

# Interlingual Re-Instantiation of Attitude in News Reports on Attacking Incidents in Indonesia's Newspapers

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**Abstract**—This study explores an interlingual re-instantiation of attitude as a language appraisal strategy employed by Indonesia's newspapers in reporting news on attacking incidents. The study aims, firstly, to reveal the types of attitude system employed by Indonesia's newspapers in reporting news on attacking incidents and, secondly, to investigate the potential meanings constructed by the re-instantiation of the attitude system. This study follows interpretative descriptive approach to data collection and analysis. The data were taken from *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post* to give an equal representation of Indonesia's newspapers and analyzed with reference to Martin and White's, Appraisal System focusing on attitude sub-system. The analysis reveals that three sub-systems of attitude (affect, judgment, and appreciation) are employed to deliver positive and negative assessments to different addressees. This strategy is combined with certain organizations of discourse to amplify the intensity of the message that results in modified interpretation and potential meanings from the readers. This approach also works as a tool of stance-taking for the news reporters in viewing the attacking incidents. It is concluded that Indonesia's newspapers employ evaluations towards attacking incidents to modify meanings as their politics of reporting.

**Keywords**—*attacking incidents; appraisal system; attitude; re-instantiation*

## I. INTRODUCTION

News on mass attacking is the coverage of incidents that involve mass threat to certain groups or community, such as bombings, terrorism, homicide, genocide, and mass killings, which could cause death or disability and be considered "crisis when they are perceived to threaten the core values of underlie society" [1,2]. Such news reports are always under international, national, and local media coverage. Recently, news reports including news on attacking have been recast by a variety of media resources to deliver to their audiences. In recasting news, news agencies have a role in processing news [3-5]. In this case, media attempts to politicize or delivering the issues under people's attention [6] in the process of adjusting information to be delivered properly [7-11]. These strategies concerning the politics of media reporting may contribute to shifting meanings of the messages, such as on attacking incidents, that have the potentials to mobilize readers'

perceptions and reactions to the incidents, the victims, and the actors.

Attacking incidents possess huge influences and after-effects in numerous aspects, such as social, politics, culture, communication, and economy. Therefore, news coverage of attacking incidents developing as a public consumption may lead to modifying the way public perceives the particular incidents. As a result, attacking incidents get a major attention from researchers as a medium to gain an in-depth understanding as well as contributing to their respective field (see e.g. [1,12-16]). Those studies investigate the relations and impacts of attacking incidents from various disciplines. Those studies also reveal that attacking incidents may result in negative after-effects in economy, society, and psychology.

As mentioned in the studies above, attacking incidents in the forms of terrorism, suicide bombing, mass killing, or kidnapping heavily rely on media coverage in order to attract public attention [17]. For example, terrorist attack utilizes media coverage to convey intended messages of a particular group rather than to aim at specific victims. By taking into account the causality, media exposure of attacking incidents and terrorism may encourage further attacks. The impacts of terrorism attack do not only influence the monetary revenue but also the non-market values or utility losses [18]. Based on multidimensional index of relevant social impacts, the consequences take place in the manifestation that engrains in the citizen's state of mind. These results strengthen the assumption that attacking incidents and terrorism may affect a wide range of aspects either directly or indirectly.

In reporting attacking incidents, the news is frequently organized to report the chronology of the incidents by involving numerous perspectives. This phenomenon has been framed in a certain way by the mass media through the interpersonal strategies to generate potential meanings. Some studies have seen the relation of interpersonal strategies as reflected in the media to generate potential meanings. For example, White explores the rhetorical properties in modern news report by using language of evaluation as interpersonal strategies [19]. On the other hand, another study by McCabe and Heilman investigates interpersonal differences between news reports and editorials by taking into account the choices

of language appraisal [20]. Other studies analysing interpersonal meaning and media practices attempt to investigate the ideology or politics of media through its language mechanism (see e.g. [21-23]).

Those studies show the consequences of media in using interpersonal strategies on certain groups. The insertion of interpersonal strategies may also disclose the relation between how certain media perceive the individuals involved in the incidents through the degree of assessments or evaluations. In addition, previous studies show specific approaches to understanding the discourse of attacking in news reports, such as employing corpus-based general stereotypes associating with the issue. However, it is important to address the functions or the mechanisms of language appraisal in media from various contexts which were exempted in previous studies, such as Suherman's [22] and Metasari's [23] studies. Only a few studies have investigated the mechanisms of language of evaluation in Indonesia's newspapers, especially in the context of attacking incidents.

Therefore, to provide a specified portrayal of politics of media and to yield different results of the study on attacking incidents, this study focuses on investigating the type of appraisal strategies and interpreting their potential meanings. This study involves the analysis of systematic patterns of interpersonal meaning to create a distinctive style of news reports, namely Appraisal System, which includes semantic category that contributes to negotiating and naturalizing positions of social evaluation [19]. The framework performs the function of modelling the discourse-semantic relationship in the context of media, especially in using language function as tool of evaluation. The involvement of attitude towards the attacking incidents may reveal how media construct texts and utilize linguistic mechanism to show emotions and assessments as well as to position their audiences to do or feel likewise.

This present study is based on the assumption that the language of media plays a crucial role in politicizing news to lead to intended meanings [3]. Therefore, interpersonal meaning strategies are assumed to contribute much too creating meanings. By drawing on the Martin and White's framework of Appraisal System, this study is expected to reveal the Indonesia's newspapers' appraisal strategies in delivering the reports of attacking incidents as well as the way appraisal strategies contribute to creating potential meanings for the readers [24].

In order to set the focus, the following research questions will be covered in the study.

The following research questions will be covered in the research:

- What types of attitudinal system are employed by Indonesian local newspapers in reporting news of attacking incidents?
- What potential meanings can be inferred from the attitudinal system in the news reports on attacking incidents?

## II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Terrorism and mass attacks have been a global predicament and worldwide concern, especially after the massive September 11 incident [18]. Terrorism and mass attacking can be defined as "a method of combat in which random or symbolic victims become target(s) of violence through [the] previous use of violence or the credible threat of violence other members of that group... to immobilize and/or to compliance, or to mobilize secondary *targets of demand* or *target of attention*." [25,26]. The perpetrators of terrorism and attacking utilize media attention to spread their intended message while at the same time media is considered participating in distributing those messages [17]. Media alternatively plays a role in mediating or delivering news of attacking incidents as such attacks manifest as a threat to personal and national security [13]. As attacking incidents are frequently associated with certain groups or members, media contributes to 'framing' the events, issues, and political actors in the contextual reference [15]. Tamborini et al. also adds that the exposure of attacking news has been publicized to worsen attitudes toward the members who are associated with the particular attack [2]. At the same time, exposing news report about attacking means unconsciously exposing the perpetrators' political ends of doing terrorist violence. Some attacking incidents, such as terrorism and suicide bombings, even use media attention to gain justification for their actions. The media at large try to, in cases of negative media events, become functional by providing help for society to cope with perceived threat. Journalists destabilize the message of the perpetrators, so that "instead of passing on the message of terror, dread, and alarm, media gives the message of solidarity, partnership, and stubborn endurance against the threat" [27]. The realization of this message requires certain language strategies in constructing the relationship between participants (media and audiences), hence, taking interpersonal metafunction into account is necessary to gain insight for current research.

In accord with the concept of interpersonal meaning, the speaker or writer indicates the identity and relation through intersubjectivity. This foregrounding intersubjectivity encodes speakers' feelings through groups and phrases, especially nominal groups [28]. This concept is termed Appraisal System (AS) as this model is supposed to give a coherent scaffold to articulate the investigation of attitudinal expressions in the language use. In other words, AS is meaning-making resource to analyse the positive or negative assessment conveyed through texts, by looking at the intensity and directness of attitudinal utterances by speakers to respondents [29]. Appraisal System (AS) has been developed from interpersonal meaning of functional grammar and proposed by White [19].

By considering journalism as one of forms of discourse, it contains meaning-making resources that produce "language of evaluation" in which the speaker's/writers personal, evaluative engrossment is exposed as they adopt certain attitudes toward phenomena or metapheomena [29].

Appraisal System operates within two interpersonal systems: speech function (communicative resources) and degree of involvement (social intimacy with those they address) [29]. Appraisal resources also concern with how

writers or speakers construe authorial identities and personae by taking into account the way they align or disalign themselves with respondents and the way they construct ideal audience for their texts [24].

Appraisal System consists of three divisions of sub-system: *Attitude*, *Engagement*, and *Graduation*. Attitude is concerned with registering negative and positive feelings construed in the text. Engagement deals with plays of voices, stance-taking, and positioning in discourses. Graduation functions to analyse gradability or degree of attitudinal meanings delivered by speaker/writer.

Attitude, which becomes the focus of this study, works within three semantic regions: emotions (*affect*), ethics (*judgment*), and aesthetics (*appreciation*).

Affect deals with emotive dimension of meaning or, in other words, negative and positive feelings of emotion construed in the texts. In association with SFL terms proposed by Halliday [30], the realization of *Affect* includes affective mental and behavioural process, modification of participants and processes, and modal Adjuncts.

Judgment is concerned with evaluating behavior; interpreting attitude towards people, their character, and their behavior. The graduation of judgement is related with evaluations of 'social esteem' and 'social sanction'. Social esteem copes with 'normality', 'capacity', and 'tenacity' and tends to be regulated in oral culture and judicious with the formation of social network. On the other hand, social sanction is concerned with 'veracity' and 'propriety' and tends to be systemized in writing (rules, regulations, and law). In connection with SFL, judgement relates with mood, modality, and interpersonal metaphor, for example, through direct attitudinal lexis, such as *diligent*, *barbar*, or *nice*, or through indirect realizations, such as *potential threat*, *like a member of jihadist group Al-Qaeda*, or *lady-like*.

Graduation involves negative and positive evaluation of things, whether concrete or abstract, material or semiotic, and natural phenomena. Appreciation includes one's 'reaction' of things, evaluations of 'composition', and its 'value'. With reference to SFL, appreciation can be interpreted metafunctionally – 'reaction' links to interpersonal implication, 'composition' associates with textual composition, and 'value' correlates with ideational meaning.

### III. METHODOLOGY

The primary research design for the study takes the form of descriptive – qualitative study. Qualitative research is supposed to be the approach that fits the study of social sciences as it "involves an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter" [31]. Furthermore, interpretative research seeks to present accurate interpretations as well as description of observations of a phenomenon. Therefore, qualitative design is employed in the research due to the need to gather an in-depth understanding regarding the issue, which involves a further understanding on the approaches employed by Indonesia's media in delivering global issue of attacking incidents. In collecting the data, selective data collection of news articles on attacking incidents was conducted from two major local news

companies in Indonesia: *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*. *Pikiran Rakyat* was chosen due to its representation of local newspaper in local scale, while *Jakarta Post* was selected due to its international scale. News coverage on intense and small attacking incidents was assembled in the period of 2017-2018. The data was collected by conducting offline referencing by accessing old archives of physical newspapers and online referencing by accessing the newspapers' websites.

The procedure of the research is conducted into two main stages of analysis: textual analysis and potential meaning interpretation. Textual analysis involves reading the texts, marking the lexicogrammatical items which carry appraisal devices, and categorizing the appraisal devices into their categories of *attitude* based on its appraiser, types of attitude, and appraised.

In interpreting the potential meanings, the analysis takes into account the discourse effect in order to decipher the style of reporting of *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post* by examining the relations between trend of *attitude* strategies and tendency of meaning by taking into account the context. The texts are analyzed and categorized based on their organizations: *description*, *causation*, *problem/solution*, and *comparison*.

The result from the analysis were accumulated to present the politics of Indonesia's newspapers in reporting global attacking incidents.

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis reveals that the texts use different positive and negative evaluations of attitude which refers to different addressees (appraised) as well as different interpretations in readers' minds. The interpersonal meaning strategies found in the texts are realized through the choice of registers to generate evaluation of emotions in the form of affect, of characters and behaviours in the form of judgment, and of objects in the form or phenomena in the form of appreciation. For example, the use of certain keywords, such as *panic* or *shocked* to indicate affect and the employment of lexical metaphor or resemblance, such as *huge-bomb like bang*, *barbar*, and *potential threat* to insert judgment and appreciation. The dominant type of the appraisal strategies varies with reference to the topics being discussed and the subject being foregrounded.

Those appraisal strategies give the potential effects to the meanings. The dominant meaning potentials can be identified by connecting affect, judgment, and appreciation to the organization of discourse. The analysis reveals that different discourse organization to different attitudes conjures altered potential meanings and interpretations. For example, the meaning of intensifying the level of damage or catastrophe as well as inviting negative ideational meaning is generated from the use of comparison as the discourse organization.

More specifically, these following explanations address positive and negative evaluations from *affect*, *judgment*, and *appreciation* as well as its potential meanings.

#### A. Affect Analysis and Potential Meanings

Affect is a sub-system of attitude that serves to reveal human emotional meanings through the choice of language

[24]. Affect is the concept that relates to the evaluation of human emotional feeling or reaction to things, situation, condition, or states of affair. Affect partakes the least amount of all three subsystems of Attitude in both *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*. The following table indicates the use of affect in *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*.

TABLE I. THE USE OF AFFECT IN PIKIRAN RAKYAT AND THE JAKARTA POST

Category of Affect	Newspapers					
	Pikiran Rakyat			The Jakarta Post		
	(+)	(-)	Σ	(+)	(-)	Σ
Desire	-	-	0	-	-	0
Happiness	-	4	4	-	3	3
Security	-	8	8	-	16	16
Satisfaction	-	-	0	-	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>

The table above reveals that negative affect dominates the overall use of affect and shows no positive affect in reporting attacking incidents. In terms of its function, negative affect is construed in the text to signify negative evaluations of **security** or disposition, for example:

- Event: Brussel’s airport terrorist attack (22/3/2016)

Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
“Sebagian besar masih mengalami <b>syok</b> .”	“People <b>panicked</b> after the first explosion.”

The negative evaluations of emotional state dominate the articles in describing the situation or the state of affair of the victims. The words “panic”, “shocked”, and “trauma/traumatic” become the main keywords of depicting the mental situation of the victims and eyewitnesses. In order to report and deliver the tragedy of the incidents, both newspapers utilize in/security evaluations of affect to cover the feeling of peace and anxiety in relation to the environment in which the situation occurs.

Beside in/security evaluations of affect, **un/happiness** evaluations are found in certain cases, for example:

- Event: Baghdad’s mall bombing attack (3/7/2016)

Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
“Tubuh mereka hangus terbakar sehingga sulit diidentifikasi,” ujar Husein Ali dengan nada <b>sedih</b> .”	“It (the terror attack) fueled <b>anger</b> toward Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi.”

The assessments of un/happiness are inserted in the texts to convey the emotions caused by and toward the incidents. The emotions are not only emanated from the victims, but also from different parties involved in the incidents, such as police officers, eyewitnesses, the officials, communities, etc. By involving emotions emitted from various parties, the degree of tragedy may be enhanced towards the readers.

To generate certain potential meanings on the readers, affect is organized by using causation to deliver affect (emotions and feelings), for example:

Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
Sedikitnya 19 orang tewas dan 50 lainnya terluka akibat ledakan di tengah keramaian di area konser di Manchester, Senin 22 malam waktu setempat atau Selasa 23 Mei 2017 pagi WIB. <b>Kejadian itu juga membuat ribuan orang lainnya dilanda trauma.</b>	It was the deadliest terror attack in Iraq in a year and one of the worst single bombings in more than a decade of war and insurgency, and <b>it fueled anger</b> toward Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi.

The examples above reveal the use of causation as the discourse organization to report the emotions and feelings caused by the incidents. The expressions of “...**membuat ribuan orang lainnya dilanda trauma**” and “**fueled anger**” become the keywords of interconnection between the cause (the attacking incidents) and the effect (the emotion or feeling emerged from the incident). In this case, the cause or reason of emotions is described before the effect (the emotion itself) and the emotions are not only emanated from the victims or eyewitnesses, but also from society (officials, police officers, fire-fighters, public audiences, etc.).

The potential meaning construed from using causation in delivering affect is to heighten the level of tragedy or catastrophe of the incidents. By presenting the effect of the attacks, the audiences or readers may realize that the incidents are not only tragic and catastrophic towards the infrastructure, but also towards the emotional state of victims. Furthermore, using causation in presenting affect also functions as a tool for the news reporters to implicitly take a stance on the incidents. Presenting emotional damage of the victims and eyewitnesses indicates that the news reporters take sympathy for the sufferers and are clearly in opposition with the perpetrators.

B. Judgment Analysis and Potential Meanings

1) Positive Judgment

TABLE II. POSITIVE JUDGMENT

Positive Judgment	Newspapers	
	Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
Normality	-	3
Capacity	1	-
Tenacity	2	5
Veracity	-	-
Propriety	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

*Propriety* type of positive judgment is employed in both newspapers. Positive judgments of *propriety* are employed to address those who give sympathies and condolences toward the victims, for example:

- Surabaya’s church bombings (13/5/2018)

Pikiran Rakyat
“Dia (Kabid Humas Polda Jatim Frans Barung Mangera) meminta media massa bekerja sama dengan pihak kepolisian dengan tidak menyebarkan informasi yang didapat dari kepolisian.” “Kami mohon doa. Kami akan <b>lawan gerakan teror. Kami tidak akan pernah takut terhadap aksi teror,</b> ” tuturnya seperti diberitakan Antara.”

- Event: Paris’ jihadist shooting spree (23/3/2018)

The Jakarta Post
“The officer was shot and stabbed before anti-terror police moved in to kill the attacker and end the siege.  Macron led tributes to Beltrame, saying he had <b>“died a hero”</b> and <b>deserved the respect and admiration of the whole nation</b> .”

While giving condolences is positive in terms of propriety, the act of bravery is positive in terms of tenacity. Tenacity is concerned with one’s resoluteness and the act of bravery and courage clearly shows how resolute someone is. From examples above, the terms of *“tidak akan pernah takut”* and *“died a hero”* are used to address police officers for being fearless and even heroic against terrorism.

These positive judgments are realized through **description**. The descriptions are inserted to support the chronological order of the incidents. The insertion of positive attitude of judgment to support the chronology of the incidents conjures a certain potential meaning. The key terms discovered above, such as *“...very carefully, very cautiously”* and *“kami tidak akan pernah takut terhadap aksi teror”* corroborate praiseworthy actions that have been described in the aforementioned chronology. By conveying positive attitude towards these personnel and their moral actions, the readers are bound to think the same – assigning positive evaluations to these contingents.

2) Negative Judgment

TABLE III. NEGATIVE JUDGMENT

Negative Judgment	Newspapers	
	Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
Normality	4	5
Capacity	3	12
Tenacity	-	3
Veracity	6	3
Propriety	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>

Negative evaluations of *veracity* and *propriety* are directed toward the perpetrators to describe their negative characters, actions, or behaviors through different degrees, for example:

- Event: Florida’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting spree (16/2/2018)

Pikiran Rakyat	The Jakarta Post
“Dia (tersangka pegeboman Nikolas Cruz) ditangkap satu jam setelah melakukan aksi <b>barbar</b> nya. Otoritas pengadilan mengungkapkan bahwa terdakwa sempat melarikan diri dari lokasi kejadian dengan cara menjatuhkan senapan dan ranselnya.”	A former student armed with an AR-15 rifle <b>opened fire</b> at a Florida high school on Wednesday, <b>killing</b> at least 17 people, officials said, in a harrowing shooting spree that saw terrified students hiding in closets and under desks as they texted for help.

The phrases such as *“barbar”* and *“opened fire”* as well as *“killing”* enclose harmful and damaging values. Therefore, the examples above are considered negative in terms of veracity.

As stated before, veracity is one type of judgment that deals with social sanction and its rules and law are surveilled by state. The degree of social sanction is higher than social esteem as “sharing values in this area underpins civic duty and religious observances” [24]. The violation against social sanction needs to face penalties and punishments. The action done by the perpetrators (*“killing”* and *“opened fire”*) are definitely illegal as it is murderous and violent to society.

Beside negative evaluations related to social sanction, negative judgments of *capacity* related to social esteem are also inserted in the articles. For instances:

- Event: Florida’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting spree (16/2/2018)

The Jakarta Post
“A teacher at the school told the Miami Herald that Cruz had been identified previously as a <b>potential threat</b> to his classmates.”

The term *“potential threat”* is negative in the matter of capacity. Looking at the context of attacking incidents, the more advanced the capability of perpetrators in doing their harmful actions, the more damaging it will be towards society.

These negative judgments toward the perpetrators are positioned through **comparison** and **description**, for example:

- Event: Barcelona van attack (17/8/2017)

Pikiran Rakyat
Dilansir dari Telegraph, polisi telah menembak empat orang tersangka teroris dan melukai seorang tersangka lainnya pada Jumat, 18 Agustus 2017, dini hari di kota Cambrils. <b>Para tersangka tersebut juga diduga merupakan orang-orang yang telah merencanakan serangan serupa di Barcelona.</b>

- Event: Surabaya’s church bombings (13/5/2018)

The Jakarta Post
Suicide bombers in the church attacks are believed to be a family affiliated with Jamaah Anshar Daulah (JAD), an extremist group affiliated with the IS network, the National Police chief said.

Two samples above present the comparisons employed by both newspapers to help create and reinforce negative evaluations toward the perpetrators of the incidents. The comparisons serve the function of presenting similarities of the perpetrators to the negative traits that other notorious terrorist groups usually possess. The catchy phrases, such as *“...diduga merupakan orang-orang yang telah merencanakan serangan serupa”* dan *“suicide bombers are....affiliated with...”* reveal that the news reporters try to employ negative characteristics or peculiarities associated with disreputable extremist groups to attach to the perpetrators. This strategy of discourse organization invites the similar negative appraisal in the reader’s mind as well as serves as a tool for the newspapers to take a stance in viewing the incidents.

C. *Appreciation Analysis and Potential Meanings*

1) *Negative Appreciation*

TABLE IV. NEGATIVE APPRECIATION

Negative Appreciation	Newspapers	
	<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>	<i>The Jakarta Post</i>
Reaction	7	14
Composition	13	11
Valuation	9	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>

The table above indicates that *composition* is the dominant category of negative appreciation in *Pikiran Rakyat*, while the number of *valuation* is the highest in *The Jakarta Post*. However, both newspapers show some similarities of function in addressing negative appreciations, for instances:

- Event: Baghdad mall bombing attack (3/7/2016)

<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>	<i>The Jakarta Post</i>
<i>Ledakan bom mobil di mal Karrada tersebut sangat besar sehingga sampai pukul 19.00 WIB, asap putih masih mengebul di kawasan tersebut. Para petugas damkar, seperti dilaporkan AFP, masih terus berusaha memadamkan api.</i>	Karada, a mostly Shiite section, is lined with clothing and jewelry stores, restaurants and cafes. The blast struck during the holy month of Ramadan, with the streets and sidewalks filled with young people and families after they had broken their daylight fast.

The instances above reveal that *composition* type of appreciation is utilized as appraisal strategies to describe the circumstances in which the attacking took place. The expressions such as “*ledakan bom sangat besar*” and “*asap putih masih mengebul*” explicitly indicate the condition and situation after the attack which are negative considering the context of tragedy. Meanwhile, the expression of “*the street and sidewalks filled with young people*” used by *The Jakarta Post* is considered implicitly negative. It means if the expression “*the street and sidewalks filled with young people*” stands alone without looking the context, it might be considered as positive. Once again, in the context of attacking incidents, the expression is deemed negative because the more people involved means more victims suffered.

In addition to describing circumstances, negative appreciations are applied to express the **resemblance or lexical metaphor** of things or phenomena related to the attacking incidents by using *reaction* type of appreciation, for example:

- Event: Barcelona van attack (17/8/2017)

<i>The Jakarta Post</i>
Another witness said he saw a man fleeing. "I saw a man run down the Ramblas, with police chasing him and he appeared to drop a black metal object. It looked like a pistol," said the witness who only gave his first name, Sergio.

- Event: Brussels’ airport terrorist attack (22/3/2016)

<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>
Negara ini telah siaga satu sejak penangkapan Salah Abdeslam, tersangka utama di Paris serangan tahun lalu yang menewaskan 130 orang, di Brussel. Pemerintah pun mengendus adanya operasi balas dendam atas penangkapan tersebut.

The *reaction* type of appreciation is employed to portray the resemblance or similitude of things or phenomena related to the incidents. The keyword “*like*” becomes the pattern used by *The Jakarta Post* to express the alikeness of one object to another. On the other hand, *Pikiran Rakyat* prefers to use lexical metaphor that is enough to invoke negative evaluation rather than using likeness. The expression “*operasi balas dendam*” does not have attitudinal lexis, but it holds a certain negative ideational meaning invoked in the readers’ minds.

In describing circumstances of the incidents, **description** is utilized as a basic structure of discourse in the texts. The examples attached above disclose the use of description as the most dominant structure of texts to illustrate the chronology of the incidents. The bold, underlined phrases indicate the lexical items that contain assessments of appreciation. However, these phrases require context to conjure certain interpretations and meanings for the reader. The descriptions attached before or after the phrases serve this function – giving and describing the particular context. Once the context is matched with the phrases, the appraisal items become make sense and are able to invoke potential meanings desired by the news reporters.

Other examples of negative assessments are directed to objects or phenomena through resemblance or lexical metaphor. These resemblances are realized through **comparison-description** by providing the similarities of one object or phenomenon to another while at the same time being supported by descriptions. The use of comparison is used to indicate a likeness by presenting lexical metaphor.

This style of discourse structure invites the ideational meaning attached to these representations to incite certain potential meanings and interpretation. The terms such as “*...huge-bomb like...*”, “*...like a gunshot*”, “*operasi balas dendam*”, and “*...like a pistol*” in the samples above carry negative ideational meanings on its own. These negative ideational meanings are later invited and connected with the whole context so that the level or intensity of catastrophic situation in the incidents can be heightened. Furthermore, these expressions also serve to depict the exact portrayal or representation of objects or phenomena so the situation is more understandable for the readers/audiences.

2) *Positive Appreciation*

TABLE V. POSITIVE APPRECIATION

Positive Appreciation	Newspapers	
	<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>	<i>The Jakarta Post</i>
Reaction	-	-
Composition	1	1
Valuation	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

*Valuation* type of appreciation is applied to address or describe the **location** of which the incidents took place. For example:

- Event: Barcelona van attack (17/8/2017)

<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>	<i>The Jakarta Post</i>
Rekaman kejadian menunjukkan puluhan orang tergeletak di trotoar jalan Las Ramblas. Las Ramblas merupakan sebuah <u><i>jalan yang sangat populer</i></u> di kalangan wisatawan.	Barcelona's <u><i>most famous street</i></u> was packed with tourists when a van drove into the crowds on a sunny Thursday afternoon, leaving scenes of carnage and panic.

The examples above portray the use of positive appreciations “*jalan yang sangat populer*” and “*most famous street*” are applied to term the location or the scene in which the incidents occur. However, the purpose of this insertion is quite contrast with the evaluation. The insertion of positive appreciation serves the purpose of enhancing the negative feelings by attaching contrariness in the texts. By presenting contrariness, the poignant, agonizing atmosphere of the tragedy may be heightened.

On the other hand, *composition* type of positive appreciation functions to insert evaluations toward the proceedings or control performed by officials or police officers in handling the situation after attacking incidents, for example:

- Event: Baghdad’s mall attack (3/7/2016)

<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>
Identifikasi nama korban, umur, dan jenis kelamin baik yang di tempat kejadian perkara maupun di rumah sakit, Frans Barung Mangera belum bisa menyampaikannya sampai kedatangan Kapolri Jenderal Tito Karnavian di Mapolda Jatim.
“ <u><i>Pengamanan ketat</i></u> di seluruh gereja. Tidak ada penundaan pada waktu ibadah,” ujarnya seperti dilaporkan Antara.

Giving positive assessments towards the officials or police’s deeds in controlling the situation as shown in the example above may function as a tool of stance-taking for the news reporters.

The use of **comparison-description** style of discourse organization also takes place in delivering positive appreciations. However, rather than using similarities, the expressions are realized through contrast or juxtaposition. The key words such as “*...jalan yang sangat populer*” and “*most famous street...*” serve as the point of contrast in the texts as the expressions are intended to give an ‘irony’ due to the complete juxtaposition. The evaluations contained in these expressions are rather contrasted with the whole situations which mostly carry negative assessments. These phrases make readers assume that famous locations mean more sufferers and victims involved in the incidents. These juxtapositions also help conjure sympathy and compassion from the audiences/readers to the attacking incidents.

V. CONCLUSION

Indonesia’s newspapers utilize language appraisal to convey *attitude* in reporting news of attacking incidents. The appraisal devices take a form of three sub-systems (affect, judgment, and appreciation). These strategies are combined

with organizations of discourse (causation, description, problem/solution, and comparison) to create certain potential meanings on the readers.

The study reveals that each assessment inserted in the texts is directed to different addressee or recipient. Affect is employed as a tool of assessments to describe negative emotion or feelings emanated after the attacking incidents occurred. The negative emotions predominantly concern with negative evaluations of in/security and un/happiness. This appraisal strategy applied to express the mental condition of the victims, eyewitnesses, and other parties involved in the incidents, such as police officers, officials, fire-fighters, etc. To generate potential meanings, affect is realized by using causation to interconnect the emotion or feeling with the cause of emotion itself. Using causation to affect may heighten the intensity of tragedy of the incidents by explicitly stating that the incidents are not only catastrophic for the infrastructure, but also for the emotional state of the victims.

Positive and negative judgments are applied to assess different individuals. The positive judgments are directed to individuals who are perceived as meritorious by describing their act of bravery or by expressing their act of showing sympathies. On the other hand, the negative assessments of judgment are labelled to the perpetrators themselves to different degrees. The perpetrators’ actions and behaviours are realized through direct attitudinal lexis or through negative labelling that carries its own negative ideational meanings. Both ways are intended to evoke negative evaluations from the readers toward the perpetrators.

The third type of attitude system used in reporting attacking incidents is appreciation. The negative evaluations of appreciation are shown to support explaining the circumstance where and how the attacking incidents took place by using direct attitudinal lexis or by using resemblance or lexical metaphor (indirect realizations) to invoke negative ideational meanings on its own. In contrast, positive appreciations are applied to evaluate the location or the scene of the incidents. The insertion of positive evaluations towards the location of the incidents is intended to present the ‘irony’.

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