



**STRUCTURES OF THE NOMINAL GROUP OF AN OPINION  
ARTICLES IN THE JAKARTA POST**

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# STRUCTURES OF THE NOMINAL GROUP OF AN OPINION ARTICLES IN THE JAKARTA POST

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## ABSTRACT

*This thesis entitled “Structures of the Nominal Group of an Opinion Articles in the Jakarta Post” which is aim at describing the types of nominal group pattern produced by the native and non native writer in writing opinion. This opinion writings were published on the Jakarta Post edition March and May 2013.*

*In doing this research the researchers employs descriptive qualitative method. Meanwhile, the data of this research were taken from the opinions written by a native speaker from New York, America and the non native speaker from Jakarta, Indonesia. In collecting the data, the researcher downloaded the Jakarta Post edition March and May 2013 from the internet.*

*The result shows that both native and non native produced different number of nominal group in their writings. Besides that, it also gives different pattern of nominal group. The highest nominal group pattern produced by the native writer is  $D+T+Q$  pattern with 21 number. Whereas, the non native writer produced  $D+T+Q$  with 6 numbers, and the least number of nominal group pattern produced by the native writer is  $C+E+T$ ,  $N+T+Q$ ,  $D+C+T+Q$ ,  $D+C+T$ ,  $D+C+E+T+Q$  with 1 number. Meanwhile, the least number of nominal group pattern produced by the non native writer  $C+T$ ,  $N+T$ ,  $E+C+T$ ,  $N+C+T+Q$ ,  $N+E+T$  with 1 number. It can be seen that non native writer produces more deictic than the native writer in their writing. It indicates that the non native writer tend produce more indefinite or definite article in his writing which indicates that the non native writer wants to emphasis the thing he wants to tell to the readers without adding more information. Meanwhile, the native writer is actually also want emphasis the thing he wants to explain to the readers and the Native writer wants to give more information about the thing*

**Keyword :** *Jakarta Post, Native and Non Native Article, Nominal Group*

*Penelitian ini berjudul Struktur Nominal Group dalam Opinion Article pada Surat Kabar The Jakarta Post, mendeskripsikan jenis – jenis pola nominal group yang dihasilkan oleh penulis Indonesia dan penulis asing dalam Artikel Opini yang dipublikasikan oleh The Jakarta Post edisi Maret dan Mei 2013. Dalam menganalisa struktur Nominal Group pada penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif. Pada penelitian ini, data diambil dari Opinion Article yang terdapat pada The Jakarta Post yang ditulis oleh penulis Indonesia yang berasal dari Jakarta dan untuk penulis asing berasal dari New York, Amerika. Peneliti mengumpulkan data dengan cara mengunduh artikel The Jakarta Post edisi Maret dan Mei 2013 melalui internet. Jumlah Nominal Group yang dihasilkan oleh kedua penulis memiliki jumlah yang berbeda. Selain itu, kedua penulis menghasilkan pola Nominal Group yang berbeda pula. Pola terbanyak yang dihasilkan oleh penulis asing adalah D+T+Q dengan jumlah 21 pola. Sedangkan, pada penulis Indonesia pola D+T+Q terdapat 6 pola, diikuti dengan jumlah terkecil adalah artikel opini yang ditulis oleh penulis Indonesia adalah C+T, N+T, E+C+T, N+C+T+Q, N+E+T. Dan jumlah terkecil yang dihasilkan oleh penulis asing adalah C+E+T, N+T+Q, D+C+T+Q, D+C+T, D+C+E+T+Q dengan jumlah 1 pola. Dalam penelitian tersebut dapat disimpulkan bahwa penulis Indonesia cenderung menghasilkan “indefinite, definite article” dalam penulisannya yang menunjukkan jika penulis Indonesia ingin menekankan pada “thing” tanpa menambahkan informasi lain dalam penulisannya. Sedangkan, penulis asing ingin menginformasikan kepada pembaca dengan menambahkan informasi lain dalam penulisannya.*

*Kata kunci : Jakarta Post, Arikel dengan Penulis Indonesia dan Penulis Asing, Nominal Group.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Human is a social being who always needs other people in his life. It can hardly be imagined that he should live all alone by himself without anyone to accompany and help him. It is a fact that man cannot live alone. They need to interact with others. They need a means to express their feeling, thought, and ideas. And when two or more people communicate with each other in speech, we can call the system of communication that they employ a code. The way people communicate to each other is communications. Communications occurs if both the speaker and the hearer exist. In general, it is described as an action, which there is the relationship between what the speaker says and what the hearer receives, and the purpose is the transforming of information or message.

Language is the most important thing for communication. People need language to transfer message from one to another. It is included in verbal communication, where the communication occur between two people or more in doing the activities as listening, speaking, writing and reading. Surely that those activities need language to be done.

According to Smith's The New International Webster's Comprehensive Dictionary of The English Language (2003:716), language means:

“The expression and communication of emotions/ideas between human beings by means of speech and hearing, the sounds spoken or heard being systematized and confirmed by usage among a given people over a period of time” or “The words forming the means of communication among members of a single nation or group at a given period”.

Furthermore, according to Hornby (2000:721), language means “The system of communication in speech and writing that is used by people of a particular country”. It is clear that language is used for communication among people in a particular country over a period of time.

The researchers choose this article because the researcher wants to analyze the realization of nominal groups in opinion articles made by Native writer and Non native writer. Beside that, the researcher also wants to know about the differences the writings made by Native writer and Non Native writer. The reason why the researcher wants to distinguish how Native writer used nominal group in his writing, and the Non Native writer used nominal group in his writing. So, the researcher is interested choosing nominal group because by employing nominal group in a writing can improve the result of its writing.

In line with the reasons above, the reseachers is challanged to analyzed about the used and types of nominal group existed in native and non native articles.

## **METHOD**

### **Research Design**

In this research, the researchers uses a descriptive qualitative method since the method explains the qualitative data systematically. It is a kind of method using a technique of looking for collecting, classifying data then analyzing the data for drawing conclusions.

### **Data**

The Data of this thesis was taken from the *Jakarta Post Edition Saturday, March 23 2013* from article *Leadership deficit fuels intolerance* by Phelim Kine, New York. The Native writer is deputy director of the Asia division at Human Rights Watch. For the Non Native writer article, *Assessment in Education* by Totok Amin Soefijanto, Jakarta. *Edition Friday, May 24 2013*. The Non Native writer is the deputy rector for academics, research and student affairs at Paramadina University, Jakarta. The data was downloaded from [www.thejakartapost.com](http://www.thejakartapost.com) .

### **Unit of Analysis**

The data analyzed are related to the Structure of the nominal groups found in Native writer and Non Native writer article of The Jakarta Post. Unit of analysis in this research is the phrase in every clause in the article.

### **Technique of Data Collection**

Searching the data by collecting the article from [www.thejakartapost.com](http://www.thejakartapost.com). Then Choosing the Native writer and Non Native writer article which are written in English. And followed by Reading the article, by reading the article, the researchers can analyze the data before segmenting the sentences.

### **Technique of Data Analysis**

Reading the data, by reading the opinion articles, the researchers can get the ideas of the data. Segmenting the data in the form of clauses. In this step the researcher segmens the text into clauses. Identifying the structure of the nominal group, after the data were classified into each clause then it was classified into the structure of nominal group. Classifying the structure of the nominal group. In this step the researchers classified into the nominal group patterns. Interpreting the data.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Functional Components of Native and Non Native Writers' Writing

No.	FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS					
	Native Writer	$\Sigma$	%	Non Native Writer	$\Sigma$	%
1.	D+T+Q	21	26,25%	D+T+Q	6	10,34%
2.	D+T	16	20%	D+T	14	24,2%
3.	D+E+T	9	11,25%	D+E+T	13	22,41%
4	E+T	6	7,5%	E+T	3	5,17%
5	C+T	6	7,5%	C+T	1	1,72%
6	D+E+T+Q	8	10%	D+E+T+Q	7	12,06%
7	N+T	3	3,75%	N+T	1	1,72%
8	N+E+T	2	2,5%	N+E+T	1	1,72%
9	N+T+Q	1	1,25%	N+T+Q	2	3,44%
10	D+C+T	1	1,25%	D+C+T	4	6,89%
11	D+C+E+T	2	2,5%	E+C+T	1	1,72%
12	T+Q	2	2,5%	N+C+T+Q	1	1,72%
13	D+C+T+Q	1	1,25%	D+T+C	4	6,89%
14	C+E+T	1	1,25%			
15	D+C+E+T+Q	1	1,25%			
	<b>JUMLAH</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>100</b>

From the table above illustrates the findings of the two articles produced by a native writer from the United States of America and non native writer from Jakarta, Indonesia. Both writers wrote articles and were published on the *Jakarta Post* edition March 2013. It can be seen in the table 4.1 that there are 80 constructions found in the native writer article and it can be seen from the table that D stand for Deictic, T stand for Thing, Q for Qualifier, C for Classifier, E for Epithet, N for Numerative and the highest number of nominal group produced by the Native Writer in his writing is D+T+Q pattern with 21 numbers. It indicates

that the native writer mostly produced definite and indefinitive article in his writing. In pattern D+T+Q indicates that the Native writer wants to complete the information about the thing in his writing. Then it is followed by D+T pattern with 16 numbers. After that it is followed by D+E+T with 9 numbers and D+E+T+Q 8 numbers continued with E+T pattern with 6 numbers. For the patterns C+T produced 6 number and for the patterns N+T produced 3 numbers. The least number of the nominal group pattern is N+E+T, T+Q, D+C+E+T, with 2 numbers and N+T+Q, D+T+C+Q, D+C+T, D+E+C+T+Q and C+E+T with 1 for each and it means the native writer produced 59 numbers of Deictic, 80 numbers for Thing, 30 numbers of Epithet, 11 numbers of Classifier and 6 numbers for Numeral.

Meanwhile, the non native writer has a different pattern with the Native writer but only some of them. The Indonesian writer produces D+E+T with 13 numbers and D+T mostly in his writing with 14 numbers. It means that “Thing” has the highest number found in the non native writing. In the pattern D+T the Non Native writer just wants to emphasis about the information without adding any information because the way of writing by Native and Non native writer is different so, the result of nominal group patterns that they produced are different. Native writer mostly produced D+T+Q in his writing and for the Non Native writer mostly produced D+T in his writing. The second is D+E+T+Q with 7 numbers found in his writing then it is followed by D+T+Q with 6 numbers, D+C+T and D+T+C with 4 numbers and continued with patterns E+T with 3 numbers. The least number found in the non native writer is N+T+Q with 2 numbers and followed by N+E+T, N+T, E+C+T, C+T, N+C+T+Q with only 1 found for each in his writing and the non native writer produce 47 deictic, 58 thing, 25 epithet, 12 classifier, 16 qualifier, and 5 numerative.

**Construction 1: D+T+Q**

There are 22 numbers of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the *Jakarta Post*. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

The following excerpt 1 below is another example of construction D+T+Q found in the native writer’s writing.

Excerpt 1

*United States President Barack Obama praised “the spirit of religious tolerance that is enshrined in Indonesia’s constitution,*

United States President Barack Obama praised “ <b>the spirit of religious tolerance</b> that is enshrined in Indonesia’s constitution, ( page : 1, line 1)		
The	spirit	of religious tolerance
Deictic	Thing	Qualifier

It can be seen in the data above that “**the spirit of religious tolerance** “ is a noun phrase of the clause two above. After the phrase was divided into each nominal group component, it can be seen that there were three types of nominal group components found in

the data. Those components were deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Then, the noun “spirit” is treated as thing. Meanwhile, the qualifier of nominal group component was a phrase of “of religious tolerance”.

### Construction 2: D+T

There are 15 numbers of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 2

***the court** also sentenced an Ahmadiyah man to a six-month prison term for attempting to defend himself. ( page : 1, line 3)*

<b>the court</b> also sentenced an Ahmadiyah man to a six-month prison term for attempting to defend himself. ( page : 1, line 3)	
The	court
Deictic	Thing

According to the clause found in the excerpt 11 above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group with “**the court**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are two nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a native writer in his writing is thing which is indicated by a noun “court”.

### Construction 3: D+E+T

There are 9 numbers of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 3

*Those gangs justify their abuses as efforts to defend **the Muslim community** against Christian proselytization and rid the country of “infidels” and “blasphemers”. ( page : 1, line 8)*

Those gangs justify their abuses as efforts to defend <b>the Muslim community</b> against Christian proselytization and rid the country of “infidels” and “blasphemers”. ( page : 1, line 8)		
The	Muslim	community
Deictic	Epi	Thing

According to the clause found in the excerpt 14 above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group with “**the Muslim community**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are three nominal group components found in the phrase

above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a native writer in his writing is epithet which is indicated by a noun “Muslim”. The last nominal group components made by the native writer is thing which is indicated by a noun “community”.

**Construction 4: D+E+T+Q**

There are 8 numbers of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the *Jakarta Post*. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 4

*Tell that to **the Ahmadiyah community in Cikeusik, Banten**. ( page :1, line 2)*

Tell that to <b>the Ahmadiyah community in Cikeusik, Banten</b> . ( page :1, line 2)			
the	Ahmadiyah	community	in Cikeusik, Banten
Deictic	Epi	Thing	Qualifier

According to the clause found in the excerpt 15 above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group with “***the Ahmadiyah community in Cikeusik, Banten***”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are four nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a native writer in his writing is epithet which is indicated by a noun “Ahmadiyah”. Next is thing which is found in the table above with “community”. The last nominal group components made by the native writer is qualifier which is indicated by a prepositional phrase “in Cikeusik, Banten”.

**Construction 5: E+T**

There are 6 numbers of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the *Jakarta Post*. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 5

*In several incidents we investigated, **local officials and security forces** facilitated harassment and intimidation of religious minorities ( page : 2, line 3)*

In several incidents we investigated, <b>local officials and security forces</b> facilitated harassment and intimidation of religious minorities ( page : 2, line 3)	
locals	officials and security
Epi	Thing



According to the excerpt 17 above, it is found that the bold type in the table above is the nominal group with “**local officials and security**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are two nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are epithet which is identified by a noun “locals”. Another nominal group produced by the native writer in his writing is thing which is indicated by a compound word “officials and security”.

**Construction 6: C+T**

There is only 5 of this pattern found in the native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 6

*United States President Barack Obama* praised “the spirit of religious tolerance that is enshrined in Indonesia’s constitution, ( page : 1, line 1)

United States President Barack Obama praised “the spirit of religious tolerance that is enshrined in Indonesia’s constitution, ( page : 1, line 1)	
United States	President Barack Obama
Class	Thing

According to the excerpt 19 above, it is found that the bold type in the table above is the nominal group with “**United States President Barack Obama**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are two nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are classifier which is identified by a noun “United States”. Another nominal group produced by the native writer in his writing is thing which is indicated by a noun phrase “President Barack Obama”.

**The Nominal Group used by the Non Native Writer**

**Construction 1: D+T+Q**

There are 8 numbers of this pattern found in the non native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 16

*The public is left in the dark about the role of assessment in education.* ( page : 1, line 2)

The public is left in the dark about <b>the role of assessment in education.</b> ( page : 1, line 2)		
the	role	of assessment in education

Deictic	Thing	Qualifier
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Based on the clause of the non native writer from Indonesia above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group phrase of the clause is “**the role of assessment in education**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are three nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a non native writer in his writing is thing which is indicated by a noun “exam”. Meanwhile, the third type of nominal group produced by a non native writer from Indonesia is qualifier and it is indicated by a prepositional phrase “of assessment in education”.

### Construction 2: D+T

There are 13 numbers of this pattern found in the non native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 17

First, it provides information about **the students** understanding of the subject matter. ( page : 1, line 3 )

First, it provides information about <b>the students</b> understanding of the subject matter. ( page : 1, line 3 )	
the	students
Deictic	Thing

Based on the clause of the non native writer from Indonesia above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group phrase with “**the students**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are two nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a non native writer in his writing is thing which is indicated by a noun “students”.

### Construction 3: D+E+T

There are 9 numbers of this pattern found in the non native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 18

*The national exam was an unfortunate series of event and the troubles are pouring in like Lemony Snicket’s thought – provoking fiction.*

The national exam was an unfortunate series of event and the troubles are pouring in like Lemony Snicket’s thought – provoking fiction.		
The	National	Exam
Deictic	Epi	Thing

Based on the clause of the non native writer from Indonesia above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group phrase of the clause is “**The national exam**”. Based on the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are three nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a non native writer in his writing is epithet which is indicated by a noun “Nasional”. Meanwhile, the third type is classifier and it is indicated by a noun “exam”.

**Construction 4: D+E+T+Q**

There are 3 numbers of this pattern found in the non native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

Excerpt 19

*The national exam was **an unfortunate series of event** and the troubles are pouring in like Lemony Snicket’s thought – provoking fiction*

The national exam was <b>an unfortunate series of event</b> and the troubles are pouring in like Lemony Snicket’s thought – provoking fiction.			
an	unfortunate	series	of event
Deictic	Epi	Thing	Qualifier

Based on the clause above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group phrase of the clause is “**an unfortunate series of event**”. According to the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are four nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are deictic which is identified by an indefinite article “an”. Another nominal group produced by a non native writer in his writing is epithet which is indicated by an adjective “unfortunate”. Meanwhile, the third type is classifier and is indicated by a noun “series”. Then, the last type of nominal group found in the article produced by the non native writer in his writing is qualifier and it is indicated by a a noun phrase “of event”.

**Construction 5: D+C+T**

There is only 4 pattern found in the non native writer’s writing in the Jakarta Post. The explanation of this pattern is as follows:

## Excerpt 20

*Formative testing type, on the other hand, is a continuous assessment during **the learning period**. ( page : 1, line 7)*

Formative testing type, on the other hand, is a continuous assessment during <b>the learning period</b> . ( page : 1, line 7)		
the	learning	period
Deictic	Class	Thing

Based on the clause above, it can be seen in the table that the bold type is the nominal group phrase of the clause is “**the learning period**”. According to the previous phrase, it can be seen that there are three nominal group components found in the phrase above. Those nominal group components are numeric which is identified by a deictic with a definite article “the”. Another nominal group produced by a non native writer in his writing is classifier which is indicated by an adjective “learning”. Meanwhile, the third type is thing which is indicated by “period”.

### Comparison between Native writing and Non Native Writing

Based on the data of the findings above, it can be seen that non native writer produces more deictic than the native writer in their writing. It indicates that the non native writer tend produce more indifinte or definite article in his writing which indicates that the non native writer wants to emphasis the thing he wants to tell to the redears. Meanwhile, the native writer is actually also want emphasis the thing he wants to explain to the readers. Both writers, American and Indonesian writer, have the same ideas that they want to give information about the knowledge they have to the readers. Eventhough, they way they present they writings are in different ways. The native writer mostly produced D+T+Q pattern with 21 numbers, for example *a group of some 1.500 Islamist militants attacked 21 members of Cikeusik’s Ahmadiyah community who were holding a prayer meeting in a private home on Feb. 6, 2011 (page : 1 line 2)*. It indicates that the Native writer wants to give more information about a group who attacked 21 members of Cikeusik’s Ahmadiyah community. and for the Non Native writer mostly produced D+T with 14 numbers, for example In summative testing, *a student is assessed in the end of learning process, one time and one chance only. ( page : 1, line 6)* it indicates that the Non Native writer just wants to emphasis about the Thing in his writing without adding more information. And for another example of comparison between Native and Non Native writer is N+T with 3 numbers for the Native writer and 1 number for the Non Native writer. The differences of N+T between Native and Non Native article is from the article, because the Native article tells the reader about some criminal cases, incidents and explain about how many victims because of the incident, for example *In several incidents we investigated, local officials and security forces facilitated harassment and intimidation of religious minorities ( page : 2, line 3)*. The Non Native article is about education the writer tells the reader about the process of education, for example *Assassment takes an important role in education because it has at least five goals ( page : 1, line 3)*. So, it’s really different with the Native article.

Since the native writer is an American, he can produce a smooth and clear ideas in his writing. And he can produce nominal group components at the same level. What the researcher mean the same level here is that the native writer can produce balance number the use of nominal group in his writing and it is different from Indonesian writer. He tend to focus more on the use of deictic in his writing. He only focuses in a specific thing that he wants to explain to the readers. Besides that, the non native writer tends to specifies the thing of his writing where it focuses on the ideas of the information given to the readers.

## CONCLUSION

After the data of the analysis was done. The next step is giving its conclusion. According to the findings and anlaysis in chapter 4, it can be seen that the native speaker from United States of America produced more nominal group pattern in his writing than Non native from Jakarta, Indonesia. It is found that the use of nominal group in a writing can help the writer to develop his ideas to write. Based on the result in chapter 4, the most dominant of nominal group pattern produced by the native writer is D+T+Q pattern with 21. It means that the native speaker writer emphasis his writing to the “thing” he mentioned because he wants to tell the readers that there is an important information to be delivered. Meanwhile, in the non native writer, it can be seen that the most dominat nominal group patern produced in his writing is D+T with 14 numbers and D+E+T patterns with 13 numbers for each. It indicates that the non native writer tend to write directly the information.

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