Interpersonal Meta function Analysis of Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues Using English Systemic Linguistics

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Abstract

This study examines Mood, Modality, and Attitude as a part of Appraisal theory in the Editorial News of the *Sydney Morning Herald* Interpersonal Meta function Analysis. Three methods were used, including (1) Indicative (Declarative and Interrogative) mood, (2) Modalization (Indicative Type), Probability (may be) and Usuality ("sometimes"), and (3) Attitude subsystem as part of Appraisal theory resources with three clauses, including Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation. The study aims to investigate the highest Interpersonal Meta function in terms of Mood, Modality, and Attitude in Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues. A sample of ten editorial discourses in business-related issues from The *Sydney Morning Herald* was used to examine Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal theory. The adopted framework in this research is interpersonal Meta function consisting of Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal theory. The results showed that more interrogative clauses were used, specifically 108 of 183 (59.02%) than declarative 75 of 183 (40.98%). Additionally, there were more probability positive clauses 61 of 73 (83.56%) than negative 7 of 73 (9.59%) and usuality 5 of 73 (6.85%). Similarly, appreciation clauses were used more frequently, specifically 19 of 46 (41.30%) than Judgment 14 of 46 (30.43%) and Affect 13 of 46 (28.26%). The limitation for this research is that it examined only 10 business-related editorials, which means it may not be too comprehensive. However, the information in this research can be used for educational development in Interpersonal Meta function Analysis of Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues Using English Systemic Linguistics. The author recommends that the future research should add more business-related editorial cases to incorporate Interpersonal Meta function, which consists of Mood, Modality, and Appraisal system as a whole by adding graduation, engagement in order to be more complete, not only Attitude as a part of Appraisal theory.

Introduction

Editorial news covers various topics, including economics, politics, foreign relations, and social issues. The critical opinions of editors on current events, particularly those affecting the general public, are expressed in news editorials. Distinct and critical discourses are needed if the editor is to convince the audience through their pieces. Therefore, proper language mastery is an integral part of news as the editor can tap into these resources to express his opinion on controversial social problem in the society. Healy (2011) defines an editorial as a newspaper article that expresses the editor or owner's perspective on a topic or item of news. Personal editorials are frequently signed

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by the author, while institutional editorials are not. The editorial's main objective is to shape public opinions since reading them helps readers develop a perception about the text, the author, and the publication because they reflect the author's cultural influences or ideas.

Silachai and Poonpon (2016) stated that news editorial discourse influences public opinion due to various factors. The description of language units and the relationships between their properties and functions may be found in news-editorial discourse. These units explain how news editorials use systemic and implicit discourse. News editorials require a mutual understanding between the editors and the readers because they consist of various discourse elements. The interpersonal Meta function is concerned with clauses as exchanges and the social environment, particularly between speaker and listener (http://www.ling.helsinki.fi). It is described by the semantics interaction, the metalanguage connected to language as exchange, and modality. The word metalanguage was coined by linguist Roman Jakobson and other Russian Formalists to describe a language that makes assumptions about other languages (*http://grammar.about.com*).

Andersen (2017) state that Mood is the major interpersonal clause system that provides interactants in dialogue with the resources for giving or demanding a commodity. This could be information or goods-and-services or resources for enacting speech functions (acts) through the clause grammar, including statements (giving information) and questions. Modality is also vital in carrying out the interpersonal Meta function of clauses, indicating the proposition's validity (Andersen, 2017). The use of "yes" and "no" by the speaker is common when assessing the obligation and the probability of what is being said.

Attitudinal meanings are divided into three broad kinds in the appraisal literature. The first appraisal literature assesses the social value of objects, artifacts, texts, states of affairs, and processes (affect). The second category is the assessments of human behavior and character based on ethics or morality and other conventionalized or institutionalized norms (Judgment). The third literature assessment examines the objects, texts, artifacts, processes, and the state of affairs social values that impact the editorial. Appraisal shows how people express attitudinal meanings. Cattan, White, Bond, and Learmouth (2005) found three appraisal attitudes in English, including affect, Judgment, and appreciation.

Al-Khatib (2005) examined the use of English by tourist and banking personnel to investigate the communication needs, wants, and deficiencies of employees in the workplace. Furthermore, it analyzed workers' opinions toward English and its use in the workplace, resulting in three key implications. First, travel agency employees use English more frequently than banking employees. This was evidenced by four language skills, including reading (49% vs. 61%), writing (37% vs. 80%), speaking (33% vs. 61%), and listening (36% vs. 63%) of banking and travel agency employees, respectively. Second, when asked about their needs, most respondents desire to gather knowledge, improve their listening skills, and enhance their speaking abilities. Third, executives in both workplaces expressed a strong desire to use language for multi-purpose activities in response to many questions about language attitudes. However, the desire of tourism executives supersedes that of banking executives, as they were much more cooperative. Harlizanti (2020) conducted Identifying Mood Types Analysis in BTS' Speech to examine the moods of BTS during their UNICEF lecture. The results showed that clauses are analyzed in interpersonal meanings using the mood structure, comprising subject and finite's location to determine mood types. Therefore, it is possible to identify mood factors to solve difficulties with the text's characteristics. Because of the various claims, the speech could be classified as an inauguration or delivered by a powerful person to formalize something.

This study focused on the interpersonal Meta function of the editorial pieces written in The *Sydney Morning Herald* due to their choice of language and huge readership. It aimed to assist readers in comprehending and evaluate the sustainability of the discourses in The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s editorial news. This would provide some guidance for readers to make better discourses. The study contributes to the readers' comprehension of the interpersonal Meta function of The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s editorial news. The Meta function entails the analysis of Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal. A previous study showed that real-life events are expressed in newspapers and other writings through the linguistic choices of reporters and editorialists. This means that events are built as text through discourse. It is advisable to use English systemic linguist when examining the Interpersonal Meta function Analysis of Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues.

Based on the above information, the author can formulate research problem as follows: how is the perspective of the editors being examined related to interpersonal Meta function of Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal theory? According to the research problem, the research question is formulated as what is the highest Interpersonal Meta function of Mood, Modality, and Attitude in Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues?

This study focuses on the interpersonal Meta function of Mood, the Modality system, and Attitude as part of Appraisal because many aspects affect the editorial news analysis at the *Sydney Morning Herald*, as shown in the research. This aspect can be developed based on the highest Interpersonal Meta function of Mood, Modality, and Attitude in Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues.

The purpose of this research is to investigate the highest Interpersonal Meta function of Mood, Modality, and Attitude in Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues.

The benefits from this study can be found below.

1. This study provides an extra reference for Systemic Functional Linguists and Researchers regarding the realization of Interpersonal Meta function in editorial newspaper article discourses.
2. It is expected to help readers assess the quality of their analysis of discourses in newspaper articles. Additionally, it aims to help readers utilize systemic, Interpersonal Meta function analysis in evaluating discourses in newspaper articles that could be useful when they become reporters or editorialists.

Literature Review

Lexico-grammar

House (2006) conducted a research with the objective to introduce the theoretical notion of stance as a feature of interpersonal meaning into Translation Studies. This research investigated how stance is reproduced in newspaper-commissioned translations of a highly opinionated political genre. It explained how stance patterns are conveyed in newspaper opinion articles on the "Arab Spring" published in English in the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*. Moreover, this research analyzed how these patterns are re-conveyed in full translations of these articles for *Al-Ghad* and *Al-Ittihad*, the two high-quality Arabic-language newspapers with opposing editorial policies.

Lexico-grammatical, textual and contextual are a triangulation of approaches that provide a cohesive stance analysis at several levels. Therefore, the corpus and discourse-analytical methodologies were used based on descriptive translation. In comparison, this study develops a new theoretical notion of stance, which has never been addressed before in translation studies. However, it has been a top research agenda in linguistics and related disciplines for the past two decades. Additionally, the thesis developed and tested a novel combined theoretical framework to analyze this phenomenon within descriptive translation studies. This thesis contributes to the discipline by addressing a shift in posture. The investigation of the conveyance and re-conveyance of stance shows considerable shifts in *Al-Ghad* and *Al-Ittihad's* Arabic translations. As a result, the initial stance is weakened, accented, or completely lost due to these alterations.

Dafouz-Milne (2008) examined the role of meta discourse markers in constructing and attaining persuasion. Two elite newspapers, *The Times* (British) and *El Pas* (Spanish), were chosen from a cross-linguistic perspective for their standing and the political and rhetorical effect on their respective national cultures. The research examined textual and interpersonal signals revealed in a corpus of 40 opinion articles (20 written in English and 20 in Spanish). It aimed to determine the meta discourse categories in this newspaper discourse and their dispersal among cultures and languages. Similarly, this study investigated the role of textual and interpersonal meta discourse indicators in developing and attaining persuasion. It uses a contrastive corpus of English and Spanish newspaper articles to determine the meta discourse markers that characterize newspaper discourse.

The meta discourse concept was used as an analytical framework because it is beneficial in textual analysis. Furthermore, quantitative and qualitative analyses were conducted on the meta discourse markers in a corpus of Spanish and English opinion columns. The analysis demonstrated that in terms of similarity, textual and interpersonal meta discourse markers were presented in English and Spanish texts. However, there is internal variation in the creation of opinion columns between languages. Furthermore, the logical markers pointed more to a likely prospective trend in Spanish than English argumentation patterns. Differences in the number of code glosses or supplemental material considered relevant by English and Spanish writers are also worth noting.

The study found no statistically significant differences in how Spanish and English opinion columns articulate these topics based on the linguistic composition of the textual meta discursive markers. Also, there is a general cross-linguistic uniformity, though some preferences exist, such as the larger presence of deontic modality in English, notably must, or the lack of imperative phrases in the Spanish corpus. The findings showed that texts containing balanced textual and interpersonal meta discourse items were the most compelling to informants in terms of persuasion. Texts with most of these indicators are followed by those with fewer of these markers. Moreover, the informants found texts with a low index of meta discourse indicators to be the least compelling. This means that the readers value writings that advise and care for the audience by developing a dialogic tone that is neither excessively pushy nor patronizing. The study of persuasion has two major limitations: the researcher's limited scale and the persuasion's dynamicity and extra-textuality. Various extra-textual factors with a significant role in persuasive Judgment are not discussed here, such as the topic, the type of newspaper, the section in the newspaper, or the columnist. The findings imply that textual and interpersonal meta discourse markers could be found in English and Spanish newspaper columns. However, the prevalence and composition of such markers vary, particularly in logical markers and code glosses.

Tsoi (2013) investigated classroom authenticity in undergraduate business communication teaching in Hong Kong. The literature-based research aimed to make classroom interactions and related language (classroom talk) more realistic to the corporate workplace as the learners' target community of practice. The results showed a possibility of authentically transferring corporate practice and related discourse to the university business communication classroom. This is possible when corporate leadership practices are tightly matched with effective university teaching and learning techniques. Moreover, language teachers may still transmit corporate leadership methods to the classroom even with a less clear conceptual alignment between the two contexts. However, the related corporate speech may need more extensive tailoring to suit the university classroom.

Aniroh (2018) examined the cultural attribute of entrepreneurship in theme-and project-based education for English teachers. The study analyzed successful Indonesian entrepreneurs' history, personal traits, company strategy, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and Corporate Philanthropy (CP). Personal attributes such as being tough, persevering, seizing opportunities, strong commitment, courage, and other good manners are sources of motivation for teachers. Similarly, uniqueness, fantastic product, adoption, and evaluation, are spectacular examples of great business strategies. The ten entrepreneurs believe in helping others by utilizing CSR and CP to sustain their businesses. This is also a great source of teaching ideas and information for English teachers and students. The implementation begins by collaborating with successful local entrepreneurs, followed by research on teaching in and outside the classroom, and the impact on students' learning outcomes.

Mood System

Healy (2011) conducted "Ideologies and Us vs. Them: A Comparative Study Using Systemic Functional Grammar of Irish and British Editorials Related to the End of the IRA's Armed Campaign." The study analyzed ten editorials from four newspapers in two adjacent countries, the United Kingdom and Ireland. Furthermore, three editorials from the *Daily Telegraph*, two from *The Guardian*, three from the *Irish Independent*, and two from the *Irish Times* were chosen for the study. The institutional editorials written by the newspaper's editor were also examined to reflect their positions on current events. The editorials were lettered, and the clause complex of each editorial was numbered for easy reference. A clause complex is a linguistic structure comprising a single sentence or several clauses interacting logically. It was referred to as a clause from then on. The first research question was whether these editorials revealed diverse ideological positions, and

the results showed they are not as dissimilar as it was assumed. Regarding Mood, the *Daily Telegraph* demonstrated their ideology by stating that they did not trust the IRA and did not agree with the government's position and actions in Northern Ireland. The editor repeatedly cautions the reader to wait and see what happens.

However, *The Guardian* editorials took a positive ideological stance on the news, portraying the future in Northern Ireland as brighter for everybody involved. The moods depicted in both British publications as diametrically opposed. Similar to *Irish Independent*, the *Irish Times* presents a favorable outlook shortly after the first declaration. However, as time passes and more thought is given, the statement's elation fades, and the awareness of what could happen makes the editorials more critical. Both Irish newspapers have a similar viewpoint, as does the *Daily Telegraph*. The Mood that is a kind of an interactive event between the editor and the reader is less interactive in British editorials due to the use of interrogatives. In comparison with British editorials, the Irish editorials used more modality to create a less authoritative, more suggestive tone. According to this research, British editorials are more authoritative than Irish editorials. However, both are similar in Affect and Judgment, though there is a substantial difference in appreciation, with the Irish editorials including twice as much as the British ones. Furthermore, the statement and IRA acts are rated badly and positively in both editorials, with the Irish being more positive. This indicates to the reader that the statement should be believed and that the IRA's future actions would be peaceful.

The Irish newspapers and the *Daily Telegraph* have also disapproved the IRA. The *Daily Telegraph* disapproved of the British government and other parties engaged. *The Guardian* is an outlier, with an overall upbeat outlook on the future and the IRA, emphasizing the editor's hope of persuading the reader to agree. All newspapers use the IRA as a theme, and most of them thematize the statement and the political parties involved. The only possible difference is in the usage of themes to express criticism. Although British editorials express hatred toward the IRA and British politicians, Irish editorials express their animosity primarily toward the IRA.

The second study question concerned the representation of social groups, with the *Daily Telegraph* and *Irish Times* presenting them in the most unfavorable light. The *Irish Independent* came in third, while *The Guardian* used the least critical language. Moreover, positivity is 50% to 70% more frequently in Irish newspapers than in British editorials. Another difference is that both the British and Irish editorials place the British government and lawmakers in the same category. Additionally, Irish newspapers utilize more positive words than the British media. Healy anticipated that the British and Irish editorials would take opposing ideological positions. On the contrary, the *Daily Telegraph* and Irish newspapers have a pessimistic outlook on the IRA statement and the future of politics. In contrast, *The Guardian* expresses the most favorable opinion of the IRA, the statement, and the future of British politics.

Noor, Ali, Muhabat, and Kazemian (2015) conducted Systemic Functional Linguistics Mood Analysis of the Last Address of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). The study examined the functional and semantic features of the Holy Prophet's final address (PBUH) and language's interpersonal Meta function, emphasizing the participants' power dynamics. The work filled a gap in the linguistic analysis of religious texts using SFL. The results showed that the functional structural-based text mood analysis is highly effective in understanding the participants' interpersonal connections. The Mood of the clauses is determined by order of the clause parts using different meanings depending on the clause type. The use of SFL Mood analysis to analyze religious texts is a good method that needs further investigation in diverse circumstances. Moreover, religious writings are the least studied linguistic genre. The Holy Prophet's (PBUH) address provides legitimate linguistic material for research and encourages objective evaluation.

Modality

Oktavianti and Fajria (2021) compared the spoken sub-corpus of the Corpus of Contemporary American English with the conversational modal verbs of a curriculum-based EFL textbook, *Bahasa Inggris*, for grade XII (COCA). Furthermore, it examined the frequency with which modal verbs were used in the textbook and corpus to determine similarities or mismatches. The findings showed inconsistencies in selecting the modal verbs used in the textbook's conversations. These included the absence of 'would' as the most frequent modal verb in COCA's spoken sub-corpus and

the absence of phonetically reduced modal verbs (e.g., going to, gotta, want to). Furthermore, there are less varied examples of contracted forms, less frequent use of 'be,' 'going to,' and 'want to,' and no colloquial modal vesicles. Although the spoken register is a discussion, the language used in the discourse is influenced by the written register because it is meant for a textbook. Conversely, the conversation includes individuals producing language in real-time with limited time. Therefore, speakers construct language by adopting shortcuts, allowing the use of contractions and reduced modal verbs. Furthermore, the usage of 'would' should be emphasized because it is the most common modal verb in COCA's spoken sub-corpus due to its multiple pragmatic uses.

Ajmal, Alrasheedi, and Hussain (2020) examined the significance of modal verbs in two English novels, James Joyce's *Ulysses* and Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge*. The results showed the writers' latent ideologies of possibility, probability, inference, and belief through modal employment. Furthermore, the corpora of the selected novels are separated from all fundamental, marginal, and modal auxiliaries. According to this research, modality is a linguistic property that refers to performing different underlying language uses, as evidenced by the textual usage of modal verbs. Writers and speakers use auxiliary modal verbs to express meaning and perform several tasks in the language. For instance, they may persuade people concerning particular things, request or grant permission, seek to establish certainty, attempt to influence others, and exercise their opinions via people.

The term modality has drawn the attention of numerous linguists and theorists to view it from many perspectives to research and comprehend its basic essence in various phrasal forms and functions. Some theorists group various modal auxiliaries into one category. However, it is becoming impossible to consider any linguistic feature in a text or a discourse (spoken/written/images/or in combination) in conventional terms. This is especially with the increasing progress of the latest and contemporary language knowledge. As a result, theorists have their valid grounds when categorizing linguistic features.

Andersen (2017) examined the interpersonal meaning disclosed by using the modality system in students' hortatory exposition texts at one of Ciamis' universities. The results showed that the value and polarity of modality designated how powerful the language communicates interpersonal meaning, as predicted by the author. Similarly, SFL is also useful to the teachers in this study. Students would more critically examine their work and comprehend how language generates meaning when they employ the modality system in their writing.

Attitude

McCabe and Heilman (2007) conducted a research with aims to inform, while the editorial intends to argue for a certain perspective on a given circumstance. The results showed that systemic functional linguistics (SFL) illuminate how these ends are achieved linguistically. The study focused on the textual meta-function through theme selection and the use of textual adjuncts. Moreover, it examined the interpersonal meta-function through the use of textual adjuncts and decisions made in the APPRAISAL system, particularly in the ATTITUDE and ENGAGEMENT sub-systems. The comparison of a news report and an editorial showed that the editorial uses more overtly present interpersonal devices. However, this does not imply that the news report completely hides the authorial presence, as textual devices, including conjuncts such as 'however,' reveal what a writer expects from readers.

Wulandari (2018) described the introduction of Storybird, a web 2.0 application that encourages collaborative narrative story creation, in a freshman paragraph writing class. It involved 25 students at Sanata Dharma University's English Language Education Department. Additionally, through reflection and narrative writing, this project investigated students' attitudes towards integrating internet-based technology. The results showed that Storybird appeals to storytellers because it allows them to collaborate and share their work with a larger audience. When students are asked to write a narrative story, they negotiate and construct meaning by defining the story's background, substance, scenario, and characters. Therefore, Storybird could be used to follow a process approach to writing. However, learners should complete a pre-writing task in the classroom before proceeding to collaborative online work. Storybird is a web 2.0 application that could foster collaborative narrative production, though students' success mostly depends on their ability to make individual decisions.

Idowu (2017) examined the effectiveness of performance appraisal systems and their impact on employee motivation. The results showed that the aspects that significantly influence employee motivation are performance appraisal for identifying employee strengths, deficiencies, and advancement. As a result, the organization should concentrate on the two components to boost motivation.

Methodology

Research Design

This study focused on the interpersonal Meta function of Mood, the Modality system, and Attitude as part of Appraisal. The theoretical framework used in this research is shown in Figure 1.
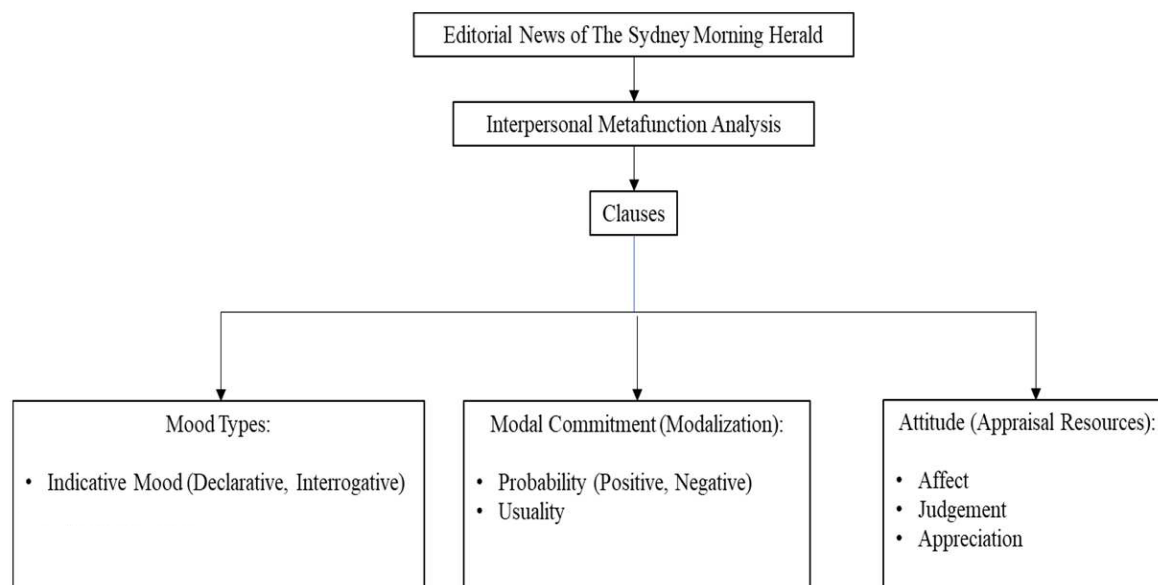

Figure 1. *The Framework of the Study*

The primary theoretical references considered in this study are: (1) Mood System or Mood Types (Morris, Bylsma, & Rottenberg, 2009; Sheppes et al., 2014), (2) Modal Commitment or Modalization (Divers, 1999; Friedman, 2005), and (3) Attitude (Cattan et al., 2005).

Data Acquisition

The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s editorial news provided the basis for Data Acquisition. A sample of ten business articles published by The *Sydney Morning Herald* was used and indexed from A to J. The source of data was shown in Appendix 1. The *Sydney Morning Herald* was chosen because it is Australia's oldest continually published newspaper and a national online news brand. It is published six days a week and available throughout the country, except in the Northern Territory. A very limited copies of the newspaper are available at New Zealand newsagents and the Australian High Commission in London. The paper's average weekday print readership was 104,000 in February 2016.

The December 2013 audit by the Audit Bureau of Circulations on newspaper circulation showed that a monthly average of 132,000 copies were sold from Monday through Friday and 228,000 copies on Saturday, both down 16% in the previous year. The Roy Morgan Research Readership Surveys showed that the publication was read 766,000 times from Monday to Friday and 1,014,000 times on Saturdays in the twelve months leading to March 2011.

As of July 2015, third-party web analytics firms Alexa and SimilarWeb ranked the newspaper's website smh.com.au as the 17th and 32nd most visited websites in Australia, respectively. Furthermore, according to SimilarWeb, smh.com.au is Australia's fifth and the world's 42nd most visited newspaper website, with over 15 million monthly visits.

This study chose The *Sydney Morning Herald* editorials, written by the newspaper's editor. The editorials were lettered and numbered for easy referencing. Ten business articles from 2018 were used as examples in examining business issues. The editorial letter and clause number were displayed beside the analysis.

Data Analysis

The method of data interpretation was interpersonal Meta function because it helped to examine the editors' roles and how they conveyed their ideology. Furthermore, the interpersonal Meta function demonstrates Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal in the *Sydney Morning Herald*'s editorial news. The semantic function of a clause in information exchange, which is a preposition, was explored for the interpersonal Meta function of mood. The preposition became something that could be fought about, confirmed, or rejected. Conversely, based on this theory, the interpersonal Meta function modality is related to the validity of the information being delivered, as measured by likelihood or usuality. These could be expressed using a Finite modal operator, a mood Adjunct of probability or usuality, or both. The interpersonal Meta function of evaluation helps understand how editorials in the *Sydney Morning Herald*'s editorial news convey attitudinal meanings. It tells whether the editorial believes something is good or negative.

This study focused on Mood, Modality System, and Attitude as part of Appraisal at the level of interpersonal function to analyze The Editorial News of The *Sydney Morning Herald* used three types of analysis. The first analysis was Mood: Indicative (Declarative and Interrogative) and Imperative. The second was Modalization (Indicative Type): Probability ("may be") and Usuality ("sometimes"). The third analysis was the Attitude sub-system: Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation.

Findings

The Interpersonal Meta function: Mood Analysis

The mood analysis was conducted on ten *Sydney Morning Herald* editorials in business-related issues. Table 1a shows an example analysis for declarative clauses in the Editorial Discourse on Article A, while Table 1b presents interrogative clauses in the Article A.

Table 1a: *Mood analysis (declarative clauses) in editorial of Article A*
(China buys time for little cost as Trump claims 'incredible' victory)

Clause	Mood	
	Subject	**Finite**
3	The deal	didn't
5	China	Will
6	China	Can
9	It	would
	It	would
11	It	might
	Xi	will
15	Level	could
	It	will
16	Oil Prices	Might
19	There	will
	Which	will
22	Oil Prices	Would
	Budgets	would
23	Members	need
	Members	need to
	Budgets	wouldn't

Table 1b: *Mood analysis (interrogative clauses) in editorial of Article A*
(China buys time for little cost as Trump claims 'incredible' victory)

Clause	Mood	
	Finite	**Subject**
2	Was	The weekend
5	Will	China
10	Is	Designed
	will	Xi
11	is	Improbable
	is	It
	was	Rate
13	was	Interpreted
	was	The Fed
	was	It
	will	It
15	is	Committee
	is	Still
19	will	There
	will	Which
21	Was	OPEC

Source: https://www.smh.com.au/business/markets/china-buys-time-for-little-cost-as-trump-claims-incredible-victory-20181203-p50ju6.html

Furthermore, Tables 2A and 2B illustrate the overall mood analyses (declarative and interrogative clauses) of The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s ten business editorials (from Articles A to J). Please refer those articles in the Appendix 1.

Table 2a: *Subjects and mood in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Declarative Clauses	Interrogative Clauses	Predominant Subjects
Article A	17	16	It
			Not
			Was
Article B	0	5	The Offer
			It
			Performance
Article C	5	4	Assets
			Management
Article D	5	4	Installations
			Mark
Article E	3	3	Australia
Article F	3	13	Employee
			He
			That
Article G	18	16	Graincorp
			The Board
			The Government
Article H	8	4	The Senate
			There
Article I	9	28	It
			Others
			Debt
Article J	7	15	Australia
			State
Total (10 Business-Related Editorials)	**75**	**108**	--

Table 2b: *Declarative and interrogative clauses composition in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Declarative Clauses	%	Interrogative Clauses	%	Total Clauses	%
Article A	17	51,52%	16	48,48%	33	100%
Article B	0	0,00%	5	100,00%	5	100%
Article C	5	55,56%	4	44,44%	9	100%
Article D	5	55,56%	4	44,44%	9	100%
Article E	3	50,00%	3	50,00%	6	100%
Article F	3	18,75%	13	81,25%	16	100%
Article G	18	52,94%	16	47,06%	34	100%
Article H	8	66,67%	4	33,33%	12	100%
Article I	9	24,32%	28	75,68%	37	100%
Article J	7	31,82%	15	68,18%	22	100%
Total (10 Business-Related Editorials)	75	40,98%	108	59,02%	183	100%

The Interpersonal Meta function: Modality Analysis

The Modal Commitment or Modalization is the modality analysis used in this study. Modalization is similar to Mood's Indicative because it provides information about *Sydney Morning Herald*'s Business-Related Articles. Table 3a shows the Modality (Modalization) in *Sydney Morning Herald*'s 10 Business-Related Editorials, while Table 3b shows the Modalization Composition.

Table 3a: *Modality (Modalization) in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Frequency of Probability-Positive	Frequency of Probability-Negative	Frequency of Usuality
Article – A	12	3	0
Article – B	0	0	0
Article – C	5	0	0
Article – D	5	0	1
Article – E	3	0	0
Article – F	3	0	0
Article – G	13	1	0
Article – H	8	0	0
Article – I	9	0	0
Article – J	3	3	4
Total Frequency	61	7	5

Table 3b: *Modality (Modalization) composition in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Prob. Pos	%	Prob. Neg	%	Usual	%	Total Clauses	%
Article A	12	80.00%	3	20.00%	0	0.00%	15	100.00%
Article B	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	100.00%
Article C	5	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	100.00%
Article D	5	83.33%	0	0.00%	1	16.67%	6	100.00%
Article E	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
Article F	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
Article G	13	92.86%	1	7.14%	0	0.00%	14	100.00%
Article H	8	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	8	100.00%
Article I	9	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	9	100.00%
Article J	3	30.00%	3	30.00%	4	40.00%	10	100.00%
Total (10 Business-Related Editorials)	61	83.56%	7	9.59%	5	6.85%	73	100.00%

Notes: Prob. Pos = Probability Positive; Prob.Neg = Probability Negative; Usual = Usuality

The Interpersonal Meta function: Attitude Analysis

Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation are the three sub-systems of the Attitude sub-system in Appraisal analysis. Table 4a shows the composition of the Attitude sub-system (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation) in the 10 Business-Related Editorials of *Sydney Morning Herald,* and Table 4b shows the composition of the Attitude sub-system (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation).

Table 4a: *Attitude analysis (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation) in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Frequency of Affect	Frequency of Judgement	Frequency of Appreciation
Article – A	1	1	1
Article – B	1	1	1
Article – C	1	1	1
Article – D	1	1	3
Article – E	1	1	2
Article – F	2	2	2
Article – G	1	1	1
Article – H	1	1	2
Article – I	3	4	5
Article – J	1	1	1
Total Frequency	13	14	19

Table 4b: *Attitude analysis (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation) in the 10 business-related editorials of The Sydney Morning Herald*

Editorial	Affect	%	Judg.	%	Appr.	%	Total Clauses	%
Article A	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%
Article B	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%
Article C	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%
Article D	1	20.00%	1	20.00%	3	69.99%	5	100.00%
Article E	1	25.00%	1	25.00%	2	50.00%	4	100.00%
Article F	2	33.33%	2	33.33%	2	33.33%	6	100.00%
Article G	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%
Article H	1	25.00%	1	25.00%	2	50.00%	4	100.00%
Article I	3	25.00%	4	33.33%	5	41.67%	12	100.00%
Article J	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%
Total (10 Business-Related Editorials)	13	28.26%	14	30.43%	19	41.30%	46	100.00%

Notes: Judg = Judge; Appr = Appreciation

Discussion

This section sums up the discussion related to the findings of Mood, Modality, and Attitude as part of Appraisal theory. The mood analysis (declarative and interrogative sentences) of ten *Sydney Morning Herald* business-related editorials are found as follows.

- Article H (8 of 12 clauses, or 66.67%) employ the most declarative clauses, while Article B uses the least (0 of 5 clauses, or 0%). Declarative clauses account for 75 of the 183 clauses (40,98%).
- Article B employs the most interrogative clauses (5 of 5 clauses, or 100%), and Article H uses the least (4 of 12 clauses, or 33.33%). Interrogative clauses account for 108 of the 183 clauses (59.02%).
- *Sydney Morning Herald*'s ten business-related editorials used more interrogative clauses (108 of 183 clauses, or 59.02%) than declarative ones (75 of 183 clauses, or 40.98%).

Regarding the findings in the modality (Modalization) analysis, it can be explained as follows.

- Articles C, E, F, H, and I are the most probable positive clauses, each with a 100% clause. Article B employs the lowest probability positive (0 clauses, or 0%).

- The highest probability negative clause is Article J (3 of 10 clauses, or 30.00%), while the least are Article B, C, D, E, F, H, and I, each of which is a 0 clause (0%).
- Article J (4 of 10 clauses, or 40%) has the highest use of usuality, while Articles A, B, C, E, F, G, H, and I have the lowest usage of usuality, each at 0%.
- In The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s ten business-related editorials, probability positive clauses (61 of 73 clauses, or 83.56%) were used more than probability negative clauses (7 of 73 clauses, or 9.59%), while usuality clauses were used less (5 of 73 clauses, or 6.85%).

Further, related to the findings in the Attitude analysis as part of the Appraisal (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation) system, it can be explained as follows.

- The business-related editorials that use the most Affect are articles A, B, C, F, G, and J, each with a 33.33% usage rate, while articles D and E use the least Affect (1 of 5 clauses, or 20.00%).
- The business-related editorials that employ the greatest Judgment are articles A, B, C, F, G, I, and J, each with 33.33%, while article D uses the least Judgment (1 of 5 clauses, or 20.00%).
- Appreciation is mostly used by article D (3 of 5 clauses, or 60.00%) and least used by articles A, B, C, F, G, and J, each with 33.33%.
- Appreciation clauses were used more frequently (19 of 46 clauses, or 41.30%) than Judgment (14 of 46 clauses, or 30.43%) and Affect clauses (13 of 46 clauses, or 28.26%) in The *Sydney Morning Herald*'s ten business-related editorials.

All editorials were majorly based on interrogative clauses (108 of 183) forming 59.02% than the declarative clauses (75/183).

Conclusion

The ten business-related editorials of *Sydney Morning Herald* used more interrogative clauses (108 of 183 clauses, or 59.02%) than declarative ones, specifically 75 of 183 (40.98%). There were more probability positive clauses with 61 of 73 (83.56%) than probability negative, which had 7 of 73 (9.59%) and usuality 5 of 73 clauses (6.85%). Appreciation clauses were used more frequently (19 of 46 clauses, or 41.30%) than Judgment (14 of 46 clauses, or 30.43%) and Affect clauses (13 of 46 clauses, or 28.26%).

The limitation for this research is that it is based on only 10 business-related editorials, which means it may not be too comprehensive. However, the information in this research can be used for educational development in Interpersonal Meta function Analysis of Editorial Discourse in Business-Related Issues Using English Systemic Linguistics. The author recommends that future research should add more business-related editorial cases to incorporate Interpersonal Meta function, which consists of Mood, Modality, and Appraisal system as a whole by adding graduation, engagement in order to be more complete, not only Attitude as a part of Appraisal theory.

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Appendix 1. Sources of data

No	Articles	Titles	Sources
1	A	China buys time for little cost as Trump claims 'incredible' victory	Editor: Stephen Bartholomeusz Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/markets/china-buys-time-for-little-cost-as-trump-claims-incredible-victory-20181203-p50ju6.html
2	B	Reject Shop urges shareholders to reject 'low-ball' takeover bid	Editor: Patrick Hatch Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/companies/the reject-shop-tells-shareholders-to-reject-low-ball-takeover-bid-20181203-p50jxw.html
3	C	Retail Food Group boss departs after less than a year	Editor: Patrick Hatch Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/companies/retail-food-group-boss-departs-after-less-than-a-year-20181203-p50jwr.html
4	D	'Six panels a minute': Two million Australian homes now have solar	Editor: Peter Hannam Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/consumer-affairs/six-panels-a-minute-two-million-australian-homes-now-have-solar-20181203-p50jtn.html
5	E	WA takes lion's share of mineral exploration spend	Editor: Hamish Hastie Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/wa-takes-lion-s-share-of-mineral-exploration-spend-20181203-p50jx1.html
6	F	Westpac worker subjected to five hour 'star chamber' wins back job	Editor: Matthew Dunckley Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/westpac-worker-subjected-to-five-hour-star-chamber-wins-back-job-20181202-p50jpg.html
7	G	'The friendly activist': Wylie offers Graincorp a very different counter bid	Editor: Stephen Bartholomeusz Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/companies/the-friendly-activist-wylie-offers-graincorp-a-very-different-counter-bid-20181206-p50knk.html
8	H	'Unprecedented': Origin chief warns against PM's energy laws	Editor: Nick Toscano Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/companies/unprecedented-origin-chief-warns-against-pm-s-energy-laws-20181207-p50kvs.html
9	I	Banks' pack behaviour could drive housing lower: RBA	Editor: Matthew Dunckley Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/banks-pack-behaviour-could-drive-housing-lower-rba-20181206-p50ki9.html
10	J	When it comes to the budget the bigger picture is looking better	Editor: Ross Gittins Publisher: The *Sydney Morning Herald* https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/when-it-comes-to-the-budget-the-bigger-picture-is-looking-better-20181201-p50jlf.html