

ABSTRACT

Journalistic language in mass communication may be distinguished from other kinds of communication by the fact that it is addressed to a large cross-section of a population rather than only one or a few individuals or special part of the population. This study is aimed at finding out the features existing in the English journalistic language used in headlines of The Jakarta Post by looking at its syntactic structure. Such aim is broken into three main problems : 1. what is the commonest type of its syntactic structure ?, 2. what are the basic elements which underlie its syntactic structure ?, and 3. What are the special features which may be found in the language used there ?

The approach used in solving these problems is syntactic approach which refers to the relevant theories (see chapter II). The population of data being analyzed amounts to 1429 headlines. All the population of data are from news of The Jakarta Post published during October 1994. Simple random sampling method is used to draw samples from this population. The data are analyzed in a qualitative descriptive method, using the approach mentioned above.

The finding of the study is that the language used in The Jakarta Post's headlines may have its own

language due to some limitations existing there and certain functions that have to be fulfilled by the headline. The types of syntactic structure of The Jakarta Post's headlines are structures of modification and structures of predication. The mostly one is structure of predication. The basic elements which underlie its syntactic structure are subject and predicate. Moreover, the predicate is commonly in structures of complementation with transitive verbs as its verbal element, or consist of verb and object. And, it is also found that some special features of the language are used there. They are the usual usage of infinitive as verbal element, Verbal elements commonly disobey about person and are in active voice, and comma (,) is commonly to be used as coordinator in joining elements in structures of coordination.