

## Textual Analysis in TEDx Salem Speech on 'Prioritizing Mental Health in Schools by Hailey Hardcastle'

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the realization of textual meta-function and the types of themes that are dominated in speeches about mental health on the TEDx Salem YouTube channel entitled 'Why you should take a break: Prioritizing mental health in schools and brought by Hailey Hardcastle. The method in this research is qualitative with a content analysis approach. The data was obtained from the speech text and the data were analyzed using Halliday's Theory by considering the data analysis steps proposed by Gay et al. From the results of the analysis, it was found that the realization of the textual meta-function in Hailey Hardcastle's speech was applied. Found 105 clauses in the speech. And in those 105 clauses, there are themes and rhemes that mediate messages to their listeners. So, it can be concluded that based on the textual meta-function perspective, the speaker tries to attract the listener's attention to focus more on the message of what is being said, and gives a lot of statements to tell the listener his confession that mental health should be considered the same as physical health and preferably starting at an early age.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Humans have characteristics in their language. Their language is studied in a scientific study called linguistics. One of the sciences studied in linguistics is Systemic Functional Linguistics initiated by Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday or Halliday. The definition of Systemic Functional Linguistics is a linguistic approach that aims to understand how a text forms its meaning in a context. The intended text refers to all linguistic phenomena, in various media, which can be understood by users of the language used by the text.

In language speaking, not all listeners have the same meaning in a sentence spoken by the speaker. Moreover, the language used in speeches is different from what is spoken in everyday life. This will lead to a different meaning if the listener does not really understand the message conveyed by the speaker. For example, in a speech delivered by

Hailey Hardcastle on the TEDx Salem YouTube channel which discussed the theme of mental health, there was the sentence, "I sincerely hope you take with you today is that it is always okay to not be okay and it is always okay to take a break." If a listener misinterprets the sentence, they will assume that being unkind is something that every human being is accustomed to.

To overcome this misunderstanding, on this occasion, the researcher tries to introduce further the language perspective, which not only sees language as a form rule but also as a useful resource for forming meaning, so that listeners can consider the message from the speaker through this language perspective. And it is called a textual meta-function.

Systemic Functional Linguistics is a social theory in the use of language, which is structured to create simultaneously three kinds of meaning called meta-functions, namely ideational, interpersonal, and textual (Halliday, M. A., & Matthiessen, 2004).

Interpersonal meta-function understands the interactions between the speaker and the listener or the interlocutor, grammatical resources that are useful for playing social roles in general, and the role of speech in dialogic interactions, which means it is useful for building, changing, and maintaining interpersonal relationships. The ideational meta-function has to do with 'ideation', a grammatical resource useful for providing an understanding of the meaning of our experiences of the world around and within us. The last is the textual meta-function related to the process of creating a text by presenting ideational and interpersonal meanings as information that can be shared by speakers and listeners in the ongoing text in context. This meta-function consists of two sub-functions, Themes and Rhemes.

From the explanation above, the textual meta-function is used to provide an understanding of how messages are organized through the rules of what language is spoken by Hailey Hardcastle on the TEDx Salem YouTube channel. Textual meta-function is a broad perspective of language and is concerned with the organization of language to create meaning. This perspective can be used as a view of how a speaker manages the language, they use to achieve their goals.

Another thing that can influence the reader is that theme is very important to control the reader. The theme can determine the focus of the clause information according to the topic brought by the speaker. The theme is the starting point of a clause; while the remainder is the rheme. Theme is "the element which serves as the point of departure of the message. It introduces the main information to be conceived later by the rheme (Halliday, M. A. & Matthiessen, 2004). Rheme is the constituent of a sentence that adds most new information, in addition to what has already been said in the discourse. The rheme is usually, but not always, associated with the subject. So, in the speech, mental health is used to influence the reader about the importance of mental health.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher intends to analyze the speech declared by Hailey Hardcastle on the TEDx Salem YouTube channel and the researcher researches the realization of textual meta-functions. To find this goal, the researcher considers Halliday's theory, and the clauses are analyzed in depth by considering the textual relations of meta-functions and it can be seen how speakers organize their language to achieve their goals. The purpose of this study is to find

out the textual realization of meta-functions in the speech declared by Hailey Hardcastle on the TEDx Salem YouTube channel with the theme: 'Why you should take a break: Prioritizing mental health in schools by Hailey Hardcastle'.

## II. METHODS

This research is conducted by using a qualitative method and using a content analysis approach. Since the data were analyzed and described based on the content and the theory exists. In this research, the data were categorized as written documents. Sources of the data were obtained from the script of Hailey Hardcastle's Speech "Prioritizing mental health in schools" which was delivered on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 in studios of TED. The data were downloaded from the official site of TED. To analyze the data, some steps of data analysis technique was used that proposed by Gay et al, (2012); Reading or taking memo, Describing, Classifying.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of the identification and classification of data contained 105 clauses that were realized in Themes and Rhemes that emerged from each clause manifested in Hailey Hardcastle's speech.

These results have been analyzed with the orientation of systemic functional linguistic theory, especially on textual meta-function theory which focuses on themes and rhemes. The data is taken from a transcript of Hailey Hardcastle's speech in her speech entitled 'Why you should take a break: Prioritizing mental health at school'.

*We also wanted to prioritize mental health  
Mental health affects all of us*

It can be seen from the example of the two clauses above that each clause has a different theme. The first clause chooses "We also wanted to prioritize" as the Theme, this represents the message that Hailey Hardcastle conveys which means that I including all of you should prioritize the main points of the speech. It has the pattern Subject + adverb + past verb + adjective verb.

Second clause chooses "mental health" as the Theme, which means I will tell you about mental health. It has the pattern Subject + Transitive verb. + Object.

Others, there are kinds of Theme that will

help to classified and the textual themes are represented by:

1. Structural conjunctions, which link two clauses in a coordinating relation
2. Relatives, that relate a dependent clause to an independent clause
3. Conjunctions, that provide a cohesive link to a previous discourse
4. Continuatives, that indicate a relationship to a previous discourse

**Table 1.**

Representative Classification of Theme and Rheme in textual Theme

Kind of Theme	Themes	Rheme
Structural conjunctions	Our head	and our body are connected
Relatives	As long as I	continued to do well in school
Conjunctions	I was a kid,	my mom and I made this deal
Continuatives	I was allowed	to take three mental health rest

Above is a table that represents the classification of clauses in the textual text. Next, a table of representations of Ideational/Topical themes and intrapersonal themes will be presented

**Table 2.**

Representative Classification of Ideational/Topical themes and intrapersonal themes

Theme of Types	Themes	Rheme
Ideational/Topical	I	was worried about a lot of things
Ideational/Topical	We	also wanted to prioritize mental health in schools
Intrapersonal		
- Vocatives	The parent	still needs to be the one to call the school
- Modal/Comment Adjunct	That I sincerely hope	you take with you today is
- Finite Verbal Operator	It can be	a few moments here

And below is a calculation of all the themes contained in Hailey Hardcastle's speech entitled Why you should take a break: Prioritizing mental health in schools in collaboration with the YouTube channel of TED on February 2nd, 2020 in studios of TED.

**Table 3.**

The Calculation of Theme Types in Hailey Hardcastle's Speech

Theme Types	Total
Ideational/Topical	78
Interpersonal	17
Textual	10
	105

Based on the findings above and with consideration, it can be explained that the findings of previous research conducted by (Umiyati, 2019) are similar to the findings of the current researcher. The results of the findings are mostly ideational/topical themes, the second is textual and the last is interpersonal. this is similar to this study because they both study speech. Another finding made by (Firdaus, 2013) and (Wijayanto, 2013) who both examined the themes in song lyrics got

similar results. The result is that the most used type of theme in song lyrics is Ideal/topical theme, followed by textual theme and the last one is interpersonal. in the classification of types of themes (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004) describes the types of themes, namely topical themes, interpersonal themes (vocative, modal/comment adjunct, finite verbal operation), textual themes (continuative, conjunction, conjunctive adjunct). This is in accordance with the findings of the researchers who found.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research analysis, it can be concluded that the textual meta-function perspective which is the basis of the research finds the speaker trying to get the listener's attention to focus on the message of what was said and giving many statements to inform the listener about his recognition that mental health is necessary and must be considered early on.

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