

Language and Emotion: The Communication Pattern on The Result of Central Jakarta Governor Election on Online Newspaper and Its Pedagogical Implications

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Abstract

The present study aims at observing and presenting the types of language features used by Indonesian adults commenting on an online news using English as their foreign language to know whether Indonesians tend to be blunt or mitigate in expressing their feeling on the results of central Jakarta governor election. The comments uttered were their reaction and expression on the result of Central Jakarta Governor Election. The data observed was taken from all comments on a headline of online newspaper. The comments were from 74 people. The findings are generated based on quantitative calculation on the major verb used to express the feelings.

Keywords: language, emotion, reading, direct, indirect

1. Introduction

The governor election of central Jakarta is interesting to be observed since it is the capital city of Indonesia. The language features uttered by Indonesian in their comments on the news related with the result of the election is interested to observe. It reflects how Indonesians express their emotion; excited or disappointed with the result. James C. Wilce (2009) suggests "The loci of emotion in language are as numerous as locusts in a plague: phonology and sound symbolism, morphological processes (including reduplication), lexicon, syntax, discourse structure. Affect also emerges in the emergent text-like, even poetic, features of discourse, and in the relation of utterance or **text** to context." Hence the comments uttered on the online newspaper taken and treated as a text.

The language used is also said can be used as a tool to identify personality. By seeing the dictions used in the utterances whether they tend to be direct or indirect in expressing their emotion to words that describes feelings. The indirect interaction through online media has promoted individuals in more straightforward expressing their feelings and opinion than in direct communication (face to face). The degree of straightforwardness can be seen from the comments on national online newspaper such as the Jakarta Post. By accumulating the data entry, the result can be generated then the following research questions can be answered:

- a. Do people tend to be direct or indirect in expressing their feeling and opinion on social media?
- b. Why do people tend to be direct or indirect in expressing their feeling on social media?

2. Theoretical Framework

2.1 Language and Emotion

The language and emotion relation according to Wilce (2009) is the emotion felt by person is talking and translated subjectively into words. The translation of emotion into words of the speaker's current emotions is descriptive on the surface but it shares universal performatives structure by using first person and present tense. The reason is according to Reddy (2001) calls these first person present-tense feeling statements *emotives*. Along with other inputs from within and without, the emotives themselves become involved in cognitive-emotional activation and translation.

Uttering an emotive may cause an increase in activation of the emotions named; in others the emotive backfires, causing increased awareness of “translation” and navigation problems, highlighting the never-quite-manageable flow of emotion in relation to social demands. Furthermore, Reddy (2001) has classified the language component involved in expressing emotion into the following:

- The lexicon is where many analyses of emotion in language begin and end.
- Formal grammar, verb mood may appear to have little to do with emotional mood. Mood or modality is a grammaticalized means of expressing speaker stance toward his or her proposition.
- **Mirror neurons** might well be the enablers of our earliest forms of empathy and intersubjectivity – feeling with another body’s parts such as bodies, mouths, eyes, ears, etc in form of semiotic which are common in social space.

2.2 Language, Emotion and Cognition

In relation to emotion and cognition, William Reddy (2001) defines emotions as “goal-relevant activations of thought material that exceed the translating capacity of attention within a short time horizon.” From his explanation we can get the idea that emotion is related to attention in a particular time and the span in short. Thus, we may say that emotion is contextual. Therefore, to understand how emotion can produce right word to be uttered in describing precise feelings, we can refer to Reddy’s formulation of “activation” and “translation” (Reddy, 2001) in which those terms are borrowed from cognitive psychology.

According to Reddy (2001), activation is a state that renders thoughts and other inputs available for processing. Full activation enables sustained attention. Translation means, everything that we pay attention to whether it is perceptual inputs of various sorts, it requires various sorts of translation from sensory “codes” into linguistic codes. When engaging in emotion talk, we attend closely not only to inner feelings but to others’ reactions. Emotion talk translates subjectivities into words. Another explanation related to emotion and language processing is proposed by Lindquist et.al (2015).

Lindquist et.al (2015) argues that language helps individuals use concepts to make meaning of on-going sensory perceptions. Building on this evidence, they outline predictions from a psychological constructionist model of emotion in which language serves as the “glue” for emotion concept knowledge, binding concepts to embodied experiences and in turn shaping the ongoing processing of sensory information from the body and world to create emotional experiences and perceptions. According to the psychological constructionist conceptual act theory (ACT), an instance emotion occurs when information from one’s body of other people’s bodies is made meaningful in light of the present situation using concept knowledge about emotion. The CAT suggests that language plays a role in emotion because language supports the conceptual knowledge used to make meaning of sensations from the body and world in a given context.

2.3 Previous Researches

The previous researches related to media, rhetorical study and discourse analysis have tried to discover the relationship between language and emotion. One of the researches concern about the role of language in emotion from psychological constructionism. This research was conducted by Lindquist et.al (2016) by referring to psychological constructionist Conceptual Act Theory (CAT) findings which states that language is a fundamental element in emotion that is constitutive of both emotion experience and perceptions. The emotion occurs when information from present situation is conformed to the concept knowledge about emotion. Language helps human to use its concepts to create meaning of the happening sensory perceptions. For multilingual speakers the researches find that they experience less emotional reactivity. The different languages possessed by the speakers denote different emotion categories that promote different emotion regulation.

The next study concerns about the styles of social media campaigning and influence in a hybrid political communication system by Karlsen and Enjolras (2016) which took place in Norway. The social media was chosen is twitter. The research focused on the way the political candidates in campaigning through social media twitter and the influence. The findings showed that social media is playing significant role in the Norwegian campaign. The use of social media by the candidates was divided into two types: a party-centered and individualized social media style. The candidate who concerned with their candidacy tends to have individualized style and the result was they were not successful and influential since they only showed their individual creativity without strengthening their party platform. Meanwhile the successful candidates is the ones who could synergize between traditional media channel and social media. The interaction in both media was found to contribute in gaining influence.

The next study on social media was conducted by Viorica Paus (2013). She concerned about new media and leadership: social media and open organizational communication whose aim is to identify and analyze the extent to which new media have penetrated the Romanian organizations' internal communication and have influenced the leadership. The research found that the use of new media as a means of communication within the organization increases the bottom up- feedback and it increases self-esteem and confidence of the employees since flattens the hierarchy structures and create personalized-relationship between the management and employees thus the leaders can gain greater visibility and transparent management decisions.

3. Methodology

The method employed in conducting the research is semantics analysis design which allows the readers to interpret the text. Then categorizing the comments into two categories: direct and indirect. The data entry was calculated to generate the result. The result shows the answer to the research questions.

3.1 Data Collection Method

The comments taken from the comments column of the Jakarta Post. The comments are analyzed based on the words used by the writers to express their feelings and opinion whether it is directly stated their feelings such as sad, bad, congratulation, etc. The word categorization based on the directness and indirectness word chosen to express feelings, emotion and thoughts.

3.2 Data Analysis

The result of categorization will be analyzed based on lexical and structural form then counted and generated to answer the research questions.

4. Research Findings and Discussion

The result of the data analysis findings can be summarized as follows:

Table 1. The Total Comments

Total commenters	The grammatical structure used	The first-person pronoun	Direct	Indirect
74 commenters	Present tense	6	53	21

From the above table we can see that people tend to be more direct in expressing their feelings on the online newspaper even though the issues is sensitive, politics and religion. The indirect interaction urges people to freely express their ideas without any fear. Will (2014) argues that social media isn't a process of creative writing at least not in the traditional sense, it's a fast and convenient way of interacting with an audience. Indeed, the directness in expressing feelings because people feel more convenient interacting with other audiences. They do not have to meet face to face or know each other to comment. They are not afraid of direct verbal or physical attack if their comments contradicts to each other. According to Wilce (2009) in stating emotion, the speakers tend to use first-person style and in present tense structure as universal structure in expressing current feeling. It is because according to Reddy (2001) cognitive-emotional activation and translation which change instantly when people feel the emotion and utter it based on their language reference they have. Somehow, from the data taken above, we can see that the speakers do not use pronoun but directly uttered what they feel about the election result. The structure used in all comments mostly in present tense. Present tense is employed as the simple and direct way to express feelings. It finds to be more representative in expressing their feelings and thoughts.

Second about the lexicon the commenters used to express their feeling (emotion) and thought over the governor election result showed that no cursing or offensive words there. Psychological constructionist conceptual act theory (ACT), an instance emotion occurs when information from one's body of other people's bodies is made meaningful in light of the present situation using concept knowledge about emotion. Somehow the multilingual speakers differ in expressing the emotion in other language. According to Lindquist et al (2015) multilingual speakers the researches find that they experience less emotional reactivity. The different languages possessed by the speakers denote different emotion categories that promote different emotion regulation. Social media changes the interpersonal communication style. As we can see from the above calculation table of comments on online newspaper that people

tend to be direct in expressing their feelings and describing their thought.

4.1 Social Media as Mediated Space of Personal to Public

The change of interpersonal communication style from private to public space can be seen as identity shift. Hence, we may refer to Wilce (2009) to investigate identification processes is to ask about social, semiotic, and psychodynamic complexity, rather than the apparent fixity of 'identities.' The words employed to express a certain emotion also depends on the context, here is the media. The indirect communication promotes the speakers to be more expressive and blunt. In relating to social media as plural communication forum Wilce (2009) suggests that particular linguistic acts showing emotion, and mass social movements encouraging and evoking passion toward linguistic code and identify moments. Hence the response or interpretation of each words or sentences uttered by commenters to this DKI Governor's election result cannot be estranged from the society's common knowledge and understanding about the word meaning.

Karlsen and Enjolras (2016) contends that it is potentially, because social media allows decentralized and content-free production and diffusion, the hybrid media system may change the relations of power between actors involved in an interaction than in the real life communication (face-to-face communication). Their argument is based on their findings about social media rule in Norwegian political campaign. The findings confirm that social media is an essential and integrated part of the emerging hybrid political communication system used by politicians and show that this hybrid communicative structure can be used to gain influence in party politics (Karlsen & Enjolras, 2016).

In relation to interpersonal communication and its effect on the personal relation in daily life we can refer to Paus (2013) findings on how social media used and effected Romanian organizational internal communication. Paus (2013) social media is favored as the emergence of informal leaders who influence individual messages and lead to the structuring of group views; also the use of social networking and the attraction of a large number of 'friends' can lead to the discovery of the structure leading to the person concerned and it disappears inhibitions in front of the hierarchy by the fact that it can mask identities and thereby become more honest opinions and more virulent. Meanwhile Indonesian as Foreign language speakers who are also considered as bilinguals according to Paus (2015), bilinguals experience less emotional reactivity. The different languages possessed by the speakers denote different emotion categories that promote different emotion regulation. As English foreign language speakers, Indonesians do not have as much as vocabulary to express their feelings freely like native speakers. It because Indonesians do not share the common idea about the emotion-semantics words.

4.2 Reading and Emotion

Reading the headline of the Jakarta Post about the result of the center Jakarta Governor's election arouse a certain emotion inside of the readers. Kweldju (2015) suggest that reading is an activity that interconnect among cognition, emotion, memory and physiology. It also triggers them to comment based on what they thought as their reaction toward the result. The emotion which is regulated by limbic system. Furthermore, Kweldju (2015) explains that the limbic system regulates memory and emotion is closely related to hypothalamus and brainstem nuclei that link among emotion, cognition and memory. The emotion during reading the news is not only processed by limbic system but also the right hemisphere for semantic relationship with emotional states that happens on the fixation during reading that promote the selection of the English words used in the comment on the online newspaper headline which involves sensory data and stored memory. (Kweldju, 2015).

4.3 Pedagogical Implications

This research gives us reflection of the importance of teaching the students about politeness related to speaking to public. English as Foreign Language in Indonesia makes the students must understand about cultural gaps that the students should aware. Therefore, the teacher should include politeness across culture into their teaching and learning process including designing syllabus, lesson plan and selecting material.

5. Conclusion

From the findings we can conclude that in expressing emotion on social media on English printed newspaper in Indonesia, as English Foreign language speakers, people tend to use present tense without using first-speaker style in uttering their feelings and without any offensive and cursing words. Some factors can be derived to explain the findings: the structure and the bilingualism. The language uttered to express emotion depends largely on the experience and knowledge of words related to emotion as what Reddy (2001) called as mirror neurons. The way people express their feeling is preferably in first person pronoun and in present tense since it can show the direct

expression, highlight the emotion expressed and easily meet the society understanding and knowledge of that emotion. As bilinguals, the direct style in uttering their emotion do not make them to use any offensive or cursing words. According to Paus (2015), bilinguals experience less emotional reactivity. The different languages possessed by the speakers denote different emotion categories that promote different emotion regulation. Hence, the commenters neither use cursing nor offensive words like Americans or British do since they do not have the same shared-word in expressing emotion. The emotion words are standard; so sad.

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Appendix 1.

 **The Jakarta Post**
April 20 at 8:42am · 🌐

After quick count results confirmed that the capital is going to have a new governor, Anies Baswedan's campaign team said that religious issues had played a significant role in his victory. <http://bit.ly/2pEw8vk>



Anies expresses gratitude to Islamic figures in victory speech
After quick count results confirmed that the capital is going to have a new governor, Anies Baswedan's campaign team said that religious issues had played a...

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Appendix 2.

NO	ACCOUNT NAMES	LEXICAL USED	DIRECT	INDIRECT
1	Nikolov Nicholovski	of course!	V	
2.	Bro Die	What a joke.	V	
3	Glenn Lenoir Kamal	Shame on them.	V	
4	Ian A Reddish	So now the truth comes out.		V
5	Amira Scipione	So, they are elected based on religion and nasi bungkus not competences... 😊👍😄😄😄😄		v
6	Mikal R Neff	I think any candidate who didn't publicly denounce the bullying by extremists should be considered unfit to govern such a diverse city as Jakarta.		v
7	Harry Dinsmore	Truer words were never spoken !!!!		v
8.	Yessi Wid	OF COURSE!!	v	
	David Ben Yeshua	Use God name to commit sin. You going to hell after you died Anies	v	
9.	Nursrita Reeta	It is sad that the election of the governor because of religious, racial and sara issuea that are brought, and not because of the real work of the governor of ahok who is judged.	v	
10.	Handoko Suwono	I believe a big golden mosque will soon be built in Jakarta at three times the budget of real cost!		v
11.	Kandi Sofia	Sad day for multiculturalism in Indonesia. Indeed. What a cowardly victory. Now that they won, they thanked "Islamic figures" , like Rizieq?	v	
12.	Jessica Ali	..this only shows Anies will be in control over the conservatives.	v	
13.	Dan Ahmad	Congratz..!!! They have won by KO and Jakarta will be better	v	
14.	Yan Tirta	Again we are not bitter cause he lost. We are bitter the hopes of the many, the hopes of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika, the hopes of the people lost yesterday.	v	
15.	Charles Jarret	Exactly. The Islamic agenda will continue.	v	

16.	Banani	Sit back and see how they work on their promises, Preferably with popcorn.		v
17.	Johannes Bambang Wirawan	Of Course, Anies expresses its gratitude because most Muslims think that Ahok has the soul of Partai Komunis Indonesia (Indonesia Communist Party) which it actually disbanded on 12 March 1966 by the Military General Soeharto.	v	
18.	Rumi Raniri	JIC if Anies-Sandi actually screw up	v	
19.	Björn Giese	So finally they publicly admit the obvious - that their campaign was built on SARA issues.	v	
20.	Melissa Camelia	We'll see if his simple "thank you" is enough 😊		v
21.	Ronald Hasman	Quite a show Mr. Prabowo, you make yourself a fine producer. Well played Mr. Rizieq the Terror, best antagonist actor. And congratulation to both okay donkey winner Mr. Anies and Uno. All of you really made my day. I can't stop laughing 😂:P	v	
22.	Prajna Paramita	Start working and deliver your promise! First, people can have house without DP, seems you guys have banks under your thumb 🤔👍	v	
23.	Rubby Riesta	Guurl, even Stevie Wonder can see it!! 🙄🙄 it is sad and disgusting to see one religion even a criteria to become a Gov. ?	v	
24.	Gloria Siregar	Time will let know the people manies bersandiwara	v	
25.	Sukaria Sun	Back to square Jakarta	v	
26.	Doc Gordon Freeman..	Makes me wanna puke to read that Rizieq & Co are being described as pillars of society...What a huge step backwards	v	
27.	Rathma Soma	Seriously??? Argghhhh. Just prove a point.	v	
28.	Ron Summerwood	Religion should have nothing to do with being governor. Wake up Indonesia it's the year 2017!		v
29.	Joanne Suseto	Just another small part of the bigger 'agenda' that started in the 7th century - to invade & conquer. That filtered into the then West Indies in the 14th century via India & Arabia.		v
30.	Rifai Arfan	Mr Ahok, many people still count on you. Run for another one. Jakarta fits Anies.	v	
31.	Mohd Azlimi Bin	Is ok... Ahok lost. The seat of KPK awaits him... Than we see who have the last laugh. People will ask for 0% DP on	v	

	Yaakop	housing as promised by these two clowns.. 0% DP in Jakarta.. Wahaha..		
32.	Rochelle Shahfazli Evi Shahfaz	sad days	v	
33.	James Clark	Indonesia will be worse off for this in the long run. There is no place for religion in politics	v	
34.	Budi Setyawan	Be careful with what you want, you might get it. I wish you all the best pak ahok		v
35.	Adrian Atmadja Brennan	Of course the issues had played a significant role in your victory. And this is the proof that most of the voters (58%) in the election are dumb enough to believe in the issues that you and your allies use as a weapon to knock Ahok down. Well played! You won because you played dirty 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌	v	
36.	Astried Silvanie	If course! As long as he's MUSLIM. Indonesian so easy to manipulate by politician	v	
37.	Indy Noir	Religion > Literally anything else Thanks to this result indon politicians will play up the religion angle because they know indonesians are full of degenerate religious plebs who can't think beyond the concepts of blasphemy and sins. We deserve Anies-Sandi, we never deserved a leader like Ahok, we're not worthy of it.	v	
38.	Krish Ramos	Going backwards instead of moving forward.	v	
39.	Vania Florencia Alberta	I'll be having the last laugh when all of this spiralled downwards, don't wail in regret when they screwed you over by taking your kjp rights away to feed the endless hunger of corruptors' belly.	v	
40.	Londo Ron van Zanden	Only religion counts???? How stupid you can be	v	
41.	Neil Whitcombe	The very fact that Aines acknowledges that religion has played a significant part in his victory, shows that this is a hollow form of democracy. How sad that people somehow think that a sacked education minister can do a better job than the current incumbent! Many muslims acknowledge that Ahok is a good man, but could not bring themselves to vote for a non-muslim. Sad day for Jakarta and Indonesia! The country still has a lot to learn about democracy.	v	

42.	Andre Wijaya	Most of the senior politicians are not radicals, but with their tolerance to radicals, you can expect more and more discrimination and intimidation happen daily in small scale.		v
43.	Lena Hartanto	Indonesia is a democratic country based on pancasila. No islamic country 😞😞		v
44.	Dolly Haryono	No wonder Anies and Sandy won,,, just look at the people that backing them up. Prabowo and Hari Tanoe... shame indo, whats the purpose of our Garuda symbols with Bhinekka Tunggal Ika if fpi muslim gonna destroyed other race and religion?	v	
45.	Agus Honor	This is how indonesia was trumped due to greed and corruption whilst using religion as a weapon!	v	
46.	Geoffrey Harley	He should not be proud of bigotry	v	
47.	Igor Hakim	A sad day for Jakarta and probably we can't find another Governor that as good as Ahok in the future. The worst era begin, brace yourself 😞:	v	
48.	Callum Mackinnon	He's confusing religiois issues with bullying, fanatics, thuggery and fools... good luck Jakarta... you're going to need it with this idiot running the place.	v	
49.	Mila Anisa	#shameonyoudirtypoliticians #idontsehumanity#idontse edemocratics #idontseeequality #idontseequality	v	
50.	Feliza Finy	Oh come on as long as there's Sila number one in Pancasila... Religion will always play its part in this country.		v
51.	Jevon Susanto Orv in Tritama	still cant get over of these shits man 😞😞	v	
52.	Tina Lumbantoruan	It means he admitted that religious issues were the main reasons behind the victory. What a shame	v	
53.	Arvinda Lubis	Wake up Indonesia!! Religion has nothing to do with all these goverment things!! Why you people are so blind???? 2017, welcome to the new era, Jakarta are going backwards.	v	
54.	Mtroy Kalalo	Ahok is a gift for Indonesia. He's the man that the people really can lean on. He'd fought for transparency, modern, open mindedness, Unity In Diversity! and believing that it leads towards a brighter future for their children - and	v	

		their grandchildren too. Unfortunately the battle become an unfair challenge we don't deserve Ahok. We proud of Ahok and he will imprinted in our hearts.		
55.	Sumiya Tus Sholehah	Iam waiting for Ahok in KPK field 😊😄🙏🙏😄😄 Then, he can kill everyone who wants to destroy this beloved Country! Ameen 😊😄		v
56.	Anton Quist	Their only campaign issue was: 'I am Muslim and Ahok is kafir, so vote for the Muslim.' Even though his religion was Anies' only selling point instead of any personal competencies or accomplishments, nobody seemed to care about the lack of a clear Anies-Sandi vision for Jakarta. So what's next for Jakarta? Nobody knows...	v	
57.	Oen Sutrisno	Dumb people who cares .. Jakarta would never be like great city in the world.. Not even like Singapore....	v	
58.	Steve Křečik	He who pays the piper, calls the tune.		v
59.	Pikintoro Pikin	Trump's team did the same ... making Trump climb to the top ... religious and racial issues played significant roles ...	v	
60.	Ricky Lynch	Anies thanks the FPI , for his new job .. Time for international companies to think about closing their businesses and move to other Asian countries...		v
61.	Mia AmaliaDwi	Yup very Islamic. After their supporters drank booze to celebrate his victory. Pffft		v
62.	Chan Roberts	Muslims voted against pancasila.	v	
63.	Wenny Margaretha Nusawakan	Congrats to the new Governor with zero accomplishment, fired from his position as a minister. Racism won. Cowardice and Bigotry won.	v	
64.	Vic Cunningham	Dumber and Dumber now more corruption	v	
65.	Nicolas Keke Adjignon	Wow, sounds promising for the future! D:		v
66.	Lennyfebe Susilowati	How do You know they are the best governor? They never prove it, especially Anies. Are you looking at their program is illogical. I am waiting they will give a house with DP 0 without any qualifications. Are you blind to see it? we have to be objective and look at Ahok as person,		v

		not his religion		
67.	Adam Krumnikl	This Anies victory just shows the way how it's gonna be done in the years to come in Indonesia. Radical Islamists won't run in any elections under own platform. They will side behind a puppet like Anies, who will be later obliged to cater to their wishes when elected. That is very dangerous.	v	
68.	Mandy Mirahsari	sad	v	
69.	Francis Aung	I don't call this a victory Anies, it wasn't your ability to win this election without taking advantage on religious matter. A true man will never take advantage on others weaknesses.	v	
70.	Ardhie Eka Putra	Soon, they only focused on religious stuff instead of technical problem in Jakarta. 🙄:!(v
71.	Barbara A Mc Cutcheon	The whole world is moving towards a one world order. It's prophesied in the Bible. Amen		v
72.	Patrick Nagel	Madness	v	
73.	Tami Koestomo	Riding the tiger of Muslim radicals and egoistical dissatisfied elite political figures that do not really have the interests of the Indonesian people at heart is very, very dangerous. Watch out, Anies Baswedan and Sandiaga Uno, lest you be devoured alive.	v	
74.	Maurice Gold	When the end justifies the means, and Islamism for its own sake permits everything and anything for its own glorification, then this is what happens. When Islamist clerics get political, and use mosques and other venues as centres of murderously-inclined xenophobic sermons, and when uneducated Indonesians hear these messages of hatred emanating from their supposed allah-direct communication-representatives, and not knowing any better, who else would they vote for? I have heard that Indonesian law frowns on the use of houses of worship for politicisation and rabble-rousing	v	
Total			53 people	21 people