APPRAISAL SYSTEM ON THE JAKARTA POST OPINION "A HUMAN RIGHTS MEMORIAL: JOKOWI AND THE SORCERER'S STONE"

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Abstract

This study aims at examining the meaning of text in detail through metafunctions **analysis with** appraisal systems. The appraisal system is deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003). The data is taken from the opinion article column of the Jakarta Post (a national English newspaper in Indonesia), published on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014. The article entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone" written by Barikatul Hikmah. According to the appraisal systems of attitude text, the writer uses more positive option for affect the reader than the negative options. The dominant positive options are used in order to express the writer's opinions, suggestions, and expectation to the Jokowi's government, in term of Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement and the importance of building a human rights memorial. The direct opinion for affect in emotional states category used around *13 expressions*, and *4 words and phrases* for showing the physical expressions. The implicit opinion of clause used in this article consist of *2 extraordinary behavior expressions* and *3 metaphors expressions*. In the amplifying of (gradable) attitudes text, the article is expressing the force of attitudes (intensifiers) that

make it possible for us to compare things or to say how strongly we feel about someone or something by making comparison to others. Related to the source of attitude analysis, the text is a narrative with some clauses containing the affect values. The writer can be said to be fully responsible for all of the evaluation, and the sources of attitudes are attributable to the writer's expectation.

Keywords: metafunction analysis, appraisal system, and The Jakarta Post article.

Introduction

Language plays an important role in presenting someone's stance towards the subject he/she is writing or speaking. It can also be used to express thoughts, feelings, and purposes. In using the language to communicate with each other, people can use many media, such as song, technology, and many more, either written or spoken. Media is also as a means of communication which have an important role to the development of language. It is also a way to create a new opinion in order that the public will know the readers' perceptions and set their mind to accept or understand what the writer thinks about. Therefore, media is as the device of communication that has power to create a perception and to set mind of the people who read it. The power to pursue the public opinion and change the mind set are two of many kinds of media power.

In communicating with each other, people need to know how meanings can be realized through the text and discourse. Discourse not only shows information about something but also opinion of the people. Discourse is often used by people to get information or show their opinion to each other. It also can open the mind set of people who read or listen it. The general discourse refers to written communication which means getting and giving information through sign. It can be pictures or writing articles that are describing things or something we feel and think.

As one of information sources, newspaper has already become a very important public media having a wide range of audience for a long time. It is one of the kinds of written communication that

can be found easily in the society around us. Newspaper has significant role in serving people information related to their world. Newspaper also has some functions; informing, influencing, entertaining, educating, and to linkage social phenomenon in a country. By reading newspaper, there would be a lot of information that can be accessed. Even if nearly a decade of massive transition from paper use to paperless or digital era indicated by the occurrence of new media such as internet, especially in Indonesia, it never really loses its loyal readers. People in Indonesia, especially from the middle class, could never lose their interest in newspaper since they consider that the low-cost source of information is easy to carry (portable) and able to read for many times, yet still serves more indepth information than the other media give (Kompas Center for Research and Developing 2012 survey).

Nowadays, both printed and electronic media become a source for people to get factual information or news, whether national or international because nowadays printed and electronic media are more global. As a consequence there are many English News TV programs, radio talk shows, entertainment, advertisements, songs, and even newspapers and magazines. As one of information sources, newspaper for example, also has a big contribution for the people. People can get information about local or international events everyday because the news and information are up to date and accurate. Therefore, newspaper has already become a very important public media having a wide range of audience for a long time because of its significant role in serving people information related to their world. By reading newspaper, there would be a lot of information that can be accessed.

One of the daily English newspapers published in Indonesia is *The Jakarta Post*. It is the daily English newspaper which is oriented in some various fields such as headline, editorial, article, opinion, world and etc. *The Jakarta Post* is a kind of written mass media published daily that consist of several issues and has some functions; informing, influencing, entertaining, educating, and to linkage social phenomenon. They usually deal with a particular issues or topic to give the information of interest and meaning.

Background Literature

Martin and Rose (2003:7) propose sets of meanings to analyze how those meanings conveyed from the text and serve one or another of those metafunctions. Those sets of meanings are known as discourse systems. There are five key systems have been deployed to explore the meanings of texts in detail (Martin and Rose, 2003). They are; appraisal, ideation, conjunction, identification, and periodicity. Appraisal analysis is used to evaluate and negotiate attitudes and it is part of interpersonal metafunction. Ideation analysis is a part of ideational metafunction to represent how our experience of 'reality, material, and symbolic experience. It focuses on the 'content' of a discourse – what kinds of activities are undertaken, and how participants in these activities are described, how they are classified and what they are composed of. Conjunction analysis is part of ideational metafunction and it is done to see how events are connected into sequences in the text. Conjunctions act as a logical connection between clauses, that they are used to add information, compare and contrast (support or countering arguments), sequencing events and give cause and effect. Identification analysis is part of textual metafunction used for tracking participants with introducing people, things and places are introduced in the text, and they will be tracked through discourse. Periodicity is part of textual metafunction used for finding out the rhythm by giving information flow in the text. This means that the writer's ability in creating relations within the text is one of the crucial factors in organizing cohesive ties within the discourse. These kinds of ideas are about information flow; giving readers some idea about what to expect, fulfilling those expectations, and then reviewing them.

The objectives of this study are to find and examine the meaning of text in detail through metafunctions analysis with appraisal systems. This system is deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003). The data was taken from the "Opinion Forum" article of the Jakarta Post (a national English newspaper) published on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014, entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone" written by

Barikatul Hikmah. The reasons for choosing text in the "Opinion Forum" as the data for this study are; Firstly, the "Opinion Forum" offers informative and argumentative discourses on various systems. Secondly, the research findings can be useful to give information and input to the readers, deals with a particular issues or topics of interest. Therefore, it is very interesting to analyze the article, especially the opinion forum column in the Jakarta Post. Hopefully, the readers will get scientific description of these meaning, types, and functions of appraisal so that they will not be confused and will be able to identify the language that used appraisal in the article.

Methods

This study is qualitative and descriptive in nature. The qualitative method is used in this study to unfold the text under analysis, and the descriptive method is used to describe the realization of the interpersonal meanings found in the text by applying metafunction analysis with appraisal systems deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003). The research is conducted by formulating the statement of the problem, collecting the data, classifying the data, analyzing the data, and drawing the conclusion.

The unit of analysis of this study is the "Opinion Forum" article of the Jakarta Post (a national English newspaper) published on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014, entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone" written by Barikatul Hikmah, by applying metafunction analysis with appraisal systems deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003).

Researcher uses the opinion article of the Jakarta Post newspaper published on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014. The topic that was chosen by researcher is the topic that is the hot issue and up to date in the society. Then the researcher classified the article into some clauses and put them into specific metafunction analysis with appraisal systems. To get a structural analysis, the analysis of article is divided into several steps, they are:

a.

   a.   Reading the column article of Jakarta Post.

   b.   Segmenting the data in term of clause.

   c.   Classifying the data and analyzing them with contextualized interpretation of metafunction analysis with appraisal systems from the perspectives of discourse semantics.

   d.   Interpreting the data.

   e.   Drawing conclusion.

Findings

The objectives of this study are to find and examine the meaning of text in detail with metafunction analysis with appraisal systems deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003). The data is taken text from the "Opinion Forum" article of the Jakarta Post (a national English newspaper) on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014 entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone" written by Barikatul Hikmah.

"Appraisal is concerned with the evaluation – the kinds of attitudes that are negotiated in a text, the strength of the feelings involved and the ways in which values are sources and readers aligned" (Martin and Rose, 2003: 22). Discourse, both spoken and written, has an interactive nature, which means that it is negotiation. We negotiate things through a system of interpersonal meanings, and this is just what appraisal is all about. Appraisal is also defined as a system or interpersonal kinds of meanings that is useful for negotiating our social relationships by telling listeners or readers how we feel about things or people (in a word, what our attitude are).

Appraisal devices include systems of attitude (comprising system of affect, system of judgment, and system of appreciation), system of amplification, and the source of attitude (Martin and Rose, 2003). Therefore, as Martin and Rose state above, appraisal has to do with the kinds of attitudes. Attitudes have to do with evaluating things, people's character and their feelings, and such evaluations, in their opinion, can be more or less intense, that is they may be more or less amplified. And the attitude may be the writer's (or the speaker's) own or it may be attributed to some other source. It can

be seen that there are three aspects of appraisal: *attitudes, how they are amplified*, and *their sources*.

1. Attitude

There are three different kinds of attitude (Martin and Rose, 2003: 25). These attitudes are as follows:

a. Affect (resources for expressing people's feeling). White (2001) defines affect as evaluation by means of the writer/speaker indicating how they are emotionally disposed to the person, thing, happening or state of affairs. By evaluating the writer's feelings which may be positive or negative and expressed directly or indirectly from their behavior. Positive indicates people have good feelings; meanwhile negative has to do with the bad feelings. Therefore, it is expected that the reader will be able to know the writer's feelings towards the subject of the text.

b. Judgment (resources for judging people's character). In judgment, how the writer judge the people's character can be realized in discourse. Martin and Rose (2003:62) state that classification of judgment can be divided into personal judgment and moral judgment, which can also be positive or negative. Unlike affect, the judgments differ between the personal judgments and moral judgments. While, personal judgments have to do with admiring (positive) and criticizing (negative). Then moral ones have to do with praising (positive) and condemning (negative).

c. Appreciation (resources for valuing the worth of things). It has something to do with aesthetic evaluation of human in appreciating the value of things in discourse. Appreciation of things includes our attitudes can be found in our surroundings, such as TV shows, newspaper, films, books, paintings, performances; anything that we see or happen around us. Similar with affect and judgment, things can be appreciated positively or negatively.

The text analysis result based on the appraisal systems of attitude text from the "Opinion Forum" article of *the Jakarta Post*, could be seen on the table 1 below:

Table 1. The Example of Options for Affect Analysis

Option for Affect	Examples
Positive	1. From the voters' **enthusiasm** to the quick-count drama, to me Indonesia's presidential election this year was **magica**l.
	2. Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement, **undoubtedly**, has fueled hopes for human rights activists and victims who have been struggling to fight impunity, as Amnesty International has noticed.
	3. In his human rights pledge, specifically, Jokowi **emphasized putting an end to impunity and processing past human rights violation case**…
	4. In his platform, Jokowi also said that the **teaching of human rights will be integrated in the school curriculum**.
	5. … building a human rights memorial is **necessary to promote social reconstruction.**
	6. I believe the nation **does not want to suffe**r from another kind of suppression, especially memory suppression.
	7. The students' answers really gave me **optimism** that a human rights memorial could **educate and reach** not only the people but also a young audience.
	8. A similar **confidence** arose when I visited the Berlin Wall Memorial a couple of years ago.
	9. Educating people and drawing their interest to past human rights violations **may be very difficult**, **but it is not impossible.**

Option for Affect	Examples
	10. Besides, the memorial can serve **as a symbolic reparation to honor the victims of violence** and **restore their reputations**, a show of the nation's commitment to human rights values and an attempt to **advance educational purposes**, including the retelling of history for future generations
	11. As this year's election did magic, I hope **the magic** won't stop at the human rights pledge.
	12. I really wish Jokowi will eventually exercise his presidential power like **a sorcerer's stone**: solving what has not been solved.
Negative	13. It **would be difficult** to imagine Prabowo as a president who would enforce human rights laws.
	14. It would **look like trusting** Britney Spears to win tennis at Wimbledon, which is wrong on too many levels.
	15. I **am afraid** past human rights abuses,…
	16. Despite the controversy over Jokowi's appointment of former Army general AM Hendropriyono, who is linked to atrocities in the Lampung village of Talangsari in 1989, as his advisor, the human rights pledge deserves respect.
	17. However, there is one thing that **is missing from the human rights pledge of Jokowi and Vice President Jusuf Kalla**: the building of a human rights memorial.
	18. Storytelling is indeed inefficacious
	19. What I saw were mostly **disinterested** faces.

		20. If we continue to fail to draw our people's awareness to past human rights abuses, a campaign like Melawan Lupa (against forgetting) will be reduced to an effort solely to solve the assassination…
Direct	Emotional state	21. enthusiasm 22. magical 23. authoritarian regime 24. difficult 25. imagine 26. wrong 27. respect 28. undoubtedly 29. blame 30. inefficacious 31. afraid 32. optimism 33. not impossible
	Physical expression	34. disinterested faces 35. tortures 36. trauma 37. Melawan Lupa (against forgetting)
Implicit	Extraordinary behavior	38. …, to me Indonesia's presidential election this year was **magical**. 39. As this year's election did **magic**, I hope the **magic** won't stop at the human rights pledge.
	Metaphor	40. It would **look like trusting** Britney Spears to win tennis at Wimbledon, which is wrong on too many levels. 41. … there are tendencies to suppress memory in an effort to "**move on" or "put the past behind".** 42. And who knows, after that, **avada kedavra**: he builds a human rights memorial

The writer uses both positive and negative words in his opinion for affect the reader in the article. The writer uses of positive option for affect the reader more than the negative options. The dominant positive options are used in order to express the writer's *opinions, suggestions, and expectation* to the Jokowi's government, in term of *Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement* and *the importance of building a human rights memorial.* Meanwhile, the purpose of negative words and phrases option is to express the writer's 'assumption' and 'pessimism' about the possibility in the past and future condition.

The direct opinion for affect in emotional states category used around 13 expressions, and 4 words and phrases for showing the physical expressions. The implicit opinion of clause used in this article consist of 2 extraordinary behavior expressions and 3 metaphors expressions.

This below table categorized words of sentences that judge the character both direct and implied expression used in the article.

Table 2. The Example of Judgment of Character

		Direct	Implied
Personal	Admire	I really wish Jokowi will eventually exercise his presidential power like a **sorcerer's stone**: solving what has not been solved.	Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement, **undoubtedly**, has fueled hopes for human rights activists and victims
	Criticize	**However**, there is one thing that is missing from the human rights pledge of Jokowi and Vice President Jusuf Kalla: the building of a human rights memorial.	**Despite** the controversy over Jokowi's appointment of former Army general AM Hendropriyono, who is linked to atrocities in the Lampung village of Talangsari in 1989, as his advisor, the human rights pledge deserves respect.

Moral	Praise	Once the election was over**, the magic did not stop**. Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, the newly inaugurated President,…	As this year's election **did magic**… From the voters' enthusiasm to the quick-count drama, to me Indonesia's presidential election this year **was magical.**
	Condemn	It would be **difficult to imagine** Prabowo as a president who would enforce human rights laws.	It would **look like trusting** Britney Spears to win tennis at Wimbledon, which is wrong on too many levels.

Table 2 shows that in personal judgment of character. The article uses 'the sorcerer's stone' to express direct admire and the word 'undoubtedly' to the admiral implied. In term of personal criticize judgment, the writer uses 'however' and 'despite' to express his direct and implied characters.

In moral judgment of character, there are two categories used in this article. They are praise and condemn expressions. In praise judgment, the expressions 'the magic did not stop' used in direct and implied expression, and in condemn judgment, the expressions 'difficult to imagine' used as direct condemn, and the phrase of 'look like trusting' used as implied moral judgment.

Table 3 below shows some words that are used to express positive and negative appreciation.

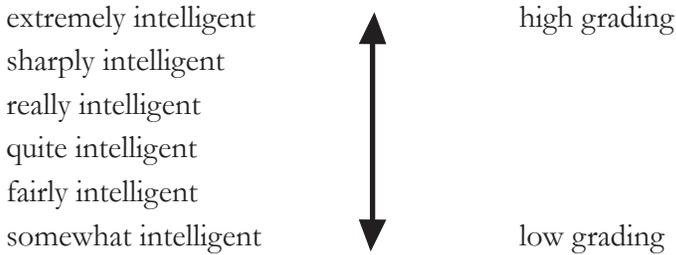## Table 3. The Example of Appreciation

Positive	
	1. From the voters' **enthusiasm…**
	2. …Indonesia's presidential election this year was **magical.**
	3. …**the magic** did not stop.
	4. Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement, **undoubtedly**,…
	5. In his human rights pledge, specifically, Jokowi **emphasized putting an end to impunity and processing past human rights violation case**…
	6. In his platform, Jokowi also said that the **teaching of human rights will be integrated in the school curriculum**.
	7. …building a human rights memorial is **necessary to promote social reconstruction.**
	8. I believe the nation **does not want to suffe**r from another kind of suppression, especially memory suppression.
	9. The students' answers really gave me **optimism** that…
	10. …a human rights memorial could **educate and reach** not only the people but also a young audience.
	11. Educating people and drawing their interest to past human rights violations **may be very difficult**, **but it is not impossible.**
	12. Besides, the memorial can serve **as a symbolic reparation to honor the victims of violence** and **restore their reputations**, a show of the nation's commitment to human rights values and an attempt to **advance educational purposes**, including the retelling of history for future generations
	13. I hope **the magic won't stop** at the human rights pledge
	14. I really wish Jokowi will eventually exercise his presidential power like **a sorcerer's stone**: solving what has not been solved.

Nega-tive	15. …,this country had a **staggering record** of human rights violations…
	16. …, the human rights pledge is **somewhat magical** for Indonesia.
	17. It **would be difficult** to imagine Prabowo as a president who would enforce human rights laws.
	18. It would **look like trusting** Britney Spears to win tennis at Wimbledon, …
	19. …there *are tendencies* to suppress memory in an effort to "**move on" or "put the past behind".**
	20. Storytelling is indeed *inefficacious*
	21. While Rahardjo was telling a very moving story about **the tortures and trauma**…
	22. What I saw were mostly **disinterested f**aces.
	23. … they might **have no psychological and emotional** ties with the incidents.
	24. If we continue **to fail to draw** our people's awareness…
	25. I am afraid past human rights abuses **will be forgotten** forever
	26. … a hard-hitting film that gives **a dramatic** account…

From the table analysis, it can be seen that most of the appreciations are positive. It indicates that the writer figures out that the Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement and the importance of building a human rights memorial are positive behaviors. The positive expressions show *the writer optimism of the Jokowi's government in solving problem that has not been solved from the past authoritarian regime and government.*

2. Amplifying Attitudes

One distinctive feature of attitudes, according to Martin and Rose (2003: 37), is that they are gradable, which means that we can say how strongly we feel about someone or something.

Figure 1. Attitude Gradable (From Martin and Rose 2003: 38)

extremely intelligent   high grading
sharply intelligent
really intelligent
quite intelligent
fairly intelligent
somewhat intelligent   low grading

According to the above scaling, Martin and Rose distinguish two kinds of resources for amplification. It can be seen that some choices turn the volume up (e.g. *extremely, sharply*) and others tone it down (e.g. *fairly*, *somewhat*). These resources include words that intensify meanings, such as *very/really/ extremely*, and vocabulary items that include degrees of intensity, such as *happy/delighted/ecstatic*. This kind of amplifying is referred to as force. The second kind of resources for amplification involves *sharpening* or *softening* categories of people and things, using words such as *about/exactly* or *real/sort of/ kind of*. This kind of amplifying is referred to as focus.

The text analysis result based on the appraisal systems of amplifying attitudes in term of gradable attitude text from the opinion article column on the Jakarta Post, could be seen from some sentences below;

a. Educating people and drawing their interest to past human rights violations may be very difficult, but it is not impossible.

b. The students' answers really gave me optimism that a human rights memorial could educate and reach not only the people but also a young audience. A similar confidence arose when I visited the Berlin Wall Memorial a couple of years ago.

c. I really wish Jokowi will eventually exercise his presidential power like a sorcerer's stone: solving what has not been solved.

d. Once the election was over, the magic did not stop. Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, the newly inaugurated President, made a pledge to champion human rights in the platform he sub-

mitted to the General Elections Commission (KPU). After decades of impunity for rights violators, the human rights pledge is somewhat magical for Indonesia.

There are vocabulary items (bold words) that include degrees of intensity from the sentences above. Those bold words in the sentences above can amplify the force of attitudes are known as *intensifiers* that make it possible for us to compare things or to say how strongly we feel about someone or something, by comparison to others.

3. Sources of Attitudes

The last region of appraisal that has to be considered is the source of attitudes – which are the evaluations coming from? In narratives, the evaluation quite probably comes from the narrator's opinion. However, a text writer may give voice to other sources by quoting or reporting what other people said. Martin and Rose (2003) use the term heterogloss where the source of an attitude is other than the writer and monogloss ('single voice') where the source is the writer. Technically sourcing resources are referred to as engagement.

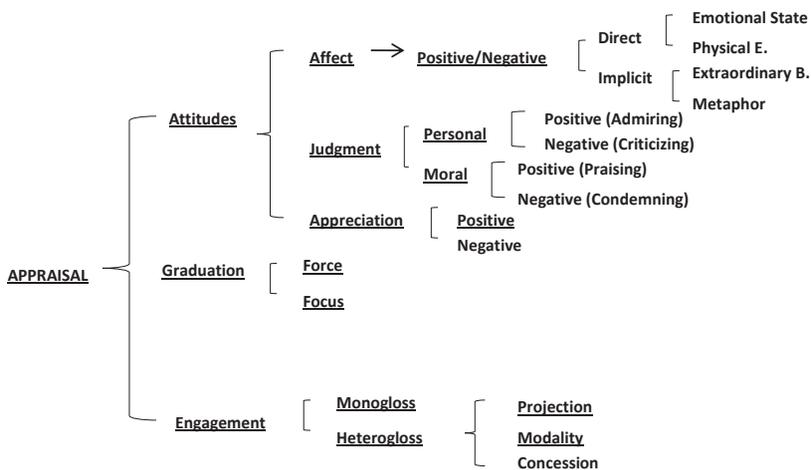## Figure 2. Appraisal Systems (From Martin and Rose 2003: 54)

Figure 2 above outlines the key to appraisal systems that the braces are used to show that we can choose from all the items enclosed within them at the same time (simultaneously). The square bracket is used to indicate that we can choose only either one.

Based on the source of attitude analysis, the text entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone", is a narrative, and the writer can be said to be fully responsible for all of the evaluation, since all of it is filtered through his/her narration (Martin and Rose, 2003: 44). As the result of text analysis based on the system of affect shows, there are some clauses containing the affect values, the sources of attitudes are attributable to the writer's expectation. The writer of the text under analysis, since most of the sources of attitudes are attributable to the writer, whereas other voices are used only rarely, it can be concluded that the writer is hoping much for most of the evaluation towards the subject under discussion.

Conclusion

This study aims at examining the meaning of text in detail through metafunctions analysis with appraisal systems. The appraisal system is deployed in order to explore texts in detail from the perspectives of discourse semantics developed by James Martin and David Rose (2003). The data is taken from the opinion article column of the Jakarta Post (a national English newspaper in Indonesia), published on Thursday, October 23rd, 2014. The article entitled "A Human Rights Memorial: Jokowi and the Sorcerer's Stone" written by Barikatul Hikmah.

There are three aspects of appraisal analysis used in the text. **First**, the results of text analyses based on the appraisal systems of attitude text; *the writer uses more positive option for affect the reader than the negative options*. The dominant positive options are used in order to express the writer's *opinions, suggestions, and expectation* to the Jokowi's government, in term of *Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement* and *the importance of building a human rights memorial*. Meanwhile, the purpose of negative words and phrases option is to express the writer's 'assumption' and 'pessimism' about the possibility in the

past and future condition. The direct opinion for affect in emotional states category used around *13 expressions, and 4 words and phrases for showing the physical expressions*. The implicit opinion of clause used in *this article consist of 2 extraordinary behavior expressions and 3 metaphors expressions*. In personal judgment of character, the article uses 'the sorcerer's stone' to express direct admire and the word 'undoubtedly' to the admiral implied. In personal criticize judgment, the writer uses 'however' and 'despite' to express his direct and implied characters. In praise judgment, the expressions 'the magic did not stop' used in direct and implied expression, and in condemn judgment, the expressions 'difficult to imagine' used as direct condemn, and the phrase of 'look like trusting' used as implied moral judgment. In the analysis of appreciation, the article uses positive appreciations to indicate the writer figures out that *the Jokowi's commitment to human rights enforcement and the importance of building a human rights memorial are positive behaviors*. The positive expressions show *the writer optimism of the Jokowi's government in solving problem that has not been solved from the past authoritarian regime and government*. **Second**, the text analysis result based on the appraisal systems of amplifying attitudes in term of gradable attitude text are expressing the force of attitudes are known as *intensifiers* that make it possible for us to compare things or to say how strongly we feel about someone or something by comparison to others. **Third**, based on the source of attitude analysis, the text is a narrative, and the writer can be said to be fully responsible for all of the evaluation, there are some clauses containing the affect values, and the sources of attitudes are attributable to the writer's expectation. The writer of the text under analysis, since most of the sources of attitudes are attributable to the writer, whereas other voices are used only rarely, it can be concluded that the writer is hoping much for most of the evaluation towards the subject under discussion.

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