Indonesian newspaper editorial tendency: Genre and APPRAISAL studies

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ABSTRACT

Editorials become an important part of a newspaper because writers’ opinions can influence readers’ points of view. Indonesian two major media that publish editorials in their newspapers are Kompas and Tempo. This study aimed to investigate the potential character differences in editorials presented by Kompas and Tempo related to the 2024 election issues. Thus, the organization structure of editorials published by both media was analyzed, and the attitudinal tendency was examined. This study employed the discourse analysis method which belongs to Systemic Functional Linguistics (LSF) theory, specifically genre theory (Iedema, et al., 1994) and the APPRAISAL framework (Martin & White, 2005). Based on the findings of genre and APPRAISAL analysis of the texts, it was found that Tempo editorials tend to be more explicit in showing an opposing position on issues before the 2024 election. Tempo uses the media exposition genre and builds its attitudinal tendency using negative evaluations. On the other hand, in showing opposing positions, Kompas tends to be implicit. The genre that is often used is media discussion, and the attitudinal meaning tends to be built through positive evaluation. The results of this study show that in examining the character of a media, genre analysis on editorials should be carried out before examining the attitudinal tendencies.

Keywords: APPRAISAL, discourse analysis, editorial, genre, newspaper

INTRODUCTION

Editorial is a special column in which the contents are written by the editorial team and are usually found in printed newspapers. As technology develops, editorials can be presented in digital form because many newspapers have special websites that are easily accessed by readers. Unlike news that offers current and factual events, editorials contain writers’ opinions on specific events (Liu, 2017; Marques & Alverne, 2019).

Editorials are an important part of a newspaper because the opinions expressed can influence readers’ perspectives. According to Liu (2018, p. 1), “newspaper editorials seek to persuade their readers into a way of thinking and behaving that is in harmony with the values of the newspaper”. Moreover, Van Dijk (1996; 2018) in Manosuthikit (2018) states that it is true that editorials have a persuasive function to influence public opinion. To meet the persuasive function of discourse, evaluative language is involved as the main source (Liu, 2017).

Indonesian two major media that publish editorials in their newspapers are Kompas and Tempo. Founded in 1965, Kompas is a media that has earned the nickname ‘crab journalism’ because of its prudence in reporting (Tempo Center for Data and Analysis, 2022). Unlike Kompas, which tends to be cautious, Tempo “often adopts a very cynical style of writing” (McCargo, 2003, p. 80). Founded in 1971, Tempo had its license revoked in 1982 because of its sharp coverage of the general election campaign (McCargo, 2003). Tempo was again banned from publication in 1994 because it reported the issue of the purchase of former East German warships by Indonesia.

Based on the results of the 2023 Digital News Report conducted by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (2023), Tempo and Kompas receive quite high trust from the public. The research shows that Kompas is in second place with a percentage of 69%, while Tempo is ranked seventh with a percentage of 60%. As major mass media that are trusted by Indonesian citizens, Tempo and Kompas show different characters in expressing their positions. Thus, it is important to investigate their tendencies as what both media write can influence readers’ points of view. Hamborg et al. (2019) state
that media bias or tendencies have a major effect on public and individual perceptions of an event which can then influence political decisions. In the run-up to the 2024 election, several issues, such as those related to postponing the election and extending President Joko Widodo's term of office also have emerged and elicited various reactions including from Kompas and Tempo newspapers. Consumed by many readers, opinions from both newspapers can somehow influence the outcome of the 2024 election.

Opinions that contain evaluative language regarding an issue can be investigated using the APPRAISAL framework developed by Martin & White (2005). In Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) theory, APPRAISAL is an analytical framework at the level of discourse (discourse semantic) that focuses on the interpersonal meaning system. This framework belongs to the interpersonal SFL meta-function system since the function is related to the negotiation of social interaction, including how people interact and how feelings are shared (Martin & White, 2005). There are three categories in APPRAISAL theory. The first category is related to attitudes to evaluate things, human characters, and feelings. The second is graduation which is associated with how attitudes are measured. The last category is engagement which is related to where attitudes come from (Martin & Rose, 2007).

Research on evaluative language using APPRAISAL has been carried out both in the context of the Indonesian language (Nur & Hadi, 2016; Tiani, 2017; Aliurridha & Widyastuti, 2019; Pasaribu, 2019) and English (Liu, 2018; Tavassoli, et al., 2018; He, 2019; Liu & Hood; 2019). There are many studies on APPRAISAL for news published by Tempo and Kompas newspapers. The coverage of the topics studied also varies, such as health (Abduh & Mulatsih, 2021; Istiningdias, et al., 2022) or politics (Pasaribu, 2017; Aliurridha & Widyastuti, 2019; Arkida, et al., 2022).

In this present study, genre analysis was also involved because according to Liu (2017, p. 20), "...the type of genre serves as a background for investigating the persuasive strategies used in editorial texts". Genre theory urgently needs to be involved to examine the differences in characters between two texts. However, the theory is rarely used to complement the use of evaluative language through APPRAISAL to examine text organizations. The presence of genre analysis is what distinguishes this research from previous studies which only used the APPRAISAL framework in investigating the evaluative language used by media. In several previous studies regarding genre structure in media (Fartousi & Dumanig, 2012; Kyaw & Zhiying, 2019), the theory that has been widely adopted to examine text structure is Generic Structural Potential (GSP) by Halliday & Hasan (1985). However, in this study, the genre theory used is the development of Iedema et al. (1994) theory which is specifically oriented toward research on media discourse.

This study aimed to explore potential editorial character differences between Kompas and Tempo in presenting the 2024 election issue by (1) examining the organizational structure of editorial text genres and (2) investigating their attitudinal tendencies. To achieve this goal, data were analyzed using Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) theory, specifically the genre theory (Iedema, et al., 1994) and APPRAISAL framework (Martin & White, 2005).

**METHOD**

This qualitative research specifically used discourse analysis which belongs to Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). This research used text-based data. From Tempo and Kompas, six editorials containing topics related to the 2024 election, especially those related to the issues of the 2024 election postponement and President Joko Widodo's term of office extension were selected as data sources for this study (see Table 1). Tempo and Kompas were chosen because the trust gained from readers is quite high, 69% and 60%, for Kompas and Tempo, respectively (Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, 2023). The editorials analyzed in this study were published in March 2022. Issues related to the 2024 election began in January 2022 (Mustakim, 2022), so the March issue of the editorial was selected. It is believed that the publication time is the closest to when the issues started. This issue was then narrowed down to three equal editorials from each news media, so six editorials were obtained as data. The units of analysis in this study are words, phrases, or clauses that contain implicit (invoking) and explicit (inscribing) attitudinal meanings (Martin & White, 2005). Below are the titles and word count of the editorial texts from Kompas and Tempo.
Table 1. Titles of the Editorials from Kompas and Tempo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Editorials from Kompas</th>
<th>Word Count</th>
<th>Editorials from Tempo</th>
<th>Word Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Beware of Postponing Elections</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>Constitution Traitor’s Play with Fire</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Focus on Quality Elections</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>The Hijackers of Democracy</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vice President, Amin, Confirmation</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>Trapped in a Blanket of Power</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,163</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,283</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data in this study were obtained by first visiting Kompas and Tempo websites. Then, on the Kompas website, the researchers search for editorial categories by entering the keyword ‘tajuk rencana’ in the search field. For the Tempo website, the keyword entered is ‘editorial’. Next, all editorials discussing issues ahead of the 2024 election were collected, copied, and pasted into word processing software to make it easier for researchers to analyze the data. After the data were collected, the editorial genre analysis was carried out. The media genre theory developed by Iedema, et al. (1994) was used as a reference in the analysis process. The editorial organizational structure of the two newspapers was then identified based on the Stage (the steps in the texts) and the Phase (steps in the Stage) which are presented in Table 2 below.

The next stage was to analyze the attitudinal meaning in the texts using APPRAISAL framework developed by Martin & White (2005). APPRAISAL consists of three aspects, namely attitude, graduation, and engagement. However, this research only focuses on attitudes because this system functions to convey the emotions and opinions of the author (Zappavigna, 2014). Attitude analysis is further divided into several categories, namely affect (emotional reaction), judgment (attitude towards one’s behavior), and appreciation (evaluation of ‘things, objects or phenomena’) (See Figure 1). In APPRAISAL analysis, each word, phrase, or clause in an evaluative editorial is marked and the type of attitude is determined. An example of the analysis is shown in Table 3 below.

Table 2. The Example of Genre-based Analysis on Editorials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trapped in a Blanket of Power</th>
<th>Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Executive Board (PBNNU) Yahya Cholil Staquf has not been able to get the largest Islamic organization out of the vortex of power. Saying back and forth that he wanted to distance NU from practical politics, Yahya even openly supported the maneuvers of several political party leaders to postpone the 2024 elections.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

He conveyed his support for the postponement of the 2024 elections during a recent visit to Darussalam Islamic Boarding School in Pinagar, West Pasaman, West Sumatra. Yahya believes that postponing the great celebration of democracy makes sense in the midst of the various calamities that this country is currently facing. That reason is very far-fetched. In fact, the government once held the 2020 local elections in the midst of a pandemic, long before the vaccination program is present.

Figure 1. The APPRAISAL Framework (Martin & White, 2005, h.38)
Table 3. The Example of APPRAISAL Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Appraising item</th>
<th>Appraiser</th>
<th>Appraised</th>
<th>Appraisal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Jokowi did not even firmly reject the proposal that was played by the general chairman of his coalition parties.</td>
<td>Writer</td>
<td>Jokowi</td>
<td>-ve judgment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the process of filling in the table, the researchers first input sentences containing evaluative words/phrases/clauses into the Appraising item column and marked the item. Then, the appraiser section was filled by seeing who or which party gave the assessment. Then, to fill in appraised part, who/what was assessed was identified. The next step was to fill in the APPRAISAL column by determining the appropriate attitude sub-system and its polarity. The use of -ve shows a negative connotation, while +ve has a positive connotation. From the example taken from the Tempo editorial above, the italicized phrase “did not even firmly” is the writer’s perspective of Jokowi. The evaluation in this example belongs to the negative judgment sub-system, so the Appraisal column above is marked with -ve judgment.

Analysis using APPRAISAL that includes implicit and explicit attitudinal meanings requires reading positions (Martin & White, 2005, p. 62). The following is an explanation of the writer’s and researchers’ positions when analyzing text data sources. The research team consists of adult Indonesian women who are able to speak Indonesian and English. They work in a specific academic field, specifically discourse from a linguistic perspective, and they were not involved in any media or political groups. In reading the data, tactical reading was performed in order to not side with any side.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Genre is an important element that must be investigated before analyzing text with APPRAISAL framework. The reason is that genre influences the expression of evaluative positions and their textual structure (Liu, 2018b). Based on the analysis carried out on the texts from each newspaper, the researcher found differences in editorial structure between Kompas and Tempo. The main structure of Kompas editorial is Issue^Side^Resolution, while Tempo adopts the generic structure of Thesis^Argument^Reinforcement of thesis (see Table 4).

Table 4. The Comparison between Kompas and Tempo Generic Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Generic Structure</th>
<th>Social Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kompas</td>
<td>Issue^Side^Resolution</td>
<td>Discussing two or more points of view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>Thesis^Argument^Reinforcement of Thesis</td>
<td>Presenting one point of view</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kompas starts its editorial by explaining the issues to be discussed in the content section (see Table 3). In this context, Kompas presents issues related to the extension of the President’s term of office and the 2024 election postponement. After the problem is stated, the side is explained. In this section, Kompas presents two different sides in which the first side describes postponing elections during a pandemic, and the second side discusses the discourse when conditions turn endemic before the 2024 election. The final structure that closes Kompas editorial is resolution. Implicitly, it is stated that it does not agree with the term of office extension and election postponement. According to Iedema, et al., (1994), there are three types of media genres, namely media exposition, media challenge, and media discussion. Based on Kompas’ structure above, the editorial of this newspaper belongs to media discussion because it discusses different positions.
Table 5. The Genre Structure of Kompas Editorials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Side 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The postponement of elections during the pandemic is not taboo. Analysis of the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance from February 21st, 2020 to February 21st, 2022 shows that at least 80 countries and territories around the world decided to postpone national and subnational elections due to Covid-19. …</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Side 2 | At a time when the pandemic is increasingly turning into endemic, the discussion related to the postponement of the elections will be easy to read as an attempt by Machiavellian politicians who currently are in executive or legislative positions to perpetuate power. Niccolo Machiavelli in his work, Il Principe, states that “If you want power, take it. Do not be shy, do not be bound by principles or morals. The end justifies the means.” |

| Resolution | In the 19th century, the British historian, Lord Acton, warned that “Power tends to corrupt and absolute power absolutely corrupts.” For this reason, the democratic system limits power, through regular elections. |

The structure of the editorials in Tempo newspaper is in accordance with the formula of Thesis^Argument^Reinforcement of Thesis. Below is an example of the genre structure of a Tempo editorial entitled Constitution Traitor’s Play with Fire.

Table 6. The Genre Structure of Tempo Editorials

| Thesis | The public must be wary of the plan of the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) to amend the 1945 Constitution. There is no guarantee that changing the constitution will only increase the MP's authority to draw up the Principles of State Policy (PPHN) and strengthen the Regional Representative Council (DPD). The agenda is at risk of being bonded by those who want to loosen presidential term restrictions… |

| Argument | Currently, the bad intention to extend the presidential term of office and postpone general elections is hindered by the Constitution. Therefore, those who have this determination have an interest in changing the articles governing the term of office of the president and the code of conduct of the elections in advance… In fact, even as an idea, the intention to amend the Constitution is misguided because the aim is not to improve it as stated in the first to fourth amendments in 1999-2002… |

| Reinforcement of Thesis | Therefore, just stop planning to amend the Constitution even though it is like the initial agenda. After all, empowerment from PPHN and DPD is not urgent. PPHN, for example, is no longer important because we already have the National Medium-Term Development Plan and the National Long-Term Development Plan as the development guidelines. Politicians should become statesmen. If this game of fire continues, it is not impossible that the whole country will burn. |

At the thesis stage, Tempo expresses its position as the opponent of the amendment to the Constitution which can influence the discussion of postponing the general election and extending the President’s term of office. With an argument in the last section, Kompas seems firm in their position by only providing one argument without providing another point of view. Furthermore, in the final stage, Tempo reaffirms its position against the amendment to the Constitution as stated in the thesis stage. Based on the type of editorial genre, editorials published by Tempo belong to media expositions, especially hortatory expositions which argue about “why something should be done” (Martin, 2001).
Below is the outline of the differences between the editorials by Tempo and Kompas when viewed from the type of Genre and main structure.

**Table 7. Main Structure Distinctions of Two Editorial Genres**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Main Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kompas</td>
<td>Media discussion</td>
<td>Introduction Issue Side Resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempo</td>
<td>Media exposition</td>
<td>Thesis Argument Thesis reinforcement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After identifying the genre structure of Kompas and Tempo editorials, the researchers analyzed all words, phrases, and evaluative clauses in the text using Martin & White's (2005) APPRAISAL framework.

**Attitudinal Meaning of Kompas**

The analysis results show that the two newspapers have quite different evaluations and attitudinal tendencies. Overall, the editorials of Kompas newspaper show a more positive attitude than those of Tempo.

Kompas in its editorial regarding the issue ahead of the 2024 election expresses both positive and negative evaluations, but the positive evaluations have more numbers. Most of the positive evaluations are aimed at President Joko Widodo and his Vice President Ma'ruf Amin. The following is an example of data analyzed by sub-system.

**Attitude of Kompas**

Attitude is a system related to feelings and emotional reactions (affection), behavior evaluation (judgment), and evaluation of objects or phenomena (appreciation) (Martin & White, 2005). The number of each sub-system in the Kompas editorial can be seen in the following table.

**Table 8. The Number of Attitudes on Kompas Editorial**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Affect</th>
<th>Judgement</th>
<th>Appreciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polarity</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum (%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (%)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table above, the sub-system that appears most often in the Kompas editorial on issues leading up to the 2024 election is positive affect, appreciation (evaluation of objects or phenomena) with positive polarity followed by positive judgment.

**Appreciation of Kompas**

[K3-K14] “That step is an act of constitutional gratification that is not appropriate to do”

The underlined phrase in the sentence above is a negative attitude of appreciation that comes from the editorial writer. This evaluation is aimed at marketing the idea of postponing elections by political party leaders. The attitude to the quote from the phrase above shows that the writer of the Kompas editorial considers that the move to spread the idea of postponing the election is something that should not be done, including acts of gratuity.

**Judgment of Kompas**

[K2-K5] “This attitude also implies that President Joko Widodo is not tempted by various cradles, which can tarnish him as a simple and populist leader born of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

The underlined phrase in the quote is an attitude of judgment that comes from the author of the editorial and is directed at President Joko Widodo. This positive judgment shows that Kompas views President Joko Widodo as a simple person and behaves like an ordinary person.
“We positively welcome the Vice President's statement that he is not tempted by the plea for an extension of the presidential term and postponement of the elections proposed by the General Chairman of the National Awakening Party (PKB) Muhaimin Iskandar, General Chairman of the Golkar Party, Airlangga Hartarto, and General Chairman of the National Mandate Party (PAN) Zulkifli Hasan.”

The underlined phrase in the sentence above is an attitude of judgment implicitly made by the author of the editorial and addressed to Vice President Amin. The evaluation by Kompas falls into the category of positive judgment related to how resolute they are (Martin & White, 2005). From this judgment, Kompas indirectly assesses Vice President Amin as a person who is firm in his stance because he is not tempted by the temptation to extend the presidential term and postpone the election.

Affect of Kompas

We positively welcome the Vice President's statement that he is not tempted by the pleas for an extension of the presidential term and postponement of the elections proposed by the General Chairman of the National Awakening Party (PKB) Muhaimin Iskandar, General Chairman of the Golkar Party, Airlangga Hartarto, and General Chairman of the National Mandate Party (PAN) Zulkifli Hasan.”

The phrase underlined above is a positive affect attitude that comes from the author and is addressed to Vice President Amin's statement regarding the extension of the presidential term and the postponement of the election. This affect attitude shows that Kompas accepts what Vice President Amin has stated clearly.

“Vice President Amin's affirmation is relieving”

The word relieving in the sentence above is an affect attitude that comes from the editorial writer and is addressed to Vice President Amin's affirmation. This affect attitude is included in the positive attitude category which shows that Kompas views the Vice President's statement as something that makes them feel safe and secure (no longer worried).

Attitudinal meaning of Tempo

Tempo's attitude on the issue of extending the presidential term and postponing the 2024 elections can be found in all stages of the genre, namely Issues, Arguments, and Solutions. In contrast to Kompas, which still contains positive assessments, the researchers do not find any assessments with a positive polarity from the Tempo editorials. Most of the negative evaluations are directed at the idea of postponing the 2024 elections and extending the office term of the President and those who support this idea.

Attitude of Tempo

Attitude consists of three sub-systems, namely affect, judgment, and appreciation. The table below shows the number of the three sub-systems in Tempo's editorial.

Table 9. The Number of Attitudes on Kompas Editorial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Affect</th>
<th>Judgement</th>
<th>Appreciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polarity</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum (%)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (%)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table above, when discussing issues ahead of the 2024 election, Tempo often conveys negative judgments followed by negative appreciation. In contrast to the Kompas newspaper, the positive affect and attitude sub-systems are not found in the Tempo editorial.

Judgement of Tempo

“The representatives of the people and officials who want amendments to loosen restrictions on power are traitors to the constitution.”
The underlined phrase in the quote above is an attitude of indirect judgment directed at the representatives of the people and officials supporting the extension of the president's term of office. This judgment comes from Tempo itself and falls into the category of negative judgment. According to KBBI V (2016), the word 'traitors' means "a person who betrays; people who are not loyal to their own country or colleagues". This shows that Tempo indirectly assesses the behavior of the people's representatives and officials as disloyal.

[T3-K7] “Yahya Cholil Staquf's statement is like eating his own words”

The statement 'like eating his own words' underlined above is an attitude of indirect judgment addressed to Yahya Cholil Staquf. The judgment comes from Tempo and is negative. ‘Eating his own words’ is an idiom that means "to take back what has been said (praising what is criticized or cursed)" (KBBI V, 2016). From this assessment, Tempo indirectly judges Yahya Cholil Staquf (General Chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Executive Board) as a person who is not firm in his stance because his behavior is inconsistent or in contrast to what he said.

[T2-K3] “Moreover, Jokowi does not firmly reject the proposal that is explored through the general chairmen of his coalition parties.”

The quote underlined above is a negative judgment attitude that comes from the author and is addressed to Jokowi. This assessment shows that Tempo sees that Jokowi's stance on the proposal to extend the President's term of office is still weak.

[T2-K23] “Jokowi and those close to him who are power hungry, or the Bouwheer who makes huge profits during Jokowi’s era, are probably blind to history.”

The assessment underlined in the sentence above is an indirect negative judgment attitude expressed by the author and is directed at Jokowi's close people. This shows that Tempo considers those close to Jokowi who support the idea of extending Jokowi’s term of office as an ambitious individual or having big ambitions for power.

Appreciation of Tempo

[T1-K4] “Currently, the tainted intention to extend the presidential term and postpone the general election is hindered by the constitution.”

The phrase 'tainted intention' underlined in the quote above is an attitude of appreciation. This negative appreciation comes from the author and is aimed at extending the presidential term and delaying the general election. From this assessment, Tempo considers this intention to be bad.

[T1-K13] “Those words are really slippery because it can mean that he is not against extending the term of office as long as it is allowed by the constitution – which needs to be amended first”

The underlined phrase in the sentence above is an attitude of indirect negative appreciation from Tempo and addressed to the previous sentence, namely "He does not openly refuse, only said he will obey the constitution". Based on this assessment, Tempo considers the remark uttered by Jokowi to be a sentence whose meaning is uncertain, whether Pak Jokowi really rejects the idea of extending his post or is simply following the existing constitution and will change his mind if the provisions change at any time.

Discussion

The potential difference in character between Kompas and Tempo is shown in the organizational structure of their editorial genres. Kompas tends to be implicit in expressing a position that they are against the 2024 election issue. Kompas's editorial opens space for discussion and provides readers with two or more points of view. The structure begins with an explanation of the issues leading up to the 2024 election without implying their position, followed by a description of the two sides, and closes
with a resolution. On the other hand, Tempo seems to be more explicit in its positioning against only showing one point of view. The text structure is also different. Tempo begins the editorial with a thesis that briefly shows their position with regard to the 2024 election issue. Followed by arguments to support their opinion, Tempo then emphasizes its point of view in a repeat of the thesis.

The difference in the editorial character of Tempo and Kompas is further indicated in their attitudes. Tempo with its single point of view dominates their editorials with a negative assessment. On the other hand, even though it involves both positive and negative assessments, Kompas editorials are still dominated by positive attitudes. The graphic below provides an overview of the differences between Kompas and Tempo shown in their editorial articles.

![Figure 2. Graph of Comparison of Total APPRAISAL from Tempo and Kompas](image)

Based on the chart in Figure 2 above, Kompas is trying to look balanced by rejecting the idea of extending the presidential term and postponing the 2024 elections but still praising the attitude of President Joko Widodo and Vice President Ma'ruf Amin who do not agree with the opinion. Meanwhile, Tempo does not involve a positive attitude at all in its editorial and only gives negative evaluations, especially judgment. This shows that Tempo is against the idea of extending the presidential term and postponing the election. The overuse of judgmental attitudes shows that they are explicit in criticizing all parties involved in this issue including President Joko Widodo. The table below is some examples of editorials by Tempo and Kompas illustrating their differing opinions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Kompas</th>
<th>Tempo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>[-ve appreciation] The history of reform also notes that efforts to perpetuate power relying on pseudo-support can end in a sad ending, not a happy ending.</td>
<td>[-ve appreciation] Currently, the tainted intention to extend the presidential term and postpone the general election is hindered by the Constitution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>[+ve judgment] This attitude also implies that President Joko Widodo is not tempted by various cradles, which can tarnish him as a simple and populist leader born of the people, by the people, and for the people.</td>
<td>[-ve judgment] What is also visible is the attitude of President Jokowi. While he used to say the idea of a three-term president by his supporters is like a slap on the face, now his statement has become vague.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>[+ve judgment] With the political power he has, controlling the majority of seats in the DPR, this can be carried out, but President Jokowi has not done it.</td>
<td>[-ve judgment] Moreover, Jokowi does not firmly reject the proposal that is explored by the general chairmen of his coalition parties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>[+ve appreciation] Even though Indonesia has chosen to be a democratic country, in the sense that anyone can propose anything, including postponing the 2024 elections, Vice President Amin's bright assertion should end the presidential term extension maneuver through a constitutional amendment.</td>
<td>[-ve judgment] Saying back and forth that he wanted to distance NU from practical politics, Yahya even openly supported the maneuvers of several political party leaders to postpone the 2024 elections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the comparison table above, their different views on these issues can be found through the APPRAISAL used. For example, in Number 1, both Tempo and Kompas discuss the idea of extending the term of office for the president and postponing the 2024 election. Both of these opinions
show that they disagree with this idea. However, the difference can be identified in the way they convey their judgment. Kompas calls the idea of extending the term of office what it is without using a name or other designation. Kompas also tries to show its position implicitly by referring to the history of how extended presidential terms can end badly. This is very different from the Tempo APPRAISAL. Their opposition to the idea can be noticed from how they explicitly refer to it as 'tainted intention'. The word 'tainted' itself is a negative evaluation because according to KBBI V, it means 'bad'; evil; not nice'. Another proof of the difference between Tempo and Kompas lies in their attitude towards the parties involved, such as President Joko Widodo and Vice President Ma'ruf Amin. Like the example above (see Table 8), Kompas focuses more on praising Jokowi and Vice President Amin by involving positive evaluations and appreciations such as 'simple', 'people', and 'bright affirmation'. In terms of giving a positive assessment, Kompas does it both implicitly and explicitly, as in number four which says, 'but President Jokowi does not do it'. Even though Tempo has different views about the parties involved, how they show their opinion is the same as Kompas, namely implicitly and explicitly. For example, the assessment in Number 3 is conveyed frankly or explicitly by using the phrase 'not firm'. However, if you look at numbers 2 and 4, the assessment conveyed is implicit or implied.

The different characters of Kompas and Tempo in addressing the issue of the 2024 election can be influenced by the principles of each media. The Data and Analysis Center of Tempo (2022, p.52) states that Kompas adheres to the principle of ‘...criticizing without hurting, being flexible in ways but firm in principles, inspiring and encouraging like a teacher.’. Apart from that, it is also said that Kompas' journalistic style is likened to a crab due to carefulness. Compass will take a few steps back when conditions become difficult or impossible to move forward. This may be the reason why media discussion is chosen as an editorial genre, so it is impressive that Kompas is willing to open up discussions even though it is actually against the 2024 election issue. In addition, the attitudinal meaning in the Kompas editorial is constructed using positive rather than negative evaluations even though Kompas disagrees with the idea of postponing general elections and extending the term of office of the president. These positive opinions are mostly directed at high-ranking officials, especially President Joko Widodo and Vice President Ma'ruf Amin, as examples of the quotes in the result chapter above. Kompas's approach to showing attitudes seems to be in line with the principles by involving criticism and praise in editorial texts. Previous research by Aliurridha & Widyastuti (2019) on Kompas also revealed similar findings, namely that apart from being clear and in-depth, Kompas is also more subtle in covering an issue.

Tempo, on the other hand, is known as an independent media. According to the BUKU TEMPO Team (2011, p.49), in 1971, Goenawan Mohamad (founder of Tempo) stated that their journalism “...is not the principle of journalism that favors one group”. Independence as a principle of Tempo seems to be implemented even today. Based on the findings above, it appears that the attitudinal meaning of the editorial text is constructed entirely by negative evaluation. This opinion targets not only the 2024 election topic but also all actors involved in the issue including the president and vice president. Also, they leave no room for discussion by adopting media exposition as the genre of editorial text. How the counter position is conveyed shows that as an independent media, Tempo "… is synonymous with a critique of power…” (TEMPO, 2021) and will not be lenient even to the government.

CONCLUSION

This study aimed to investigate potential editorial character differences between Kompas and Tempo regarding the 2024 election issue by (1) examining the organizational structure of editorial text genres and (2) investigating their attitudinal tendencies. The analysis results of text genres and their APPRAISAL show that the two media have differences both in organizational structure and attitudinal tendencies. Based on the types of media genres according to Iedema, et al. (1994), the genre adopted by Kompas is media discussion. Kompas tends to be implicit in expressing a counter position on issues ahead of the 2024 elections by providing readers with more than one point of view. Meanwhile, Tempo tends to be explicit in demonstrating a position against the 2024 election issue by using the genre of media exposition which only expresses one point of view. The character of Kompas's editorial which tends to be implicit can also be seen through its attitudinal tendency which is constructed using positive evaluation. In contrast to Kompas, the character of Tempo which tends to be explicit can be found in how its attitudinal tendencies are constructed using negative evaluations.
The organizational structure of a text can complete the use of evaluative language contained therein. Therefore, in examining the character of a media, the genre of the editorial text needs to be analyzed before examining its attitudinal tendencies. Lichter (2014) states that media bias refers to the hypothesis obtained from the pattern of news coverage of a media. The research may not reveal Kompas and Tempo’s political biases because the scope of the editorials analyzed is limited to certain issues. However, the research findings can support and strengthen previous studies on the character of Kompas and Tempo and provide insight into their political leanings. To reveal the bias or political ideology of the media in Indonesia, future in-depth research that focuses on editorials with a wider range of issues is required.

REFERENCES


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Sources of data


