



**PORTRAYING GANJAR PRANOWO'S POLITICAL PERSONA
THROUGH INTERACTIONAL METADISOURSE MARKERS IN THE
JAKARTA POST: A CORPUS BASED STUDY**

Muhammad Hifni Sahila Rizqy, Anggit Kuntoadji

Universitas Diponegoro, Semarang, Indonesia

Corresponden Email: *muhammadhifni1717@gmail.com, adji.anggit@gmail.com*

Abstract

The political issues surrounding the 2024 Presidential election have become a prominent feature in media coverage, notably in political news such as The Jakarta Post, which extensively covers political issues related to Ganjar Pranowo. The issues raised encompass strategies, political agendas, and campaigns undertaken by Ganjar Pranowo. The selection of this media source is based on its legitimacy as a national platform. This article delves into an analysis of the function of interactional meta-discourse based on the frequency of the highest-class words in the political coverage of Ganjar Pranowo by The Jakarta Post. The data collection technique employed in this research utilizes a Linguistics Corpus approach. Utilizing Hyland's (2005) theory of interactional meta-discourse, this study aims to identify the frequency of highest-class words and the functions of interactional markers in political media as an informal text context, as studies on interactional markers are often encountered only in academic or formal text contexts. The findings of this research reveal that the highest frequency of word class is adjectival, specifically the term "presidential." This indicates that The Jakarta Post media demonstrates indications of the existence of Ganjar Pranowo in his political campaign as a presidential candidate in 2024. Additionally, hedges emerge as the most frequent interactional markers, indicating that Ganjar Pranowo is portrayed as a presidential candidate actively engaged in political campaigning, with the primary campaign focus on foreign policy and human resource matters.

Keywords: Corpus Linguistics, Interactional Markers, Political Media, the Jakarta Post

Abstrak

Isu politik seputar Pemilihan Presiden 2024 telah menjadi fitur yang mencolok dalam liputan media, terutama dalam berita politik seperti The Jakarta Post, yang secara luas meliput masalah politik terkait Ganjar Pranowo. Isu-isu yang diangkat melibatkan strategi, agenda politik, dan kampanye yang dilakukan oleh Ganjar Pranowo. Pemilihan sumber media ini didasarkan pada legitimasinya sebagai platform nasional. Artikel ini menggali analisis terhadap fungsi interaksi metadiskursus berdasarkan frekuensi kata-kata kelas tertinggi dalam liputan politik Ganjar Pranowo oleh The Jakarta Post. Teknik pengumpulan data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini

menggunakan pendekatan Linguistics Corpus. Dengan menggunakan teori interaksi metadiskursus Hyland (2005), penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi frekuensi kata-kata kelas tertinggi dan fungsi tanda interaksi dalam media politik sebagai konteks teks informal, karena studi tentang tanda interaksi sering dijumpai hanya dalam konteks teks akademis atau formal. Hasil penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa frekuensi tertinggi kelas kata adalah adjektiva, khususnya istilah "presidential". Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa media The Jakarta Post menunjukkan indikasi keberadaan Ganjar Pranowo dalam kampanye politiknya sebagai calon presiden pada tahun 2024. Selain itu, hedges muncul sebagai tanda interaksi yang paling sering, menunjukkan bahwa Ganjar Pranowo digambarkan sebagai calon presiden yang aktif terlibat dalam kampanye politik, dengan fokus utama kampanye pada kebijakan luar negeri dan sumber daya manusia.

Kata Kunci: Berita Politik, Linguistik Korpus, Media, Penanda Interactional Metadiscourse, the Jakarta Post

A. INTRODUCTION

Mass media serves as one of the vehicles for disseminating political agendas, including the construction of political persona. According to Alam (2021), mass media or online media serves as an ideal platform for a politician to construct a political image and a political persona. In accordance with Cahyono (2021), this phenomenon is not without reason. It is attributed to the fact that mass media provides information that is not only rapid but also efficient (Tian, 2021). Moreover, mass media, through its political columns, holds the power to influence public opinion and can even garner electoral support from its readership. Based on Lewis (2005), while the essence of a mass media outlet should be neutral, a politician's political image can be discerned from the context of the reporting within that media. One of the media outlets with a substantial readership for its political news columns is the daily newspaper, The Jakarta Post.

The Jakarta Post is an English-language mass media outlet located in Indonesia. Established by PT Bina Media Tenggara, this mass media entity is currently based in the capital city, Jakarta. This media first published its articles on April 25, 1983, and it took approximately seven years to achieve significant circulation growth with minimal advertisements. As of now, readership of The Jakarta Post, particularly in its political column, has reached 2,000 readers per day (Irianto et al., 2018). As a popular media outlet with a substantial readership, writers at The Jakarta Post are required to possess the ability to craft political news effectively. This entails creating writing strategies that attract readers and accurately represent a political figure. According to Hyland (2005), writers can only achieve the ability to write attractively and capture reader interest by effectively utilizing interactional metadiscourse markers.

Interactional metadiscourse markers refers to the use of language and communicative actions employed by both the author in the text and the speaker with their audience to establish interaction or social relationships with the reader (Hyland, 2005). Hyland (2005) divides the concept of interactional metadiscourse markers into five categories: Hedges, Boosters, Attitude Markers, Engagement, and Self-mentions. Each of these five categories serves specific functions and interpretations depending on the context of the author's writing. Interactional metadiscourse markers, particularly in the examination of informal text, are crucial for discerning the message the author wishes to convey to the readers. Additionally, interactional metadiscourse markers can assist readers in understanding the essence or core message behind a piece of writing.

The Jakarta Post consistently addresses political issues related to Ganjar Pranowo, expanding on controversial topics that are currently widely discussed. This approach heightens the attention of the Indonesian public, leading to increased readership of these news reports. Building on this, what are the tendencies in word class usage found in political reporting about Ganjar Pranowo? What are the functions and types of interactional metadiscourse markers utilized by The Jakarta Post to portray the political trajectory of Ganjar Pranowo? This research aims to explore the frequency of word classes and the functions of metadiscourse markers in Ganjar Pranowo's political news, utilizing a corpus-based linguistic approach.

Several linguistic scholars have already examined the interactional metadiscourse markers in formal contexts such as academic context. Zahro et al. (2021) have scrutinized the functions of interactive and interactional metadiscourse markers in written and spoken discourse done by Indonesian EFL students, while Aimah et al. (2019) focused on scrutinizing interactional and interactive metadiscourse markers in EFL student introductory paragraph in final project assignment. On the other hand, Wahab (2020) tried to compare the interactional metadiscourse that occurred in academic written and spoken English. Based on the three aforementioned studies, a commonality has been identified, namely that the more frequently students employ metadiscourse markers in both written and spoken contexts, the more indicative it becomes that the discourse they generate exhibits meaningful coherence.

Previous studies regarding the use of interactional metadiscourse markers also found in spoken discourse. Kuswoyo (2019) analyzed the interactional metadiscourse in Steve Jobs oral business presentation. Abusalim (2022) scrutinized the interactional metadiscourse markers in Hillary Clinton political speeches. Rashid & Abbas (2020) investigate the interactional markers in Benazir Bhutto's political discourse. Based on that previous research, in the context of spoken discourse, interactional metadiscourse markers serve two distinct functions when viewed from political and business perspectives. In the business realm, these markers are employed to foster collaborative relationships between the audience and the speaker. Conversely, in political discourse, interactional markers are utilized as a means to influence the audience, aiming to instill belief in what the speaker conveys.

In the context of informal text, previous researchers have already explored interactional metadiscourse markers in online media. Hasanah & Wahyudi (2015) have analyzed the meaning-making of hedges in the Jakarta Post gossip column. Zarza (2018) and Hardjanto (2023) have investigated the use of Booster and Hedges both in the online news. Zarza (2018) focused on the rhetorical structure of English newspaper editorials. On the other hand, Hardjanto (2023) focused on the comparison between Indonesian and American newspaper headlines. The two studies in question conclude that the function of interactional markers, particularly Hedges and Boosters, is to construct meaning within news headlines.

Research on the use of interactional metadiscourse markers has been conducted in various contexts, namely academic settings, informal texts, and spoken discourse. However, research on the frequency of word lists and functions of interactional metadiscourse markers in the context of political news (informal text), employing a corpus-based linguistic approach, has yet to be explored. This study aims to analyze the functions of interactional metadiscourse in political news that portrays Ganjar Pranowo in The Jakarta Post media. Additionally, this research also highlights the tendency of word class classification used by The Jakarta Post Media in reporting on the political trajectory of Ganjar Pranowo through a corpus based approach.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Interactional Metadiscourse Markers

Interactional metadiscourse markers constitute a segment of the metadiscourse markers introduced by Hyland (2005). Hyland (2005) states that Interactional markers in metadiscourse serve as linguistic tools employed by writers to establish interaction or social relations with the readers. Several other language experts such as Dafouz (2008) and Ahmed (2011) refer to interactional markers as interpersonal markers, indicating the relationship occurring in a text involving the writer and the reader. Hyland (2005) divides interactional markers into five subcategories, including Hedges, Boosters, Self-mentions, Engagement, and Attitude Markers. Each of these five subcategories has its own distinct functions and purposes.

a. Hedges

According to Hasanah & Wahyudi (2015), Hedges, or hedging device can be described as a communicative strategy consisting of words or phrases that allow speakers to render their expressions more palatable or acceptable to their conversational partners. Based on Hyland (2005), Hedges expresses uncertainty or doubts. Importantly, Hedges are linguistic markers in the form of a written statement based on the author's personal arguments, aiming to persuade readers to believe in the presented statement. Hyland (2005) provides examples of hedge markers, which can take the form of modal verbs (might, perhaps, should) as well as particles (sort of, kind of).

b. Booster

Booster markers may refer to words or phrases employed with the intention of reinforcing or enhancing the strength of a statement (Hyland, 2005). Examples of words or phrases that can be categorized as boosters include "very," "indeed," and "extremely." Different with hedges, booster markers tend to be more precise and pertain to the certainty rather than just an opinion found in the text. The function of these words is to impart emphasis or intensify the expression.

c. Attitude Markers

According to Hyland (2005), attitude markers are linguistic devices in the form of words or phrases that serve as expressions of a writer's stance toward a specific issue. Attitude markers can also be described as representations of the emotional expressions and personal attitudes of the writer that may influence the reader's perspective within a text. Examples of words or phrases that function as attitude markers include "in my opinion," "unfortunately," and "it can be said that." These examples of words or phrases demonstrate a writer's stance toward the information being discussed.

d. Engagement

"Engagement markers" may encompass the utilization of words, phrases, or sentence structures intended to captivate the attention of readers or listeners, foster interpersonal connections, or create emotional involvement (Hyland, 2005). This includes the deployment of persuasive language, a style that encourages participation, or other rhetorical elements designed to sustain interest and activity among the audience. Hyland (2005) provides examples of engagement markers, which can appear in the form of persuasive language such as "let us consider", "let's take a look back". Engagement markers could also appear in the form of imperative sentence such as, "strive for greatness", and "never give up"

e. Self-mentions

Self-mentions refer to the use of words or phrases that refer to oneself in writing or speech (Adel, 2010). This includes using first-person pronouns such as "I," "me," or "we,"

as well as mentioning one's own name or institution. The use of self-mentions can serve various purposes, such as providing clarity to the narrative or argument, expressing personal viewpoints, or building the identity of the writer or speaker. In the context of language research or analysis, self-mentions can also be a subject of study to explore the psychological or rhetorical aspects of someone's writing or speech.

C. RESEARCH METHOD

This research applies a corpus linguistics based approach. Based on Vaughan & O'Keffe (2015), corpus linguistics approach is a methodology in linguistics that centers on the analysis, interpretation, and collection of linguistic data primarily derived from texts or a corpus. This research employs a corpus linguistic approach with the aim of classifying each word class and providing interpretations based on the categorization of these word classes. The data in this study consist of political news texts about Ganjar Pranowo derived from the Jakarta Post media, accessible through the website <https://www.thejakartapost.com/>

The researchers conducted data collection through the political columns that specifically addressed the political activities of Ganjar Pranowo during the 2024 presidential campaign. The researcher collected data using the random sampling technique, wherein 30 pieces of data related to the political coverage of Ganjar Pranowo over the last three months, from October to December 2023, were selected. Subsequently, the data was uploaded and processed using a corpus through a website <https://cqpweb.lancs.ac.uk/> to determine the frequency of words including Noun, Verb, Adjective, and Adverb that appear most frequently.

The researchers also constructed tables for the analysis of context and the functions of metadiscourse based on the theory proposed by Hyland (2005). Lastly, the analyzed data was subsequently discussed with previous research studies, and the researcher then drew final conclusions for the study.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the researcher will present the findings and data analysis to address the formulated research questions in this study.

1. The Frequency of Word Classes in Political News Regarding Ganjar Pranowo in The Jakarta Post

At this stage, the researcher elucidates findings and data analysis pertaining to the formulation of the first research questions concerning the classification tendencies of each word class in political news about Ganjar Pranowo in The Jakarta Post media. Linguistic Corpus used in the research to maintain the most uttered word that provide with the table showing top 10 words that The Jakarta Post

Table 1. Word Class Frequency List Ganjar Pranowo on The Jakarta Post news

The Frequency of Word Classes			
NO	Word	NOC	percentage
1	presidential	55	8.33%
2	Be	50	15.58%
3	Candidate	46	3.23%
4	Not	42	14.84%
5	campaign	40	2.81%
6	governor	35	2.46%
7	Also	28	9.89%
8	former	27	4.09%
9	election	26	1.82%
10	As	26	9.19%

In reporting political news, particularly on the image politics of Ganjar Pranowo, the most frequently occurring or utilized class of adjectival words is the term "presidential." Adjectives (JJ) become the highest Number of Occurrence (NOC) with percentage 8.33%. According to Azar (1999), adjectives are words that function as modifiers for an object. In this context, The Jakarta Post media employs the adjective "presidential" to refer to a subject, namely Ganjar Pranowo. In other words, "presidential" serves as an adjectival term directed towards Ganjar Pranowo, who is running for president in the 2024 presidential election. With the frequent occurrence of the term "presidential," the media aims to convey to the readers that Ganjar Pranowo is one of the three presidential candidates in the Republic of Indonesia.

The aforementioned news article authored by The Jakarta Post suggests a predominant usage of the verb "be" in their coverage of Ganjar Pranowo. This verb, as highlighted in the publication, features prominently in Ganjar's statements, forming an integral part of the manifestation of his aspirations or initiatives, thereby seeking to garner trust from the public and underscore his decision-making abilities. Quoting Ganjar Pranowo's statement on the need to redefine foreign policy, The Jakarta Post asserts that such redefinition should align with strategic considerations and be inclusive of government requirements. This underscores the publication's conclusion regarding the primary focus of Ganjar's discourse, indicating his emphasis on presenting a distinctive image and conveying a solution to the public on the matter of Foreign Policy in Indonesia

Another function, which extensively utilizes the verb "be," is characterized by its frequent association with the adverb "not," classified as an adverb (RB). In his speech, as reported by The Jakarta Post, Ganjar Pranowo asserted that, if elected, Indonesia would

refrain from favoring any particular country—a commitment portraying Indonesia as an independent nation. This pledge, articulated by Ganjar, serves as a strategic offering intended to substantiate his capability to enact such measures in the future. However, The Jakarta Post contends that this pledge functions not only as a commitment but also as a means for Ganjar Pranowo to create a perceptual distance between himself and the public. This strategy aims to sustain public trust in Ganjar, especially when he introduces subsequent pledges or statements to reinforce and enhance previous declarations, thereby capturing the attention and support of the public. Consequently, the interplay of the verb "be" and the adverb "not" forms a phrase intricately involved in cultivating trust through negation, employing conditional constructions marked by "if" and negation within the discourse context, signifying a realm of possibility.

2. Function and Types of Interactional Metadiscourse Markers in Political News about Ganjar Pranowo in Jakarta Post Media

In the second point, the researcher expounds on the findings and data analysis concerning the formulation of the second problem, namely, the types and functions of interactional markers in political news about Ganjar Pranowo in Jakarta Post media.

Table 2.
Interactional Metadiscourse Markers

Category	Interactional Markers	Total Number
	JP	JP
Hedges (HD)	If, About, Seems, Possible, Might, Perhaps, Should, Would	107
Booster (BS)	Obviously, In fact, Definitely, Avid reader, Better-versed	25
Attitude Markers (AM)	Stand, Surprise, Unfortunately, in my opinion	21
Engagement (EM)	As you can see, No matter what	15
Self-Mention (SM)	I, Me, We, Us, Our	25
Total		292

a. Hedges (HD)

In this study, Hedges appeared a total of 107 times. This concurrently signifies that Hedges emerge as the highest frequently employed interactional marker by The

Jakarta Post in depicting political news concerning Ganjar Pranowo. In this research, the hedges that emerged include "if," "about," "seems," "possible," and "might." According to Hyland (2005), Hedges serves as the "voice" of the writer to indicate an argument. Data analysis regarding the interpretation of hedges can be observed below.

Datum 1

Even if [the PDI-P] thinks it has a genuine reason [behind this tactic], it is still like shooting themselves in the foot," Burhanuddin said.

The term "if" in datum 1 serves as a representation of hedges. According to Azar (1999), the word "if" embodies a contextual meaning of speculation. Based on the example sentence above, the contextual use of the word "if" is employed to present a conjecture regarding the decision that will be made by PDIP as the political party endorsing Ganjar Pranowo. According to Hyland (2005), in addition to being used as a form of probability, hedges also serve the function of expressing uncertainty or doubt on the part of a writer when presenting arguments. However, in the context of this research, the meaning of "if" tends to affirm that the subject, namely PDIP, has not yet taken a specific action. Instead, the meaning of "if" arises from assumptions conveyed by Burhanudin.

Datum 2

Ganjar Pranowo, who is currently the governor of Central Java, would focus tightly on geopolitical issues

In datum 2, hedges were identified in the word "would." Grammatically, "would" is a verb that functions as a marker for past tense in the context of part of speech. However, according to Azar (1999), "would" can also be described as an expression of desire or a wish. In the context of datum 2, the word "would" is employed as an expression of desire or a wish, indicating the anticipation that, in the future, Ganjar Pranowo, who currently serves as the governor of Central Java, when elected as president, will prioritize the geopolitical issues of the country. According to Hyland (2005), the contextual use of the word "would" can be categorized as a probability element. In other words, the term "would" refers to a possibility in which each probability inevitably results in two options, namely, success or failure. In summary, in datum 2, "would," described within quotation marks, is elucidated as a form of probability or uncertainty, signifying Ganjar Pranowo's plan to focus on global issues.

b. Booster

In this study, Booster markers appear a total of 25 times, significantly fewer compared to the Hedges markers, which appear 107 times.. In other words, Boosters represent a contrasting form compared to Hedges, where Hedges are used as an indication of uncertainty. Conversely, Boosters serve as markers of certainty. The certainty referred to here is the author's confidence in an argument constructed with the aim of convincing the reader. The words or phrases representing Boosters in this research include "Avid reader," "Better Verse," "clearly," and "definitely." According to Hyland (2005), a Booster is a linguistic marker utilized to express certainty in an argument, whether written or spoken. Data analysis regarding the interpretation of Booster can be scrutinized below;

Datum 3

His two opponents have more clearly defined positions on the administration of President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo.

In this context, Booster is represented by the word "clearly." According to Hyland (2005), the word "clearly" carries the meaning of providing clarification within a sentence. In accordance with Azar (1999), "clearly" is classified as an adverbial word functioning as an adverb. Adverbs serve the purpose of elucidating an event, which can

take the form of either a noun or a verb. In the example sentence above, the author uses "clearly" to elucidate an argument. The author employs the word "clearly" to clarify an argument stating that two competitors of Ganjar in the presidential election have expressed clear stances regarding their positions in Joko Widodo's administration. In other words, the term "clearly" here not only functions as an elucidation of an event but also serves as a reinforcement of the author's argument, aimed at persuading the readers that it is indeed true that the two competitors of Ganjar have asserted their positions.

Datum 4

*Anies, who has a doctorate in political science, is considered **better-versed** in geopolitical issues.*

Boosters in the above sentence are indicated by the phrase "better versed." Linguistically, "better-versed" signifies a superior level of understanding. In the context of datum 4, the author employs the term "better-versed" as a form of affirmation and certainty in their argument, explaining that Anies Baswedan is an individual well-informed about geopolitical issues. The author does this to depict the capabilities of the three presidential candidates for 2024 in understanding the ongoing geopolitical issues. Not only that, to reinforce the phrase "better-versed" in the context of certainty, the author also includes some evidence, mentioning that Anies is a doctoral graduate who studied political issues.

c. Attitude Markers (AM)

In this research, attitude markers were identified 21 times. Attitude markers were represented by the words 'unfortunately,' 'stand,' and 'surprisingly.'" This marker appears to mention what The Jakarta Post cited that the utterance from Ganjar Pranowo, sometimes this media mentioned about where it cited the citation several times from another media, for the example

Datum 5

*"The meal was boiled cassava and tempe kemul, a specialty of Wonosobo," **said** Ganjar **as quoted by** Antara on Monday*

To apprise the audience of Ganjar's discourse concerning the favored dish in Wonosobo, namely tempe kemul, The Jakarta Post opted to reference another media source, specifically Antara. In addition to Antara, The Jakarta Post selected multiple media outlets, including Kompas.com, Tempo.co, and Detik.com, to serve as citations for conveying Ganjar Pranowo's statements and the perspectives of various public figures mentioned in the news. The deployment of the Attitude Marker, which functions as an indicator, reveals that The Jakarta Post, as a media entity disseminating information about Ganjar Pranowo, frequently relies on citations from other sources. This marker suggests that The Jakarta Post seeks to convey the accuracy of the reported utterances, substantiated by cross-referencing with information from other media outlets cited in several of its news articles. The Jakarta Post sometimes gives the opinion about a citation which is already cited on the news.

Datum 6

*"The former Central Java governor added that he felt the government's social aid program was running **well**, although he acknowledged persisting issues such as data inaccuracies and disparities in distribution"*

The perspective articulated in datum 6 reveals The Jakarta Post's inclination to monitor and engage with evolving developments in the news. The media strategically incorporates opinions and critiques within a concise sentence, observable in datum 6,

aiming to elevate specific aspects to serve as focal points in the news. The succinct presentation of opinions ensures clarity for readers, enabling a precise comprehension of the media's standpoint. The utilization of positive comments, such as "well," establishes a perceptual gap between the reader and The Jakarta Post's reporting, fostering a positive association with Ganjar Pranowo, the former Central Java Governor. This approach conveys a deliberate effort by the media to project a neutral stance, underscored by the use of markers like "although" to introduce critical elements. The overarching objective is to uphold the media's reputation for neutrality, even as it subtly conveys favorable opinions in support of Ganjar Pranowo, with the critique serving as a delineating factor in maintaining a neutral position.

d. Engagement Markers

The engagement markers that revealed on The Jakarta Post media usually showed in Imperative or several verbs that contained an engagement to keep the reader interested during reading the news. Because of several verbs indicated as the marker, it contained about 40 Engagement Markers which shown on The Jakarta Post Media the following example

Datum 7

*“Ganjar also said the government **must develop** closer ties between educational institutions and industries to create job openings and prevent instances of job brokers.”*

The marker observed in the illustration extracted from datum 7 can be construed as an implicit imperative directed towards the reader, aimed at sustaining their engagement with the information presented. This imperative statement employs a verb, "must develop," signifying the necessity to undertake the action specified. Despite being explicitly attributed to Ganjar Pranowo in the context of vacant job positions and schools, The Jakarta Post strategically utilizes it as a means of providing a refreshing diversion for the reader amid potentially monotonous news content. Furthermore, the imperative sentence not only serves as a diversion but also actively contributes to the news by offering opinions and summaries, thereby guiding the reader and maintaining their focus on the unfolding narrative.

In addition to imperatives, several phrases are employed to capture the reader's attention, seamlessly integrating them into the unfolding scenes of the news. These phrases typically initiate sentences and function as connectors to the preceding topic, as exemplified in the subsequent datum.

Datum 8

*“**In the inaugural debate**, the three presidential candidates faced off on questions of government, human rights, law, corruption, democracy and public services.”*

The Jakarta Post barely used a phrase such *as you can see, no matter what*, and so on to describe the engagement marker. The media expressed the engagement to the reader with prepositional phrases that started usually with word *in*, and this prepositional phrase sometimes describing the situation of the news which could bring the reader to maintain the situation and the hype while reading the news. In bringing the news to the public, using prepositional phrase believed as the uniqueness of the news which published by The Jakarta Post media and also as the rating of the value of the written news that shared so the public could hesitate to read it because of the quality from judging from the diction that chosen by the redaction team of The Jakarta Post. The Prepositional Phrase also describes the entire situation that could be the time, place, or manner that could not mislead the reader about the information.

e. Self-Mentions

To intervene on the news, The Jakarta Post used self-mentions which mostly gained from the citation that quoted from the utterance of Ganjar Pranowo. This media seldom mentions the self-mentions in order to keep their reputation in delivering the information from news, because the self-mentions could be traced to the several groups or people who intervene in responsibility about the news. Instead, this media using quoted that there is a self-mention to picture Ganjar, for the example

Datum 9

"We mainly talked about daily conditions because the ustad [Islamic scholar] whose house I stayed in, told me about the condition of the local community and schools,"

Regarding the topic of self-mention, The Jakarta Post identified instances in previously published news articles discussing infrastructure in Wonosobo, situated in a small village. In these reports, three self-referential markers—We, I, and me—were noted.

The analysis primarily delves into the nuanced meanings conveyed by these markers in their representation of individuals or groups. Specifically, We does not pertain to an individual but rather signifies a collective, with Ganjar Pranowo aligning himself with a political entity, namely the PDIP party, a prominent political party in Indonesia. The use of We serves to associate Ganjar with this political group, creating a favorable impression by positioning him as a representative aligned with the party, and concurrently, as a respected figure in the village, being an Islamic scholar. This positive representation of Ganjar contributes to enhancing the reputation of both Ganjar and the PDIP party, thereby establishing a connection between the two entities denoted by the term We.

Even though Ganjar used the term "we" in a statement, he also invoked the pronoun "I," creating an impression that Ganjar Pranowo is a benevolent individual residing temporarily in a small village, where he is recognized as an Islamic scholar. The media's portrayal of Ganjar, aligned with the quoted utterance in the news, suggests that Ganjar strategically includes himself to assert his popularity across diverse communities. The use of "me" serves as an indication of the relationship between Ganjar and the Islamic scholar, signifying Ganjar's privileged access to intimate details about the village. Despite the apparent personal reference, the inclusion of "me" in the quotation signifies Ganjar's unique access, grounded in his role as a Presidential Election candidate, rather than a mere personal assertion.

Datum 10

"Ganjar outlined his proposed KTP Sakti program, which aims to digitalize the population registry and provide more detailed, comprehensive data."

The news reported by The Jakarta Post suggests an exceptional quality associated with a program proposed by Ganjar Pranowo, implying its exclusivity and unattainability for the general populace. The possessive marker "his" is prominently employed to attribute the program specifically to Ganjar Pranowo, presenting it as an inventive solution unique to him. The designation "his" underscores the notion that the KTP Sakti Program is a brainchild of Ganjar Pranowo, contributing to the enhancement of his reputation in the context of the Presidential Election campaign. The utilization of the possessive marker signifies Ganjar Pranowo as an individual capable of addressing various issues, particularly in the modern collection of data from the Indonesian population through technological means. This form of self-mention not only establishes Ganjar's positive image but also serves to captivate the readership, especially those supporting Ganjar Pranowo in the Presidential Election, consequently bolstering The Jakarta Post's readership

and popularity.

E. CONCLUSION

This research has addressed two formulated research questions. Regarding the first research question, it can be concluded that the highest frequency of word class is adjectival, specifically the term "presidential." This indicates that The Jakarta Post media demonstrates indications of the existence of Ganjar Pranowo in his political campaign as a presidential candidate in 2024. For the second research question, it can be concluded that interactional metadiscourse markers serve as a means of depicting Ganjar Pranowo in the delivery of news within the context of the political campaign for the 2024 presidential election. Additionally, hedges emerge as the most frequent interactional markers, indicating that Ganjar Pranowo is portrayed as a presidential candidate actively engaged in political campaigning, with the primary campaign focus on foreign policy and human resource matters.

This study is confined to exploring the role of interactional markers in political news, specifically focusing on the image politics of Ganjar Pranowo. Subsequent research is encouraged to further investigate the utilization of interactional metadiscourse in informal text contexts, particularly within media platforms featuring sports or health columns.

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