

**AN ANALYSIS OF PRESUPPOSITION UTTERED BY POLITICIAN
CHARACTERS FOUND IN *THE IRON LADY* MOVIE SCRIPT**

THESIS

*Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to Obtain
Strata One (S1) Degree*



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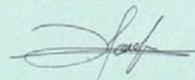
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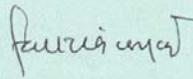
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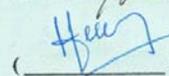
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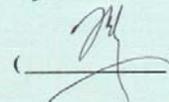
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Dengan ini menyatakan, bahwa Skripsi/Tugas Akhir/Proyek Akhir saya dengan judul *An Analysis of Presupposition Uttered By Politician Characters Found in The Iron Lady Movie Script*.

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ABSTRAK

Pratiwi, Suci. 2014. "An Analysis of Presupposition Uttered By Politician Characters Found in The Iron Lady Movie Script." Padang. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Presupposition atau praanggapan ditemukan secara tersirat didalam ujaran penutur. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah: (i) menentukan pemicu praanggapan dan tipe praanggapan dari ujaran karakter politisi perempuan di film *The Iron Lady*. (ii) menentukan pemicu praanggapan dan tipe praanggapan dari ujaran karakter politisi laki-laki di film *The Iron Lady*.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif. Data diambil dari dari ujaran karakter politisi di film *The Iron Lady*. Film ini mengisahkan tentang Margaret Thatcher sebagai seorang politisi perempuan dan para politisi laki-laki. Data dianalisis menggunakan teori pemicu praanggapan oleh Huang (2007) dan tipe praanggapan oleh Yule (1998).

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan terdapat 180 ujaran yang mempunyai praanggapan berdasarkan teori Huang dan Yule. (i) Dari karakter Margaret Thatcher terdapat delapan kategori pemicu praanggapan: *definite* 27, *factive* 18, *change of state predicate* 39, *iterative* 6, *implicative* 5, *temporal clause* 5, *cleft sentence* 3, dan *counterfactual conditional* 6 dan enam tipe praanggapan: *existential* 28, *factive* 18, *lexical* 47, *structural* 13, *non-factive* 10, dan *counterfactual* 6. Pemicu praanggapan yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah *change of state predicate* dan mayoritas tipe praanggapan adalah *lexical*. (ii) Dari karakter politisi laki-laki terdapat delapan kategori pemicu praanggapan: *definite* 36, *factive* 13, *change of state predicate* 25, *iterative* 4, *implicative* 4, *temporal clause* 7, *cleft sentence* 2, dan *counterfactual conditional* 10 dan enam tipe praanggapan: *existential* 36, *factive* 14, *lexical* 32, *structural* 9, *non-factive* 9, dan *counterfactual* 10. Pemicu praanggapan yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah *definite* dan mayoritas tipe praanggapan adalah *existential*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Alhamdu lillahi rabbil 'alamin. All praises and thanks to Allah, the Beneficent and the Merciful. His bless and help always set and show me the right way to carry out my research entitled *An Analysis of Presupposition Uttered By Politician Characters Found in The Iron Lady Movie Script* to fulfill one of requirements to obtain strata one degree.

In this chance, I would like to express my sincere gratitude toward my advisors, Prof. Dr. Hermawati Syarif, M. Hum and Havid Ardi, M. Hum for their guidance, patience, and support throughout the experimental and paper works have contributed to the accomplishment of this research. I also want to thank Prof. Dr. Jufrizal, M.Hum, Dr. Hamzah, M.A, M.M, and Rusdi Noor Rosa, S.S., M. Hum as my examiners who have given critics and comments to improve this research.

I would like to dedicate this thesis to my parents, Guspi Erijon and Dra. Suharni, for their endless love, patience and attention. They always give me strength in completing my study. I would also like to dedicate my lovely brothers Imam Kahfi and Ivan Rahman for cheering and encouraging me on my gloomy days. A special thanks to kak Mimil, Rahmawati Kamal, kak Meri Rifdah Kamal, and kak Citra Asnitha to their support in completing this research.

Padang, Juni 2014

Suci Pratiwi

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LIST OF SIGN AND SYMBOL

()	: Datum number
(= p)	: Proposition p
(= q)	: Proposition q
>>	: Presupposes

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Communication is an important matter in human beings daily activities. People communicate each other in order to send and receive messages. It happens because people want to express their feelings, share information, and influence their attitudes toward something. In communication, a sender/speaker has to deliver a message in certain ways. Moreover, a receiver/listener has to be able to understand the message. Communication that is carried out by written and spoken language needed to build understanding among people.

Griffiths (2006: 83) states that in communication, people produce utterances – could be figurative or literal – in which other people interpret the utterances by using their background knowledge and guesses about what the speaker presupposes. So, it can be said that in communication, people express their thought by using literal and non literal language. Other people – listeners - have to catch the explicit or even implicit idea of the utterances. Listeners are hoped to be able to guess what is in a speaker's mind, his/her belief, why he/she thinks about something, the meaning of his/her utterance and the function of his/her utterance. Hence, it can be said that listener is expected to be able to catch the idea from what the speaker says by using his logic and knowledge. Through understanding presuppositions people may build better understanding among them.

People often speak implicitly. They speak what they believe to be true. What they believe to be true can be regarded as an assumed idea. They produce an

utterance that contains the assumed idea in order to be comprehended by listeners. This assumed idea that is said implicitly, taken to be true by a speaker and is meant to be comprehended by a listener is called presupposition.

As Yule (1998: 25) argues that presupposition is anything that a speaker presupposes to be true before he/she produces an utterance. It means that presupposition is a fact that is believed by a speaker to be real before he utters his utterances. Presupposition is known as a correlation between two propositions: proposition p and proposition q . If proposition p is negated, the correlation of the presupposition doesn't change. This phenomenon is called constancy under negation. For example:

- a. James helped a lady with her bags. (= p)
- b. James did not help a lady with her bags. (= NOT p)
- c. There is a lady with her bags. (= q)
- d. $p \gg q$ and NOT $p \gg q$

From the example above, it can be presupposed that there is a lady with her bag. If the sentence is negated from *James helped a lady with her bags* (= p) into *James did not help a lady with her bags* (= NOT p), it does not change the fact that there is a presence of a lady with her bag. Thus, it is proved that the sentence has constancy under negation.

Furthermore, an utterance is considered to have a presupposition if it contains a presupposition trigger. According to Levinson (1983), presupposition trigger is a construction or lexical items which indicate that there is a presence of presupposition in an utterance. For example, *James helped a lady with her bags*. *A lady with her bags* is a lexical item which indicates that the sentence is considered

to have presupposition. *A lady with her bags* pictures that there is a lady who has bags. It shows an existence definite thing. Because there is an existence of something that is definite, the presupposition trigger of the utterance can be determined as definite presupposition trigger. The definite presupposition-trigger in an utterance shows there is an existence of definite thing.

There have been various previous studies about presupposition in movies, novels, and dramas/plays. The studies were intended to find out the trigger, type, meaning, function, and difference between semantic and pragmatic presupposition. For example: *Harry Potter* movies. Some researchers studied *Harry Potter* movies. From the previous studies of *Harry Potter*, researchers have studied the presuppositions which are analyzed in the types, mostly used, and functions of the presuppositions.

Commencing from the previous studies, it can be said that presuppositions in movie can be used as a research subject. Besides, movies portray human being daily activities. Therefore, the writer decided to conduct the research on a movie which contains many interesting presuppositions. One of movies which have interesting presuppositions is *The Iron Lady* Movie. *The Iron Lady* is a movie about Margaret Thatcher, the ex-Prime Minister of the Great Britain. This movie is interesting because the main character, Margaret Thatcher, the popular lady Prime Minister of the UK, often gave her speech and expressed her thoughts. Moreover, other politicians (male politician characters) also like to express their thoughts about her and other situations. It is a movie about politics that can

enhance people knowledge about the presence of presuppositions in utterances and types of utterances that used by politicians.

The presuppositions in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script can be studied based on several theories. Some of them are Yule's six types of presupposition theory, Huang's eight presupposition triggers theory, Karttunen's 13 types of presupposition-triggers, Leech's five types of language functions, Peccei's eight pragmatic functions of presupposition, Searle's five types of utterances, Hymes' SPEAKING theory, etc. However, in order to limit the research theories the writer analyzed the data only based on Huang's eight presupposition triggers theory and Yule's six types of presupposition theory. The writer chose Huang's eight presupposition triggers theory and Yule's six types of presupposition theory because the theories relate each other. It is for the reason that the type of presupposition can be determined after determining the presupposition-trigger.

For example, in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script there is a conversation which has presupposition. On the scene, Margaret talked to Denis about the price of the milk.

Margaret: "*Milk's gone up. 49p a pint.*"

From the utterance above, there is *gone up* in which shows that something changed from a specific state to a higher state. *Gone up* indicates that the price of the milk is increased. It means that the price of the milk used to be cheaper than at the moment the conversation takes place. There is a change of something in Margaret's utterance – in this case the price of the milk. Hence, the presupposition-trigger is change of state predicate. Then, it can also be inferred

that there was a progress and it is succeeded. The price of the milk has gone up to 49 pounds for a pint. So, the type of presupposition is lexical.

From the explanation above, there was an utterance which was qualified to be stated that it has presupposition. Furthermore, there were many utterances which have presuppositions in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script. Therefore, the researcher was interested in conducting a research to analyze presupposition in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script based on Huang's eight presupposition-triggers theory and Yule's six types of presupposition theory.

The researcher wanted to conduct the research because she thought it is important to listeners who watch *The Iron Lady* Movie to be able to understand presuppositions in politicians' utterances. Moreover, the *The Iron Lady* Movie is a movie about politics that was hoped to enhance people knowledge about how presuppositions exist in female and male politician characters' utterances. Furthermore, since Margaret has higher position than male politician characters, it is interesting to know the difference of existence of presupposition in both Margaret and male politician characters' utterances. Thus, the writer thinks that it was worthwhile to conduct a research to analyze trigger and types and meaning of presuppositions.

B. Identification of the Problem

Presupposition is a fascinating linguistic topic to be learned because it can be studied semantically and pragmatically. It is because people speak literally and non-literally. In verbal communication, speaker is expected to be able to use

utterances that are easy to be understood by listener. Moreover, the listener is expected to be able to catch presupposition because it is important to know what the speaker intended to mean.

C. The Focus of the Research

There were many utterances that have presuppositions in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script. However, the analyzed utterances were limited only to the utterances that are used only by politicians in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script. Presupposition can be studied from many aspects: triggers, types, defeasibility, meaning, function, projecting problem, filtering-satisfaction, and accommodation. However, with the intention of limiting this research, the researcher conducted the research only to analyze presupposition triggers based on Huang's eight presupposition-triggers theory and types of presuppositions based on Yule's six types of presupposition theory.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the identification and focus of the problem above, the problem of this research is formulated as "What are differences between the presupposition-triggers and types of presuppositions used by female and male politician characters in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script?"

E. Research Questions

There are two questions of this research:

1. What are presupposition triggers and types of presuppositions found in Margaret/female politician character's utterances in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script?
2. What are presupposition triggers and types of presuppositions found in male politician characters' utterances in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script?

F. Purpose of the Research

There are two purposes of this research:

1. to find out presupposition triggers and types of presuppositions used by Margaret/female politician character's utterances in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script
2. to find out presupposition triggers and types of presuppositions used by male politician characters' utterances in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script

G. Significance of the Research

The findings of this research are expected to give contribution to linguistic field in both theoretical and practical intentions. Theoretically, this research finding is hoped to give input to linguistic field, especially pragmatics. The research finding from *The Iron Lady* Movie Script is going to extend the theories about presuppositions through the presence of presuppositions in the utterances uttered by politicians in *The Iron Lady* Movie Script. In addition, practically, this research is expected to give contribution to readers, especially linguistic students on how to get better understanding about presuppositions in a movie. Furthermore,

this research is expected to be a reference and to encourage other researchers who are interested in conducting more studies about presuppositions.

H. Definition of the Key Terms

- Iron Lady Movie : a movie about Margaret Thatcher
(The famous lady ex-Prime Minister of UK)
- Presupposition : idea which is assumed to be true
- Presupposition trigger (PT) : words and structure that can make an utterance considered to have a presupposition

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

This research was conducted to find out presupposition-triggers, types of presuppositions that are used by politicians in *The Iron Lady* Movie. Based on the findings, first, it can be wrapped up that all the presupposition-triggers proposed by Huang exist in the politicians' utterances; namely definite, factive, change of state predicate, iterative, implicative, temporal clause, cleft-sentence, and counterfactual-conditional. Then, it was also found that all types of presuppositions proposed by Yule exist in the politician characters' utterances; they are existential, factive, lexical, structural, non-factive, and counterfactual.

From Margaret Thatcher, change of state predicate presupposition-trigger was found as the mostly appear in the utterances. Therefore, the type of presupposition that mostly appeared was determined as lexical presupposition. On the other side, male politician characters tend to produce definite presupposition-trigger. Thus, the type of presupposition was found as existential presupposition.

In some cases, there are two presupposition-triggers in an utterance. Thus, it makes the number of utterances and types of presupposition-triggers or even type of presupposition are different.

Finally, it was found that the presuppositions in politician characters utterances can be comprehended by the other politician characters well. It means that both female and male politician characters are able to deliver their points and

can catch the points as well. It can be seen from the conversations in the movie that there is no misunderstanding between speakers and listeners.

B. Suggestion

The writer suggests readers, especially students of English Department to conduct more studies about presuppositions. The writer hopes that there will be other studies about presupposition in movies, especially movies with politicians as main characters. Furthermore, the next studies are also hoped to analyze the data based on Karttunen's 12 presupposition-triggers and Leech's 5 types of language functions, too.

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