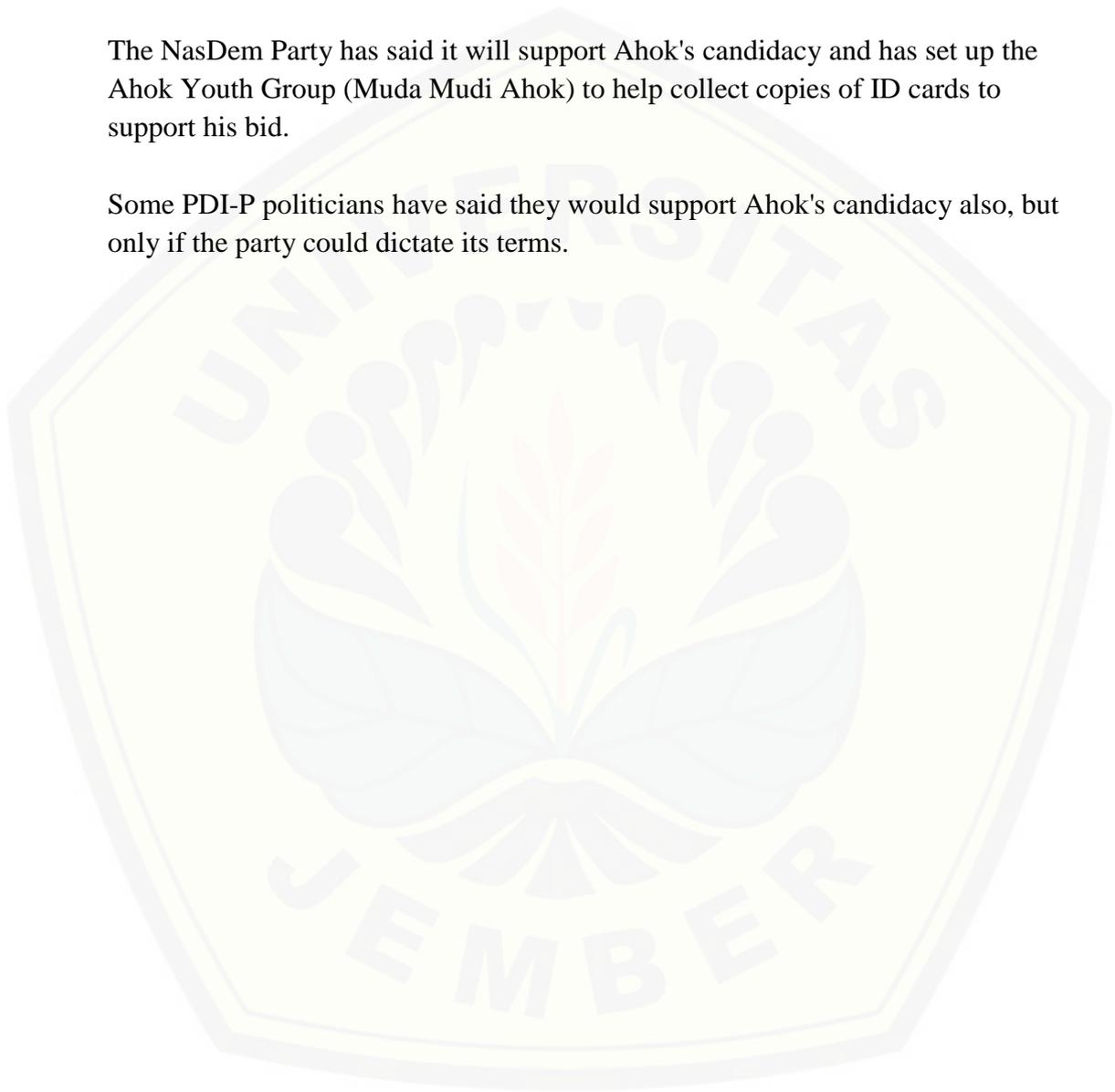
Appendix 2: Text 2

Basuki's Decision to Run as Independent a Lethal Blow for Political Parties: Researcher

By : Yustinus Paat | on 12:32 PM March 10, 2016
Category : News, Jakarta, Featured

Jakarta. The choice made by Jakarta Governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama to run independently may be a lethal blow against political parties, as it overthrows their power over the elections, according to an Indonesia Corruption Watch researcher.

Donal Fariz conveyed the opinion after Basuki said he plans to run as an independent candidate in the 2017 regional election.

"In regional elections, democracy can be built without political parties. We need figures like Ahok […] It is a huge blow to these parties," Donal said in Jakarta, Thursday (10/03).

Basuki's choice has broken the under-the-table deals that usually occur during the candidacy process, between the candidate and political parties standing behind them. Donal said the independent run has become a criticism of the public against political parties in supporting their selection of candidates.

Meanwhile, executive director of Saiful Mujani Research and Consulting (SMRC) Djayadi Hanan said that in regional elections, political parties are not a determining factor. The key factor is the figure stepping up for candidacy.

"As in Jakarta, the determinant is not the political party, but the competing figures, such as Jakarta Governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama," Hanan said.

Voters have the tendency to select figures that are popular, accessible and leading compared to their competitors. Moreover, with the majority of rational and educated residents in Jakarta, the election process would not be dependent on political parties.

Appendix 3: Text 3

The Reason Why Ahok Chose to Run as an Independent Contestant in Jakarta

Posted On 11 Mar 2016
By : Leo Jegho

Ahok, the most popular politician in Jakarta at the current time, could have easily joined one of the existing political parties. But why did the governor chose the hard way, and run as an independent contestant?

Jakarta, GIVnews.com – The Jakarta 2017 election could potentially be disruptive to political parties. The most popular candidate so far, who is also the current governor of the Indonesian capital, decided to contest as an independent candidate.

While some politicians say that it is out of arrogance that Jakarta Governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama quickly decides to run as an independent candidate, he has a different reasoning: fear.

The governor is familiarly called Ahok had bluntly shared the reason why 'Teman Ahok' had adamantly wanted him to contest as an independent candidate in the 2017 gubernatorial election.

The reason was that Teman Ahok, a group mostly comprised of reform-minded young supporters of the governor, feared that political parties might not nominate him to compete in the upcoming gubernatorial election, he said at his office on Tuesday (8/3).

If that happens, Teman Ahok would lose a figure who could become an ideal leader in the eyes of Indonesian citizens, Governor Ahok told reporters, according to *Kompas.com*.

(Read more: How Ahok is Running as an Independent with the Support of Young Jakartans)

On Monday (7/3), while many were still guessing that he might also consider to contest in the 2017 election through a political party, Governor abruptly announced that he had accepted Teman Ahok's offer to compete as an independent candidate. Also raising many eyebrows was his announcement that his running mate for the 2017 election would be Heru Budi Hartono, his senior staff member.

And, on Tuesday (8/3), the governor defended his decision to accept Teman Ahok's offer. He mentioned Teman Ahok's views that that political parties very easily change their decisions 'at the last minutes'. This means that they could easily break their promise to nominate Ahok as their gubernatorial candidate.

Accordingly, the governor shared that Teman Ahok did not want it to happen with the governor.

With his explanations, Governor Ahok expected political parties to stop describing him and Teman Ahok as arrogant for not giving the organizations enough time to make up their mind concerning their nominees for the upcoming election contest.

(Read more: Should Ahok Rejoin a Political Party for the 2017 Jakarta Election?)

Meanwhile, Teman Ahok is continuing to gather 'KTP' or identity cards from residents in Jakarta. They had set a target to gather one million ID cards by June 2016. At the moment, the group had obtained about 745,000 ID cards, well up from the minimum 532,210 required by the General Election Commission (KPU) for Ahok to contest as an independent candidate.

Teman Ahok activists claimed that the number of KTP cards had continued to increase after Governor Ahok's announcement on Monday (7/3).