

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines introduction of the present research which comprises of background of the research, research questions, aim of the research, scope of the research, significance of the research, clarification of the key terms and organization of the paper.

### 1.1 Background of the Research

There are many meanings in a text. The meaning of a text does not always the same as what it is written literally. For example, in a speech event, it is captivating to seek the meanings beyond what the speaker says. It is because the speaker probably intends to put indirect meaning to what he says (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004). Thus, the speaker's intention is known as 'the act of speaking'. One of the ways to explore this 'act of speaking' is using the analysis of Halliday's interpersonal meaning.

The interpersonal meaning covers three broad analyses of mood, modality and personal pronoun system. The analysis of interpersonal meaning mostly deals with the speaker's choice of words. The reason is that the speech would be delivered on formal occasions so that the speaker would have prepared the content of the speech beforehand. Furthermore, the speech is mostly given by influential leaders regarding an important matter. Thus, the speech content have to represent the speaker's view regarding the matter.

In regard to the speaker's 'act of speaking' in his speech, Eggins (2004, as cited in Feng & Liu, 2010) states that there is a relation between the language system and the speaker's choice of words. The choice of words that the speaker uses in the speech will reveal the speaker's attitude and judgment toward the matter. Furthermore, the speaker's political position in showing his partiality will also be revealed within the use of interpersonal meaning elements in the speech.

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Therefore, the data of this research, the speech that Vladimir Putin delivered regarding a referendum in Crimea on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, will express his view, attitude and judgment toward the referendum and the reunification of Crimea and Sevastopol with Russia. Other than that, the analysis will also reveal Putin's political position in expressing his partiality regarding the matter involving Russia, Crimea, Sevastopol and Ukraine.

There are several research that analyze interpersonal meaning in political speech. For example, Feng and Liu's (2010) interpersonal metafunction analysis of Obama's speech and Pengsun and Fengfeng's (2013) contrastive study of American presidential election speech in 2008. Feng and Liu (2010) investigated the 100<sup>th</sup> day commemoration speech of President Barack Obama using the analysis of interpersonal meaning (mood, modality, pronoun system and tense shift). Their research showed that different levels of elements of interpersonal meaning can express different status of speaker, purpose, and its influence to the listener. Pengsun and Fengfeng (2013) compared two presidential election speeches that were performed by Obama and McCain using mood, modality, and personal pronoun system analysis. The analysis resulted in explaining that Obama performed better than McCain. Obama focused on giving information about his plans for United States of America (USA); the plan to solve the problems USA has.

Those previous research above only focused on the use of interpersonal meaning elements in the speech. Therefore, in connection with those previous research above, this present research also attempts to discover the elements of interpersonal meaning used in Putin's speech. This present research uses three modes of interpersonal meaning analysis: (1) mood, (2) modality, and (3) personal pronoun system. The mood analysis covers the mood that the speaker mostly uses in the speech; as Ayoola (2013) states that the use of mood is used to express the speaker's view toward the matter. Modality and personal pronoun analysis will reveal the speaker's attitude and judgment toward the matter. However, different from the previous research above, this research attempts to analyze Putin's

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political positioning that is implied by the use of the elements of interpersonal meaning in the speech using Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) theory of interpersonal metafunction.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

The present research investigates the elements of interpersonal meaning in the speech addressed by Vladimir Putin regarding the referendum in Crimea. This research proposes two following questions:

1. What are the elements of interpersonal meaning which occurred in the speech?
2. How does Putin position himself in the context of Crimean referendum?

## **1.3 Aim of the Research**

In line with the research questions above, the research aims at:

1. Discovering the elements of interpersonal meanings which occurred in the speech.
2. Revealing how Putin positions himself in the context of Crimean referendum.

## **1.4 Scope of the Research**

The present research focuses on Halliday and Matthiessen's (2004) perspective of interpersonal meaning applied in a political speech. The research is limited to analyze one speech delivered by Vladimir Putin regarding a referendum in Crimea using interpersonal meaning elements: mood, modality, and personal pronoun system. Furthermore, the research also focuses on investigating Putin's political positioning, which is for the Crimean referendum, that is implied by the use of the elements of interpersonal meaning in the speech.

## **1.5 Significance of the Research**

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The present research is expected to contribute to the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) studies both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research is expected to enrich the knowledge about the use of interpersonal meaning elements in a speech and the speaker's political position within the speech. Practically, this research is expected to be useful as guidance for students who are interested in SFL studies, especially in Halliday's interpersonal metafunction.

### 1.6 Clarification of the Key Terms

There are some terms related to the present research. Here are the clarifications of terms in order to avoid misconception:

1. **Speech** is a formal talk given usually to a large number of people on a special occasion (*Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, 2008).
2. **Interpersonal meaning** is "meaning as a form of action: the speaker or writer doing something to the listener or reader by means of language" (Malmkjær, 2002, p.532).
3. **Mood** is a set of contrasts that are mostly in form of verbs that show the attitude of the speaker's through his saying or writer's through his writing (Richards & Schmidt, 2002, p.340).
4. **Modality** is associated with six categories of linguistics expression: obligation, permission, prohibition, necessity, possibility, and ability (Trask, 1999, p.125).
5. **Personal pronoun** is part of speech that is used to point the participants in the speech event. (Trask, 1999, p.166).

### 1.7 Organization of the Paper

The organization of the research will be divided into five chapters, as follows:

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research, significance of the research, clarification of the key terms and organization of the paper.

## **2. CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter elaborates background theory for the analysis including Halliday's interpersonal meaning, the mood element, mood types, modality, personal pronoun system, and some previous research related to the present research.

## **3. CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This chapter presents the explanation of the research methodology including research design, data collection, and data analysis.

## **4. CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

This chapter presents the findings of the research and further elaboration of discussions related to the findings.

## **5. CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

This chapter provides the research conclusions based on the research findings and discussions and suggestions for further research.