



The Realization of Appraisal in Eulogies Given by People of Various Relationships toward John McCain

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Abstract

An appraisal explains about language use on how the speakers or the writers negotiate their feeling with others or how the certain attitude is expressed in spoken or written text. The aim of this study is to identify the realization of appraisal in eulogies given by people of various relationships toward John McCain and explain the similarities and differences from those appraisals. The data are the clause of appraisals from the eulogy by George W. Bush, Meghan McCain, and Barack Obama. This study is discourse analysis and by attempting appraisal framework from Martin and White (2005) theory. The method of collecting data is documentation method. The result shows that all speakers used the appraising items of attitude, engagement and graduation. The former president George W. Bush produced 64 appraising items; her daughter Meghan produced 140 appraising items, while the former president Barack Obama produced 168 appraising items. The main similarity seems that George W. Bush and Meghan McCain are more dominant to use appraisal of attitude. Besides that, the difference show that Barack Obama is more dominant to use the feature of engagement. In the feature of attitude, all of them apply positive and negative items of un/happiness. In judgement and appreciation, the speakers do not apply the items of veracity and valuation. Besides that, all features of engagement used in their speech and dominant in the feature of disclaim. Meanwhile, the differences show that Barack Obama does not use the item of focus in appraisal of graduation. This study also gives the pedagogical implication for the language learners to use the appropriate expressions and to negotiate the feeling while doing the interaction or communication with others.

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INTRODUCTION

Communication occurs in the text in the form of spoken and written. Halliday and Hasan (1985, p.5) stated that the way in understanding the use of language can lie in the study of text. A text can be said meaningful if it can be related with the interaction among the speakers. A study of both spoken and written text can be done using discourse analysis. Dealing with the discourse study, Matthiessen (1995, p.85) stated that there are three general meta-functions of language use. Each of the functions consist of interpersonal meta-function, ideational meta-function and the textual meta-function. This study identifies and compares the interpersonal meaning in terms of appraisal that is realized in eulogies given by people of various relationships toward John McCain.

Appraisal acts as the tool for the people to negotiate their attitudes and feelings. It has an important role to interpret people's attitudes, engagement, and graduation. It also relates to the power of text and makes the text meaningful. As Martin & White (2005, p.35) explained that an appraisal theory itself includes of three of systems they are attitude, engagement, and graduation. Attitude is concerned with our feelings, including emotional reactions, judgements of behaviours and evaluation about the things. Besides that, engagement reflects on how the writers or the speakers convey their point of view and how they align themselves with respect to the position of others. The last system of appraisal is graduation. It attends to grading some phenomena of attitude whereby feelings are improved.

In this case, analyzing appraisal eulogy, which is produced by native speakers of English, are also quite difficult to be understood. It happens because the writer should learn how the speakers produce their interpersonal utterance becomes a good text for producing their attitude and feeling such as in realizing eulogy in process of funeral service.

This present study is focused to analyze realization of appraisal and explain the similarities and differences of those appraisals in eulogies given by people of various relationships toward McCain. According to Wilson et al (2009) relationship means as the goal that also moderated associations between perceived face threats and the goal pursuit as well as politeness strategies. The people of various relationships above are George W. Bush, Meghan McCain and Barack Obama. Eulogy defines as process of memorial service by giving the tribute to someone who has been died and would be more meaningful if it had the actualization of personalized touch by his/her relations Wolfelt (2004, p.98). A positive appraisal usually used by the speakers in writing or delivering the eulogy toward the deceased. The researcher assumes that some negative appraisals also appeared even though only partially such as remembering a few bad things about McCain. It because there were some people who had become his rival in the political circle also asked to deliver the eulogies in McCain memorial service.

A number of researchers had been conducted to analyze the appraisal resources in various object of the study. Thahara et al (2019), Wijayanto (2016), Hadidi and Parvin (2015). They analyze the appraisal system realized in news article and found in literary work such as in novel. All of them more dominant to use the feature of attitude rather than engagement and graduation. It happens because every utterance that is issued such as in news article or novel by the speaker/writer always contains the opinion, attitude or judgment (Rankema, 2009, p.158). Besides that the system of attitude, language resources explain how the emotion of language users towards their behavior, text, and phenomenon and to make use of lexical resources to judge behavior and appreciate the value about the things.

On the other hand, eulogy is not only given in funeral services, but also gives to those who are severely ill in order to express the words of love and gratitude before they die. It is only presents a memory of thoughts and feelings from people who know them with the aim of

being heard or showing a tribute for someone that has been died. Eulogies are given from various relationship because eulogies are usually conveyed from his closest family, but in this research is different, eulogies are conveyed not only from people who had close relations with McCain but also from those who had ever been their rival during the presidential election such as from George W Bush and Barack Obama. Besides that, Meghan McCain also delivers the eulogy for her father.

Based on the phenomena above, the researcher interested to conduct the curret study that is expected reveal the way George W Bush, Barack Obama and Meghan McCain describe some evaluative expressions in giving their eulogies in memorial service.

METHODS

This present study is qualitative research in order to identify the realization of appraisal in eulogies and explain the similarities and differences from those appraisals given by people various relationships toward McCain. The subjects of this study are people of various relationships toward McCain; they are George W. Bush, Meghan McCain, and Barack Obama. The object of this study was the clause of appraisals from the transcript eulogy. The documentation method is used in collecting data. Researcher uses documentation of speech eulogy given by three people of various relationships toward John McCain. The steps are determining the spekers and the videos eulogy of McCain funeral service in youtube; watching and listening the video, and downloading the transcript of speech eulogy. In analyzing the data, the first step is reading the document of eulogies. After that, the writer segmenting the text into clauses. Then, classifying the clause based on the theory of appraisals Martin and White (2005) by highlighting the clause of the speech whether they belong to attitude, engagement or graduation resources. After that, count how many data that belong to attitude, engagement or graduation resources and tabelizing the data

based on the finding. Finally, after doing all the procedures above, the writer analyzing and interpreting the finding based on the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

After analyzing the speech of eulogy from three different people of various relationships in mccain memorial service, the appraising items of attitude, engagement and graduation are utilized by the speakers. The following table is the summary of the appraising items used in george w. Bush’s eulogy toward McCain.

Table 1. The Appraising Items Used in George W. Bush’s Eulogy toward Mccain

Appraising Features	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Attitude	38	59.4
Engagement	21	32.8
Graduation	5	7.8
Total	64	100

Table 2. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Attitude

Types of Attitude	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Affect	15	39.5
Judgment	16	42.1
Appreciation	7	18.4
Total	38	100

Table 3. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Engagement

Types of Engagement	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Disclaim	12	57.1
Proclaim	2	9.5
Entertain	6	28.6
Attribute	1	4.8
Total	21	100

Table 4. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Graduation

Types of Graduation	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Force	4	80
Focus	1	20
Total	5	100

Based on the table above, the former president George W. Bush has positioned 64 appraising items in his speech. The most frequent item that is used by the speaker is the feature of attitude with total 38 appraising items and more specific on the feature of judgement. With the total 21 appraising items, engagement belongs to second position and more dominant in the feature of disclaim. Moreover, there are only 5 items belongs to the last position as the feature of graduation and more specific on the item of force. In this case, the he foregrounds to use judgement over than affect and appreciation. Positive and negative judgement of propriety is applied by the speaker. The former president Bush is more dominant to use the positive judgement of propriety because he tends to praises the character of McCain who has a high value of justice to all people without discrimination. Furthermore, the feature of engagement that focused in the feature of disclaim is realized through the use of negation and concession such as *didn't, never, even, yet and* etc. It indicates that the speaker uses the textual voice positions itself as at odds with, or rejecting, some contrary position (Martin and White, 2005, p.97). In his speech, such appraising items of disclaim is applied to evaluate the character of McCain. As we know that both of them have a fierce relationship especially in politics. Some evaluative element is explicitly addressed to McCain. On the other hand, he is dominant to use the items of force because he tries to show the meaning of intensification and quantification when he describes about the lifetime of McCain in his memorial service. Primarily, the use of force by the speaker is to emphasize the audience about their personal experience especially their fierce experience in politics.

Referring to the second speaker that is Meghan McCain, the followings are the appraising items applied by her daughter of McCain;

Table 5. The Appraising Items Used in Meghan McCain's Eulogy toward McCain

Appraising Features	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Attitude	90	64.3
Engagement	39	27.8
Graduation	11	7.9
Total	140	100

Table 6. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Attitude

Types of Attitude	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Affect	54	60
Judgement	21	23.3
Appreciation	15	16.7
Total	90	100

Table 7. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Engagement

Types of Engagement	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Disclaim	29	74.4
Proclaim	5	12.8
Entertain	4	10.3
Attribute	1	2.5
Total	39	100%

Table 8. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Graduation

Types of Graduation	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Force	8	72.7
Focus	3	27.3
Total	11	100

The table above informs that the daughter of McCain that is Meghan has positioned 140 appraising items in her speech. The most frequent item that is used is attitude with 90 items and more specific on the feature of affect.

With the total 39 appraising items, engagement belongs to second position in the speech and more dominant in the feature of disclaim. Besides that, there are 11 items belongs to the last position as the appraising items of graduation and more specific in the use of item force. In this case, she focuses to use appraising items of affect-un/happiness over than judgement and appreciation. Some emotions related to attitudes can be expressed in appraisal group such as love, anger, fear, jealousy, excitement, hostility, satisfaction; etc (Martin and White, 2005, p.49). This feature is positively and negatively utilized to describe her emotional feeling toward the deceased of her father John McCain. Meghan is one of McCain’s children who have the closest relationship with her father if compared to others. Related to engagement resources, it is clearly clarified that Meghan mostly uses the appraising items of disclaim in her eulogy toward her father McCain. Through her speech in her father funeral service, Meghan wants to celebrate her dad’s love to his family in a grief situation and her statements while criticizing Trump. Furthermore, in terms of graduation, Meghan uses the appraising items of force to points out the quantification and intensification related to the high spirit of her father fights against Vietnam. In addition, she tries to gain the sympathy from the audience to imitate the spirit of John McCain. The following table is the summary of the findings that is used in Barack Obama’s eulogy toward McCain;

Table 9. The Appraising Items Used in Barack Obama’s Eulogy toward McCain

Appraising Features	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Attitude	64	38.1
Engagement	81	48.2
Graduation	23	13.7
Total	168	100

Table 10. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Attitude

Types of Attitude	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Affect	21	32.8
Judgment	27	42.2
Appreciation	16	25
Total	64	100

Table 11. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Engagement

Types of Engagement	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Disclaim	46	56.8
Proclaim	13	16.0
Entertain	14	17.3
Attribute	8	9.9
Total	81	100

Table 12. The Distribution of Appraising Items of Graduation

Types of Graduation	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Force	23	100
Focus	-	-
Total	23	100

Based on the information above, Barack Obama has positioned 168 items in his eulogy. The most dominant item that is used is item of engagement with the total 81 items or 48,2% and more specific in the use of disclaim feature. With the total of 64 or 38,1% appraising items, attitude belongs to second position more specific in the feature of judgement. Besides that, in the last position there are 23 or 13,7% as the appraising items of graduation and only concerns with the item of force. In the feature of judgement, Obama is more dominant to use the feature judgement of tenacity. Tenacity concerns with judgement of social esteem which explains about how dependable someone is (Martin and White, 2005, p. 53). The feature of tenacity is applied as positively and negatively by the speaker. As positively, the speaker tries to describe about McCain’s life as a statesman and patriot that is worth to be admiring by all the

audience who listens his eulogy toward McCain. Besides that, as negatively the speaker also criticises the character of the deceased McCain which is sometime considered too stubborn. Besides that, the feature of disclaim is mostly used by the speaker in relation the use of engagement resources. Through his speech, Obama wants to share his thought and feeling by giving the tribute to McCain for the last time. Furthermore, the use of force in his eulogy toward McCain is to show his tribute toward the deceased in front of the audience by representing the degree of intensity and quantity.

Furthermore, in terms of similarities and differences of those appraisal could be presented in the following table;

Table 13. The Result of Similarities and Differences of Appraisal-Attitude

Appraisal of Attitude		People of Various Relationships		
		Bus h	Megha n	Obam a
Affect	Un/hap	+ 2	12	5
		- 4	19	6
	In/sec	+ - 9		1
		- 6	12	6
	Dis/sat	+ 2	-	2
		- 1	2	1
Total Affect		15	54	21
Judgement	Norm	+ 4	3	2
		- -	1	2
	Cap	+ - 1		2
		- - 3		-
	Ten	+ 5	2	8
		- - -		4
	Ver	+ 1	1	2
		- - -		-
	Prop	+ 5	5	3
		- 1	5	4
Total Judgement		16	21	27
Appreciation	Reac	+ 4	13	8
		- - -		-
	Comp	+ - 1		1
		- 1	-	1
	Val	+ 2	1	6
	- - -		-	
Total Appreciation		7	15	16

Table 14. The Result of Similarities and Differences of Appraisal-Engagement

Appraisal of Engagement	People of Various Relationships			
	Bush	Meghan	Obama	
Disclaim	12	29	46	
Proclaim	2	5	13	
Entertain	6	4	14	
Attribute	1	1	8	
Total		21	39	81

Table 15. The Result of Similarities and Differences of Appraisal-Graduation

Appraisal of Graduation	People of Various Relationships			
	Bush	Meghan	Obama	
Force	4	8	23	
Focus	1	3	-	
Total		5	11	23

Related to the first appraising item that is attitude, there are similarities of McCain's eulogy that is delivered by George W. Bush, Meghan McCain and Barack Obama. The first similarity is realized in the appraisal of attitude of affect that concern with the use of expression positive un/happiness. All of them agree to use the appraising item of "loved" as the most frequent item realized in their eulogies toward McCain. The example of such item is provided below;

Meghan's Speech Data No. 60
Dad, I *love* you, I always have.

The next similarity is realized in the agreement of appreciation in their speech eulogy. All of them use the word "great" as the most frequent item realized in the speech. In this matter, the use of such item is to express their emotional impact related to admiration toward McCain. An appropriate example is provided below;

Bush’s Speech Data No. 1

Cindy and the McCain family, I am honoured, to be with you, to offer my sympathies and to celebrate a **great** life.

The next similarity is realized in the appraisal of engagement that concerns with the use of the feature disclaim. An appropriate example is displayed below;

Meghan’s Speech Data No. 46

I was furious at him as a child, **but**

In this case, the word “*but*” becomes the most dominant item used by the speakers. It happens because in delivering the speech, the speakers tend to describe the McCain’s life who considers that the country not only as the physical place but also as the place for receiving the human aspirations. The next similarity is realized in the use of graduation resource in their speech eulogies. All of them are more dominant to use the item of force than focus. Here, Meghan McCain and Obama agree to use the “*few*” and “*small*” in order to explain the audience about John’s essential qualities with his largeness of spirit. The example of such item is provided below;

Obama’s Speech Data No. 25

In captivity John learned in ways that ***few*** of us ever will the meaning of those words, how each moment, each day, each choice is a test.

Moreover, it is also identified some differences of the use appraisal resources in giving their eulogies toward the deceased of McCain. The first difference shows that Meghan is more dominant to use the word “*grateful*” in the realization of attitude concern with affect. An appropriate example is displayed below;

Meghan’s Speech Data No. 16

We are ***grateful*** ⁽¹⁾ to them because they're ***grateful*** ⁽²⁾ to him.

On the other hand, the former president Bush is frequent to use the word “*trouble-making pleb*” in the realization of in/security. Moreover, in the realization of judgement, the dominant item applied by Bush is the word “*courage*” in tenacity. An appropriate example is displayed below;

George W.Bush Speech Data No. 14

He was courageous, with a ***courage*** that frightened his captors, and inspired his countrymen.

By applying the word “*courage*”, George W. Bush wants to describe his admires toward the brave of McCain to struggle his country. This study is in line with the claims from Painter (2003) said that the system of judgment is specifically related to social-cultural of an individual that may interpret someone’s behavior in positive or negative point within a framework of social and ethical values.

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding and discussion, it shows that the former president George W. Bush produced 64 appraising items; her daughter of McCain produced 140 appraising items, while the former president Barack Obama produced 168 appraising items. Bush uses the most dominant item of attitude focused on the use of judgement. He tends to apply the positive attitude than the negative one. Besides that, Meghan dominant to apply the appraising items of affect. She tends to use the expression of negative un/happiness in giving her eulogies toward the deceased of her father. It happens because she wants to show her emotional feeling of sadness over the death of her father whom she loved so much. On the other hand, known as his rival and has a fierce competition in 2008 presidential election with the Senator John McCain, Barack Obama is more dominant to use the appraising item of engagement that focuses on the use of expression disclaim. It happens because the speaker wants to share his

thought and feeling in which this can be rejected or accepted by the audience.

Moreover, there are also similarities and differences of appraisal resources given by people of various relationships such as George Bush, Meghan McCain and Barack Obama. All of them apply the expression of positive and negative affect - un/happiness in their speech. Besides that, the positive judgement of normality, capacity, tenacity, veracity and propriety are also used. On the other hand, those people also have the similarity in utilizing the positive reaction and valuation toward the deceased McCain. In the feature of engagement, the speakers dominant to use the the item of disclaim. In addition, the differences are shown when George Bush is more dominant to use the item of negative in/security. In contrast with Meghan McCain, she applies negative dis/satisfaction in her speech.

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