



**REGISTER OF FOOTBALL COMMENTARY:
SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTICS ANALYSIS**

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REGISTER OF FOOTBALL COMMENTARY: SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTICS ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled Register of Football Commentary: Systemic Functional Linguistics Analysis. The data are the final match of UEFA Champions League between Juventus Vs Barcelona on June 6th 2015. The main objective of this thesis is to find out the three meanings (Experiential, Interpersonal, and Textual) using the theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics by Halliday so the contextual description (register) of each meanings are discovered. The data were obtained by downloading the video, and transcribing the video. The research design is descriptive qualitative, so the descriptions of the analysis are provided. The football commentary has 1841 clauses, which 50 of those are minor clauses. In experiential meaning, the material process is dominant because the commentators retell the events in the field without changing the process. In the interpersonal meaning, the declaratives are the dominant mood type since the football commentary is giving information. The Textual meaning is dominated by the Topical theme because the themes are mostly the players. In the contextual description, the football commentary is about two people who are reporting and giving opinion of the match with the purpose to make a good commentary of a remarkable match. This text is between commentators and audiences and commentator to commentator and is mostly in declaratives. Although the social distance between the commentators is minimal because the speech is familiar and elliptical, the relationship between them is unequal because the colour commentator (Andy) occasionally mentions the other commentator's name (Clive) but Clive does not. The role of the language in the football commentary is constitutive because the language functions as the whole activity. The football commentary is a monologue but some opinions cause it to have some dialogic qualities.

Keywords: Contextual Description, Football Commentary, Metafunctions, Systemic Functional Linguistics.

INTRODUCTION

Human beings have a tool in communicating one to another. This tool is called language. The language itself is used in every human activity. However, the function of the language in every activity can be different. The language may be the whole activity, like news report, or it supports the activity, like playing sports.

In a discussion of sports, the discussion of football is almost inevitable. Football is widely known as the most famous sport in the world. Football is game that is played by 2 (two) teams. Each team has 11 (eleven) players in the field. This game requires referees

as the in-charge men to control the flow of the game. The winner of the game is determined by the number of goal each team scored, so the team with the higher number of goal wins the game.

In a football match, like other sports, there are commentators of the match. These commentators have the job to report what is happening in the field. Their reports are called commentary. Commentaries are activities in which one or two people are reporting or telling to the audience about events that are happening.

The commentaries of football matches draw linguists to study their language when commentating the match. The language they are using is unique. The linguists found out that the language or register of the football commentaries are different with that of daily conversations. It is because football is a fast sport.

The most remarkable study of sport commentaries is the study of Ferguson in 1983. He came out with the notion that those commentators are Sport Announcer Talks (SAT). In his study, *Sports Announcer Talk: Syntactic Aspects of Register Variation* (1983), He tried to find the register of the sport commentaries. He then did it with some register markers that made the sport commentaries different from the daily conversation.

Ferguson's study initiated other linguists to study the register of football commentary. Those studies were based on the Ferguson's register. Those are Lewandowski 2012, Nowson 2001, and Humpolik 2014. These studies dealt with the register which Ferguson proposed, so, these studies are all in the perspective of sociolinguistics. Not only in the sociolinguistics, has the study of register also existed in linguistics.

Butt *et al* (2001) have discussed the method of finding the register of texts. They compiled the book with the theory based on Halliday's SFL. SFL stands for Systemic Functional Linguistics, or also known as Systemic Functional Grammar. SFL/SFG "is a way of describing lexical and grammatical choices from the systems of wordings so that we are always aware of how language is being used to realize meaning", Butt *et al* (2001). With this in mind, they provided the step by step explanation in finding the register of a text.

The studies involving SFL as the approach are quite easy to find. In 2010, Abid (2010) conducted a research in a standup comedy using SFL as the approach. He tried to figure out the register in the standup comedy. The other study of SFL, which is almost the same with current study, is the register analysis in football match by Prasetyo (2014). In his study, he figured out the register markers like that of Ferguson's but in form of word or noun phrase. The analysis of the Field, Tenor, and Mode is unavailable since he used only some words/terms that easily known as the words/terms that only exist in football.

The absence of the SFL analysis in football commentaries is quite clear. Thus, this study is conducted to find the register of football commentaries in SFL's perspective. To do so, this research is based on Butt *et al* (2001) framework in finding the register of the football commentary. Thus, this research is entitled *Register of Football Commentary: Systemic Functional Linguistics Analysis*. The data of this research is the final match of UEFA Champions League between Juventus versus Barcelona. The match was considerably the biggest match in 2015.

RESEARCH METHOD

Data and Subject

The data of this study is the football commentary of the final match of UEFA Champions League season 2014/2015 between Juventus vs. Barcelona which was broadcasted live by ITV on June 6th, 2015.

Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis of this study is every clause in the football commentary.

Technique of Data Collection and Analysis

Browsing the internet to get the match video. Downloading the video. Transcribing the commentary. After getting the data, the researcher did the following steps: Reading the transcription of the commentary. Segmenting the sentences into clauses. In this step, the sentences in the transcription are segmented into clauses. For example:

Sentences:

... It's a game of thrones. Knight gathers in Berlin...

Clauses:

1. It's a game of thrones
2. Knight gathers in Berlin

Analyzing the field, tenor, and mode. Example:

It's a game of thrones

| | It | 's | a game of thrones |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Transitivity (Field) | Carrier | Attributive | Attribute |
| Mood (tenor) | Subject | Finite | Complement |
| Theme-Rheme | Theme | Rheme | |

Analyzing the contextual descriptions of the football commentary. This step is based on the contextual description example from Butt *et al* (2001). Drawing conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The total of the clauses in the data is 1841 clauses. In this total of clauses, there are 50 minor clauses. These clauses are called minor clause, since they have no process to be analysed. Therefore, there are 1791 clauses that can be analysed. The discussion begins with the analysis of the three metafunctions in the data. It contains the ideational meaning (field), interpersonal meaning (tenor), and textual meaning (mode). The following discussion is the contextual description or the register of the football commentary. The discussions are the interpretations of the contextual description tables based on Butt (2001).

Ideational Meaning

Ideational meaning is the field of the discourse. Field realization is gained through the transitivity analysis. The transitivity analysis reveals the processes, participants, and the circumstances in the data.

Process types and Participant Roles

The table below shows the classification of the processes and their amount in the data.

| No | Process Types and Participants | | Process | | Participants | |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | | | Σ | % | Σ | % |
| 1 | Material | | 832 | 46.45 | | |
| | Actor | | | | 736 | 23.9 |
| | Goal | | | | 544 | 17.63 |
| 2 | Relational | Attributive | 599 | 33.44 | | |
| | | Identifying | 175 | 9.77 | | |
| | Carrier | | | | 588 | 19 |
| | Token | | | | 175 | 5.7 |
| | Attribute | | | | 594 | 19.2 |
| | Value | | | | 175 | 5.7 |
| | | | | | | |
| 3 | Mental | | 133 | 7.4 | | |
| | Senser | | | | 104 | 3.33 |
| | Phenomenon | | | | 49 | 1.58 |
| 4 | Verbal | | 17 | 0.94 | | |
| | Sayer | | | | 8 | 0.25 |
| | Verbiage | | | | 6 | 0.19 |
| | Receiver | | | | 8 | 0.25 |
| 5 | Behavioural | | 11 | 0.61 | | |
| | Behaver | | | | 5 | 0.16 |
| | Behaviour | | | | 7 | 0.22 |
| 6 | Existential | | 25 | 1.39 | | |
| | Existent | | | | 25 | 0.82 |
| 7 | Other Participant | Beneficiary | | | 64 | 2.07 |
| | Total | | 1791 | 100 | 3086 | 100 |

Table 1. Process Types and Related Participants

The table above is showing that the dominant process in the football commentary is the material process. The material process has become the dominant process because it represents the nature of football which is an event of doing. Moreover, the football commentary mostly reports the events as they are. The consequence of becoming the dominant process has led its participants, Actor and Goal, become the dominant ones.

The following process is the Relational Process. It is one of the other types of process which has the second rank of the largest amount of clauses in the data. The participants of relational processes are categorized into their process. The relational

attributive processes have Carrier and Attributes as their related participants. And for the relational identifying processes have Token and Value in their participant list.

There are also other processes in football commentary. These processes are mental process, verbal process, behavioural process, and existential process.

Material Process

According to Butt et al (2001), the material process answers the question ‘what did X do?’ or ‘what happened?’ so, generally, material process is the verb of doing. The presence of the material process in the data has the largest number of all. It is because the commentators are describing, or giving information of what is happening in the field. Since football is a sport, the happenings in the field are mostly the actions of doing. Here are the findings of material process in the data:

Excerpt 1

‘Knight gathers in Berlin’

| | | |
|--------|------------------|-------------|
| Knight | gathers | in Berlin |
| Actor | Material Process | Circ. Place |

Relational Process

Both relational attributive and relational identifying processes are present in the data. Even though, the former does have a higher number of the latter. In football commentary, this process is common to be found. Below are relational attributive processes:

Excerpt 2

‘and that was a kind of clipped cross’

| | | | |
|-----|---------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| and | that | was | a kind of clipped cross |
| | Carrier | Relational Process: Attributive | Attribute |

The second major type of relational processes is relational identifying process. The presence of this process is mostly found in the clauses that only the participant (token) is visible. Those tokens are mostly the names of the players. Here is a finding:

Excerpt 3

‘Litchsteiner’

| | | |
|--------------|---|----------|
| Lichtsteiner | has | the ball |
| Token | Relational Process: Identifying Possessive | Value |

As seen in the clause above, the token or name of the participant is the only mentioned part of the clause. The consideration in looking the context by watching the video is required to make the clause appropriate to be analyzed. The researcher decided to interpret the names into theses clauses because the video shows that the token (Lichtsteiner) does have the ball.

Mental Processes

Mental processes in the data are mostly found when the commentators are going to give opinions or thoughts towards the events and or the players. Example:

Excerpt 4

'I think it looks a little bit too easy at the moment for Barcelona'

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------|--|
| I | think | it looks a little bit too easy at the moment for Barcelona |
| Senser | Mental Process: Cognition | Phenomenon |

The clause above is an opinion of a commentator (Andy Townsend) to an event he witnesses. He gives his opinions by make a hedge 'I think' to make his statement defensible. These opinions are often delivered by the second type of TV commentary, that is, colour commentary. Colour commentaries' job is to give opinions or thoughts so that the commentary or the match is 'colourful'.

Behavioural Processes

Behavioural processes have the lowest number of appearances in the data. Behavioural process has Behavior and Behaviour as its related participants. Here is a finding of relational process:

Excerpt 5

'Max Allegri has admitted that...'

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Max Allegri | has admitted |
| Behavior | Behavioural Process |

The finding above shows that the commentator is retelling the event that has happened before the match begins. It can be seen by the tense of the clause that is showing previously done event before the current event. Behavioural processes discovered in the data are mostly found when the commentators are giving review of previous event or of previous match results.

Verbal Process

Verbal processes in the commentary are rarely found. Most of the verbal processes in the data are the conversations between the commentators. Furthermore, the verbal processes are mostly initiated by Andy Townsend (AT) who is notably the colour commentator of the football match. Example in the finding:

Excerpt 6

'AT: "I got to tell you, Clive"'

| | | |
|-------|----------------|------------|
| I | got to tell | you, Clive |
| Sayer | Verbal Process | Receiver |

The finding above is showing that the clause is initiated by AT and is addressed to the listener (CT). They are the commentators of the match. They create this kind of

conversation when they are reviewing some events that have happened as those were not supposed to be happened. This conversation is more likely to be an opinion towards an event. The clause above is an opinion of Andy Townsend towards the gameplay of Vidal, the player of Juventus, who, as he thinks, plays the ball recklessly by challenging another player with a rough and unnecessary tackle.

Existential Process

the existential processes start with the word there. In the existential processes, the word 'there' is not labeled to any participant because it is only the need for a subject in English, Gerot and Wignell (1995:72). The number of existential process' related participants is highly unlikely to be different with the number of the process itself. If the number is really different, it would be unfinished utterance or repairment. Even though, the football commentary tends to omit or cut some 'less important' parts of the utterances because it is the nature of the football commentary. The omission occurs in the existential process too.

Excerpt 7

'There's so much gamble'

| | | |
|-------|---------------------|----------------|
| there | 's | so much gamble |
| | Existential Process | Existent |

Football commentary has been known for its omitted or incomplete utterances. In the existential process, the omission occurs to the main process and the 'there'. The clause above is the proof of this phenomenon. The words in the parentheses are the subject and the verb (process). These two words are not mentioned by the commentators, and the mentioned ones are the 'existent' and the Circumstance. The decision in interpreting this clause, as a clause that has existential process, has been made by the researcher with the consideration of comparison of appropriateness with other processes.

Cicumstances

| No | Types of circumstances | Σ | % |
|----|------------------------|------|-------|
| 1 | Place | 376 | 35.24 |
| 2 | Time | 129 | 12.09 |
| 3 | Manner | 410 | 38.43 |
| 4 | Cause | 75 | 7.03 |
| 5 | Matter | 10 | 0.94 |
| 6 | Accompaniment | 57 | 5.35 |
| 7 | Extent | 5 | 0.46 |
| 8 | Role | 5 | 0.46 |
| | Total | 1067 | 100 |

Table 4.2 Types of circumstances

Cicumstances tell the details of the happening process. The details include the three basic information; when, where and how the process happens. There are eight

types of circumstances found in the data. They are circumstance of place, time, manner, cause, matter, accompaniment, role, and extent. These circumstances make up the total of 1067 appearances.

Circumstance of Place

The circumstance of place provides the details of the location of the occurring process. Here is a glimpse of the circumstances of place found in the data:

Excerpt 8

'It presented an opportunity to the last man on the field'

| | |
|---|--------------|
| it presented an opportunity to the last man | on the field |
| Process and Related Participants | Circ. Place |

The clause above has the circumstance of place, 'on the field'. Field in the clause refers to the place where the football players are playing, that is, the field of the stadium. The circumstances of place in the data do not only refer to the field or the stadium, but also refer to the place or location out of the stadium.

Circumstance of Time

The circumstance of time, as bear to its name, gives the details which are related to the time of the happening event or when the utterance occurs. Here is an example:

Excerpt 9

'It is very intriguing game tonight'

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| (it is) very intriguing game | tonight |
| | Circ. Time |

The circumstance of time in the clause above is the word 'tonight'. The word tonight in the clause refers to the time of the event occurs, that is in the evening of June, 6th 2015. Most of the circumstances of time refer to the same time when the match is held.

Circumstance of Manner

Circumstance of manner details on how the process is happening such as beautifully, harshly, and other adverbs. Here is an example in the data:

Excerpt 10

'and it eventually goes over the top'

| | | |
|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| and it | eventually | goes over the top |
| | Circ. Manner | |

The circumstance of manner in the clause above is realized in the adverb 'eventually'. By this adverb, the process is detailed in how the process occurs. The absence of the adverb creates the process feels more like that there is an opinion from the speaker. Without this adverb, the process would feel flat and opinion less. This may be not a problem in formal discourses, but in the discourses such this football commentary, the commentary could feel so flat and not interesting, because the nature

of the football commentary is to entertain the audiences and to make the match more interesting.

Circumstance of Cause

The circumstance of cause details on why the doer does the action. So it is more like the doer does the action for a conscious being or for a thing. In other words, it is the reason of the doer in doing the action.

Excerpt 11

'The Spanish cup winners and champions meet the Italian cup winners and champions for the ultimate treble, for the title of the Europe's best football team'

| | |
|--|---|
| The Spanish cup winners and champions meet the Italian cup winners and champions | for the ultimate treble, for the title of the Europe's best football team |
| Process and related participants | Circ. Cause |

Circumstance of Matter

Circumstance of matter details on what the process is about. Here is a finding of circumstance of matter:

Excerpt 12

'and that's about it'

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| and that's | about it |
| | Circ. Matter |

Circumstance of matter is usually found in the verbal processes. The verbal process tends to have this circumstance. It is because one of the participants of verbal process, verbiage, may need the detail the circumstance of matter gives.

Circumstance of Accompaniment

The next is circumstance of accompaniment. The circumstance of accompaniment details the other participant, the accompaniment. The accompaniment in the material process functions as a partner or an accompaniment of the actor. Here is an example:

Excerpt 13

'Rakitic goes with Luis Suarez'

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Rakitic goes | with Luis Suarez |
| | Circ. Accompaniment |

Luis Suarez has the role as the accompaniment because he is described by the word 'with'. The word 'with' is the marker in which a clause has a circumstance of accompaniment.

Circumstance of Role

Circumstance of role mostly gives details of the actor, more precisely, the role of the actor in the clause. The following is a finding of circumstance of role:

Excerpt 14

'and he came on as a substitute in the last 40 half minutes'

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| and he came on | as a substitute | in the last 40 half minutes |
| | Circ. Role | |

Circumstance of role is marked by the word 'as', like the one in the clause above. As previously mentioned that the circumstance of role gives the details of the role of the participant in doing the action, the role of the actor in the material process above is detailed by the word 'as a substitute'. Therefore, the commentator did not only tell that the actor (he) came, but also told that he came as a substitute in which it makes the commentary become more informative.

Circumstance of Extent

The appearance of the circumstance of extent is considerably low. It gives the details of measurement of the occurring process. It can be duration, distance, or frequency. Here is a finding of the circumstance of extent:

Excerpt 15

'and he's gonna back across the goal there towards Neymar once more'

| | |
|--|--------------|
| and he's gonna back across the goal there towards Neymar | once more |
| | Circ. Extent |

The clause above has circumstance of extent functioning as the information of the duration of the process. It creates information of how many times or the frequency the process occurs. From the provided information, it can be said that similar process has had occurred before.

Field of Discourse

The following table is based on Butt (2001)

Lexicogrammatical analysis

| Experiential meanings |
|---|
| Process types Majority Material and Relational – <i>passes, moves, goes, runs, fouled, is, has, takes</i> |
| Participants Actor: <i>He, Messi, Evra, Neymar</i> Goal: <i>the ball, it, football players</i> |
| Circumstances place: <i>there, here, Berlin, field</i> manner: <i>beautifully, nearly, always, already</i> time: <i>tonight, this evening, last season</i> matter: <i>Barzagli, handball</i> cause: <i>europa's best team, the ball</i> extent: <i>twice, once more</i> role: <i>a farewell, a substitute</i> accompaniment: <i>Suarez, help of Buffon</i> |

As a result of the analysis and knowledge of context of culture, the description is written



Contextual description

| Field of Discourse | Commentary |
|--|------------|
| Experiential domain two people are reporting and giving opinion of a football match | |
| Short-term goal Giving information of the happenings in the field | |
| Long term goal Creating atmosphere to the audience Making a good commentary of a remarkable match | |

From the contextual description above, the majorities of the process in the football commentary are material and relational process. Material process in the data is mostly in the verbs like pass, run, foul, moves, and goes. The relational processes are mostly in attributive and which has attribute as the participant. Relational processes are either being (is, am, are) or having (has, have). Both material and relational processes appear more than 700 times in the whole data. Even though, the material process is the most dominant of all.

The participants of material process are actor (player names, he, it (the ball)) and goal (it (the ball), player names). The participants of relational process are similar to the ones of material process. Relational process has player names as the token just like

material process has player names as the actors and 'the ball' as the values, in the relational process, functions as goal in the material process.

Those processes share typical circumstances. The circumstances in the data are (1) place (*there, here, in berlin*), (2) time (*tonight, this evening, last season*), (3) manner (*beautifully, nearly, always*), (4) matter (*about Barzagli, about handball*), (5) cause (*for the title Europe's best team*), (6) accompaniment (*with Suarez, with the help of Buffon*), (7) role (*as a substitute, as farewell*), and (8) extent (*twice, once more*).

The experiential domain of the data is that two people are reporting and giving opinion of a football match. The following example is one of the utterances that indicate the experiential domain:

Excerpt 16

'Dani Alves is chasing Andrea Pirlo'

| | | |
|------------|------------------|--------------|
| Dani Alves | is chasing | Andrea Pirlo |
| Actor | Material Process | Goal |

The example above is an example of information of the match in which the commentators report to the audiences. Thus, the commentary is also a report because the commentators have the duty to report the events in the field. The commentary is also a review. For example:

Excerpt 17

'and Marchisio fins it beautifully with that back heel'

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|------------------|------|--------------|---------------------|
| and | Marchisio | finds | it | beautifully | with that back heel |
| | Actor | Material process | Goal | Circ. Manner | Circ. Accompaniment |

The example above is one of the opinions in the football commentary. It can be seen that the utterances indicate the opinion of the commentator towards the events in the match since the adverb 'beautifully' presents. These opinions make the commentary forms reviews of the match.

The short term goal and long term goal can be drawn after the experiential domain is revealed. The short term goal of the commentary is the main purpose of the commentary itself for ever being done, that is to give information of the happenings in the field and review of previous events. This notion can also be proven the previous examples. The examples, again, are the information that are being reported to the audience and they contain some opinions. The long term of the commentary is to bring atmosphere to the audience and to make a good commentary of a remarkable match. Bringing atmosphere means that the audiences are, conscious or not, invited to feel the atmosphere of the match. It can be seen by the following clause:

Excerpt 18

'why take the risk?'

| | | | |
|-----|-----|------------------|-----------|
| but | why | take | the risk? |
| | | Material Process | Goal |

The question 'why take the risk?' is addressed to the audiences to invite them to think. Thus, the atmosphere of the match is directed to the audience so the audience can feel the current situation of the match. Since the match was the biggest match in the 2015, the commentary could be as interesting as the match. The commentary should be interesting because the match was the final match of UEFA Champions League, given the title 'the best Europe's team to the winner.

Interpersonal Meaning

The interpersonal meaning of the data can be discovered by the analysis of mood system. The interpersonal meanings focus on the order of the grammatical features: Subject and Finite. Subject and Finite combine to make the Mood of the clause. And the other elements, Predicator, Adjunct, and Complement, are the Residue of the clause. The order of the grammatical features in football commentary is mostly declarative. Here is the table of the mood types of the data:

| No | Mood Types | Σ | % |
|----|---------------|----------|-------|
| 1 | Declarative | 1742 | 97.27 |
| 2 | Interrogative | 25 | 1.39 |
| 3 | Imperative | 15 | 0.84 |
| 4 | Exclamative | 9 | 0.50 |
| | Total | 1791 | 100 |

Table 4.3. Mood Types

The table above is showing the total of mood types of the football commentary. The domination of the declaratives in the football commentary is led by the nature of the commentary. The nature of the commentary is to report the events or reviews of the match. In other words, the commentators are giving information about the match to the audience.

The following mood type is the interrogative. It has been found 25 times in the data. It means that 1.40% of the total clauses is filled with interrogatives. The next is the imperative. Imperative has a little number in the data. It has 15 clauses contain imperative. It is 0.84% of the total clauses. The last type of mood is Exclamative. It is only found 9 times in the clauses and is 0.50% of the total clauses. These four types of mood make up 1791 clauses which lead to a difference between the total clauses and the total of clauses they are in. The cause of this difference is the existence of the minor clauses which do not even have a process to be analyzed. Minor clauses appear 50 times and they are 2.71% of the total clauses.

Declarative

Declarative is being the dominant mood type. It is in 1742 clauses. The high occurrence of the declarative in the data could be because of the main purpose of the football commentary, reporting events of the match. Declarative is often found when giving information and giving goods and services. In the football commentary, the information is the events happening in the field, and other reviews of previous events. Here is a finding which of course contains the information:

Excerpt 19

'He's done some stealing work in that area inside his own, county box'

| | | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|---|
| He | 's | done | some stealing work | in that area inside his own, county box |
| Subject (S) | Finite (F) | Predicate (P) | Complement (C) | Adjunct (A) |

In order to discover the mood type of the clause, the analysis of elements of the clause is needed to be done. The clause above has been investigated its elements. It is categorized as declarative because declarative is mostly structured as the Subject precedes the Finite. The moodblock and residue of the clause above would be as follows:

| | | | | |
|------|----|---------|--------------------|---|
| He | 's | done | some stealing work | in that area inside his own, county box |
| S | F | P | C | A |
| Mood | | Residue | | |

Interrogative

The interrogative mood is often realized in the demanding information and goods and services. The demanded information is asked by the commentators to the audiences. However the questions are mostly in rhetorical questions. Those questions do not need the answers from the audiences. The structure of interrogative mood is usually the Finite followed by the Subject. Here is an example of interrogative:

Excerpt 20

'Is there another name to that list?'

| | | | |
|------|-------|--------------|---------------|
| is | there | another name | to that list? |
| F | S | C | A |
| Mood | | Residue | |

Interrogatives appear only 25 times. It is quite a comparison of the total moods. The interrogatives in data are in form of questions. It means that the commentators tend not to requesting information or goods or services indirectly by using other forms of mood.

Imperative

The imperatives in the data are in 15 clauses. This number is considerably low compared to the total number of clauses. Imperative mood is realized when speakers demanding goods or services. The speakers may give orders or commands to the addressee. The most straightforward and easily recognized form of this mood is the absence of Subject and Finite. Here is an example of imperative:

Excerpt 21

'look at that'

| | |
|---------|---------|
| look | at that |
| P | C |
| Residue | |

In contrast with the interrogatives, the imperatives are addressed to the partner of the commentator. The clause above is addressed by Andy to Clive. Moreover, the clause is not only addressed to Clive, but also to the audience.

Exclamative

Exclamative appears 9 times in the data. Exclamatives are the mood types of the clauses that are for showing responses towards a thing or event. Exclamatives are typically started with 'What'. Here is an example:

Excerpt 22

'what a ball that is'

| | | |
|-------------|------|----|
| what a ball | that | is |
| C | S | F |
| Residue | Mood | |

The clause above is uttered by one of the commentators when reviewing an event. The commentator defined the playing quality of the Barcelona players. 'a ball' in the clause above does not refer to a real ball, but it refers to the play of Barcelona player.

Tenor of Discourse
**Lexicogrammatical
analysis**

| Interpersonal meanings |
|--|
| Mood selections Mostly Declarative – <i>runs, moves, has, is, passes</i> Some interrogative – <i>is there?, can they?</i> Some imperative – <i>listen, look, do not take</i> Some exclamative – <i>what a ball, what a counter attack</i> |
| Persons selections <i>1st=I</i> <i>2nd= Clive, the audiences, the players</i> <i>3rd= He, player names, coach names</i> |

As a result of the analysis and knowledge of context of culture, the description is made



Contextual description

| Tenor of Discourse | Commentary |
|---|---|
| Agentive or social roles The Commentators and audiences Commentator to commentator | Almost all the clauses in this text are in declarative mood |
| Status Unequal | The commentator (Andy) occasionally mentions The other commentator's name (Clive) but Clive does not so the relationship between speakers is unequal. |
| Social distance Minimal | However, it does not seem very close, and the speech is familiar and elliptical so the social distance is minimal. |

Based on the table above and the previous analysis, the dominant mood type is declarative. It is followed by interrogative, imperative, and exclamative. For the person selections, the commentators use all of person selections; 1st person (I, we), 2nd person (Clive, the audiences, the players), and 3rd person (He, it (the ball) Player names, coach names).

The agentive or social roles are between commentators and the audiences and commentators to commentator. The agentive or social roles can be seen by the following clauses:

Excerpt 23

'this is nasty one, Clive'

| | | | |
|------|----|-----------|-------|
| this | is | nasty one | Clive |
| S | F | C | |
| Mood | | Residue | |

The clause above is uttered by Andy, one of the commentators. This time he utters his opinion to Clive and he also mentions Clive's name. This kind of interaction happens when there is opinion or argument between the commentators. Thus, the agentive or social role is between commentators. However, the social role between commentators to audience is obvious. This kind of social role is the main purpose of the

commentary, that is, to tell the audiences about the events happening in the field. Here is an example:

Excerpt 24

'he could've split the joint with that kind of ball'

| | | | | |
|------|-------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|
| he | could | 've split | the joint | with that kind of ball |
| S | F | P | C | A |
| Mood | | Residue | | |

The status between commentators is unequal because the commentator (Andy) occasionally mentions the other commentator's name (Clive) but Clive does not. The inequality between the commentators can be seen when they are having chit chat. The excerpt above, the one between commentators, shows the inequality. Clive dominates most of the turn and Andy always tries to let Clive to finish his utterances before Andy answers or responds him. Moreover, the status between commentators and audiences is also unequal because there is no feedback from the audiences. However, it does not seem very close, and the speech is familiar and elliptical so the social distance is minimal.

Textual Meaning

Textual meaning discusses the point of where the text is going by creating 'signposts'. Signposts are the starting point. "English speakers and writers use the first position in the clause to signal to their audience what the message is about" Butt (2001:135). These signposts are called Theme, and the rests of the text or clause are called Rheme. The Themes are categorized into three Themes; Topical Theme, Interpersonal Theme, and Textual Theme.

| No | Theme Types | | Σ | % |
|----|-------------|---------------|------|------|
| 1 | Marked | Topical | 69 | 3.98 |
| | | Textual | 325 | 18.8 |
| | | Interpersonal | 30 | 1.7 |
| 2 | Topical | | 1314 | 75.7 |
| | Total | | 1738 | 100 |

Table 4.4. Theme Types

The table above shows the total of themes found in the data. The domination of the topical theme is not an unusual phenomenon because the commentary is mostly containing message or utterance which have nominal group as the initiating or the starter. Even though, there is also marked topical theme. It appears 69 times in the data and is 3.98% of the total clauses. The other marked theme is marked textual themes. It is found 325 times from the whole data. From the total of themes, marked textual has 18.8% of it. The last marked theme is marked interpersonal theme. It has the lowest number of appearance in the data. It is in only 30 clauses, or 1.7% of the total themes is marked interpersonal theme.

Topical Theme

The topical theme would be called unmarked topical theme if it is the only theme in the clause and is usual/common (nominal group). The number of the topical theme is high. It can be because the nature of football commentary is to report the match so the commentators should be precise. Topical Theme is the whole nominal group, verbal group, adverbial group or prepositional phrase filling the first Participant, Process, or Circumstance slot. Here is an example of the finding:

Excerpt 25

'This was their moment of the evening'

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| this | was their moment of the evening |
| Topical Theme (unmarked) | Rheme |

The clause above has topical theme. The topical of the clause above is the word 'this'. The word 'this' is categorized into topical theme because it is the starting point of the message or the clause and it is a noun referring to the event. The theme of the clause above is categorized into 'unmarked' topical theme because it is a common or usual starting point, nominal group.

Marked Topical

Marked topical themes are similar to unmarked topical theme. They both function as the topic of the message or the clause. The difference is the structure of the clause. Marked topical themes usually begin with prepositional phrase or the object of the clause. These themes are 'marked' because these themes are rarely in use. Here is a finding of marked topical theme:

Excerpt 26

'every chance he get there'

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| every chance | he get there |
| Marked Topical Theme | Rheme |

Theme is the starting point of the message. The theme of the clause above is the nominal group 'every chance'. Although it is a nominal group in the beginning of the clause, it is not categorized as the unmarked topical theme. Instead, it is categorized into marked ones because, by looking at mood system, it functions as the object of the clause. So, the starting point is the object which is emphasized by the commentator.

Interpersonal Theme

The Interpersonal Theme is in the beginning of the clauses which indicating the kind of interaction between speakers or the positions which they are taking. The Interpersonal Theme includes Finite (in interrogative clauses), initial Vocatives, and Mood and Comment Adjunct. For example:

Excerpt 27

'Particularly you're behind'

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Particularly | you | 're behind |
| Theme | | Rheme |
| Marked Interpersonal | Topical | |

The clause above has two kinds of sub-category of theme, interpersonal and topical theme. The interpersonal theme is realized by the word 'particularly'. In this clause, 'particularly' is some kind of mark to show uncertainty in the utterance. The interpersonal, and textual, can not be the only theme of a clause. It will always be followed by a topical theme. In the clause above, the topical theme is the word 'you'.

Textual Theme

Textual themes are in form of conjunctions. The conjunction of the clause above is 'when'. The clauses which have the textual themes are generally independent clauses which require a dependent clause to be whole. Here is an example:

Excerpt

'when Sergio Ramos changed that in the 93rd minute'

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| when | Sergio Ramos | changedthat in the 93 rd minute |
| Theme | | Rheme |
| Marked Textual | Topical | |

Mode of discourse

Mode of discourse is made based on the Theme-Rheme analysis. Theme-Rheme analysis will reveal the theme of each clause in the data. here is the Mode of Discourse of the football commentary:

Lexicogrammatical analysis

| Textual meanings |
|---|
| Thematic choices Topical themes – <i>I, he, you, they, Barcelona, Juventus, it, player names, look, listen</i> Textual themes – <i>and, now, andthen, when</i> Interpersonal themes – <i>Particularly, sure,</i> |
| Structural patterns A hybrid of report and review |

As a result of the analysis and knowledge of context of culture the description is concluded



Contextual description

| Mode of Discourse | Commentary |
|---|--|
| Role of language Constitutive Type of interaction Mostly monologue Medium Spoken Channel Phonic Rhetorical thrust report and review | Opinions give this text some dialogic qualities. |

The mode of discourse above shows that the common topical themes in the data are *I, he, you, they, Barcelona, Juventus, it, player names, look, listen*. These themes can easily be found. For example of topical themes:

CT: "**Jordi Alba** with the chance to get *Barcelona* moving. **He** is *Neymar* looking to run, *Litchsteiner*. **he** wins the play, who came down on the escalator to pitch level...

There are also interpersonal themes, such as *particularly* and *sure*. The common textual themes are *and, but, and when*. Moreover, elliptical clauses are found a lot in the data. The structural patterns of the football commentary are a hybrid of reporting and reviewing. This is because the commentators have different purpose; one to report and the other one to review. It can be seen in the following clauses:

Excerpt 4.51 Clause no. 1124 '*Morata passes to Tevez*'

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Morata | passes to Tevez |
| Unmarked Topical Theme | Rheme |

The clause above has the structure of information because it is in declarative mood. This kind of clause is uttered by Clive, the commentator who has the job to report the match. Thus the commentary is categorized as a report.

Excerpt 4.52 Clause no. 1165 '*that's proper game, proper final*'

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| that | 's proper game, proper final |
| Unmarked Topical Theme | Rheme |

The commentators also give opinions towards the events. In the clause above, the opinion is uttered by Andy, the colour commentator. This kind of utterance is mostly uttered by him.

The role of language in the football commentary is constitutive. It can be seen by the nature of the football commentary which is reporting events. The commentators report the events to the audiences so the language in the commentary is the whole activity, or in other words, language constitutes the text. Moreover, the commentators can only be heard during the match, so the gestures or any physical movement cannot be seen. The type of interaction of the football commentary is mostly monologue. It is because, again, the commentators report or retell the events to the audiences in which the responses from the audiences cannot be seen. The commentary is in monologue when the commentator tells the events in the field without giving any opinion. However, some of type of interaction is dialogue. The dialogue occurs when the commentators are sharing opinions or they argue about something. For example:

AT: "... they never..."

CT: "they just, did score when they had to..."

AT: "okay"

CT: "in Madrid, in the semifinal and Barcelona do tend to lead it all of two away in Nou Camp, three in Munich, three in Paris in the group game in September"

AT: "I'm just gonna say, Clive..."

The medium of the football commentary is purely spoken medium. Football commentary has phonic as the channel because they speak or utter their thoughts. For the rhetorical thrust, the football commentary is a hybrid of live report and review text because the football commentary contains reports and opinions of the happened or happening events. The combination of the commentators' job make the commentary has two rhetorical thrusts. Clive has the job to report the exact event of the match which becomes the report of the match and Andy has the job to give opinions, review, or evaluation of the events which have the worth-talking value.

Conclusion

The football commentary is about two people who are reporting and giving opinion of the match with the purpose to make a good commentary of a remarkable match. This text is between commentators and audiences and commentator to commentator and is mostly in declaratives. Although the social distance between the commentators is minimal because the speech is familiar and elliptical, the relationship between them is unequal because the colour commentator (Andy) occasionally mentions the other commentator's name (Clive) but Clive does not. The role of the language in the football commentary is constitutive because the language functions as the whole activity. The football commentary is monologue. However, some opinions make it has some dialogic qualities because these opinions make the commentators reply to one another.

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