

MODALITY IN RETNO MARSUDI'S SPEECH AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

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Abstract: This is the discussion about modality analyzed in Retno Marsudi's discourse at the United Nations General Assembly. A discourse does not seem to reappear at the interface of the political world, but in a discourse the use of modalities can also appear by the speaker. This asks for points to determine the use of modality in Retno Marsudi's discourse at the United Nations General Assembly meeting. This research analysis uses descriptive qualitative methods and Halliday's theory. The source of information for this question is Retno Marsudi's speech at the UN General Assembly which was taken from a YouTube video. Specifically, the object of this investigation is taken from Retno Marsudi's speech. Information investigation using purposive sampling technique. The results of this research were the found modality types of six high value modulation-obligations, five medium value modulation-obligation, two low value modulation-obligation, nine medium value modalization-probability, two low value modalization-probability. Researcher also found responsibility type of twenty-four subjective-implicit. So, from results of the analysis can be said that Retno used a lot of modality-modulation to give orders or suggestions dan subjective-implicit to give the impression of authoritarianism.

Keywords: modality, Retno Marsudi, pidato, Sidang Umum Perserikatan Bangsa-Bangsa, September 23rd

Abstrak: Demikianlah pembahasan tentang modalitas yang dianalisis dalam wacana Retno Marsudi pada Pertemuan di Sidang Umum PBB. Sebuah wacana tidak seolah-olah muncul kembali pada antarmuka dunia politik, namun dalam sebuah wacana juga dapat muncul penggunaan modalitas yang digunakan oleh pembicara. Ini menanyakan poin-poin untuk menentukan penggunaan modalitas dalam wacana Retno Marsudi pada Pertemuan di Sidang Umum PBB. Analisa penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif dan teori Halliday. Sumber informasi pertanyaan ini adalah pidato Retno Marsudi pada Sidang Umum PBB yang diambil dari video YouTube. Secara khusus, berdasarkan objek penyelidikan ini diambil dari ucapan dari pidato Retno Marsudi. Investigasi informasi menggunakan purposive sampling teknik. Jadi, dari hasil analisa tersebut bisa dikatakan Retno banyak menggunakan modalitas-modulasi untuk memberi perintah atau saran dan subjektif-implisit untuk memberi kesan otoritarianisme.

Kata Kunci: modalitas, Retno Marsudi, speech, the United Nations General Assembly, September 23rd

INTRODUCTION

In this world, humans interact with each other. This interaction allows humans to understand each other's meaning. This interaction can be created from communication. A communication can convey a purpose or message easily. In this communication, the speaker can express the extent to which his

statement is committed to assessing and taking responsibility for the speaker's attitude. Speakers can show various kinds of attitudes from certain points of view.

When a speaker can show someone's point of view on something subjectively. However, the speaker can also show his point of view in his statement by making it an objective

quality of the event itself. The speaker's statement of attitude is related to modality. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (Sari, 2022), modality can be defined as a linguistic device used by a speaker to express a variety of thoughts, feelings, meanings or intentions. Other parties, according to Toolan, suggest that modality is a technique to express the attitude and evaluation of a speaker (Muhassin, 2023). Thus, the modality can be interpreted as a linguistic tool and a technique to express an assessment of the speaker's attitude to express thoughts, feelings, meanings, different goals and the performance of interpersonal functions.

According to Halliday's (Kadooka, 2021:81), the modality system interprets the region of uncertainty polarity that exists between "yes" and "No.". But this is not the only possibility, since there are degrees in between, including uncertainties like "sometimes" or "maybe". The theoretical basis of both is that habit expresses meaning in the indefinite region between the positive and negative poles of polarity.

Apart of the modality system, there are types of modality divided into two main categories, according to Halliday (Kim et al., 2021:144), namely modulation and modalization. Modulation is linked to different levels of interpretation of the interpersonal meaning of proposals, such as the exchange of goods and services: orders and offers are in the positive polarity of "do" and negative "do not". This includes a system of obligations and tendencies or expressions of will and ability. At the same time, the modality leads to a gradient of interpersonal

meaning propositions, such as the exchange of information in the form of statements and questions that span a scale between the positive polarity of "this is so" and the negative polarity of "this is not".

The modality can refer to an expression as to what the expression is orders that must be carried out, whether the expression is in the form of a suggestion, or so on. So this shows that modality has a close relationship with communication.

A modality can be expressed by the degree to which the speaker assumes responsibility for the attitude he expresses. According to Halliday (Yang, 2021:16-17), there is a responsibility for the meaning of the modal, which is categorized according to the modal orientation, such as the difference between a subjective modality and an objective modality, between an explicit variant . and an implicit variant.

The purpose of the modality is to have personal opinions discussed by a third party or an impersonal person (Sidabutar, 2015). Personal pronouns are not only used to refer to the participants, but also reflect the relationship between the people involved in a conversation (Liping, 2017:71-76). In addition, people can express or state objective facts directly or indirectly (Rul & Jingxia, 2018). Thus, the purpose of the mode is personal or reflects the relationship between the people involved in a conversation, it expresses the speaker's intention to show the speaker's respect for the listener directly or indirectly.

Modalities can of course be found in a speech. Because speech can express

the attitude of a speaker towards his words. Speech can express communication process to provide information, persuasion, or certain suggestions. The audience, especially politicians, consider speeches to be the most effective medium for conveying a broad goal to many people. Speeches are also used to achieve a certain target. because a speech can persuade the general public to want to listen and carry out the speaker's expressions. The thing can be one of the reasons to analyze the modality of the speaker's speech. In a speech, researcher can explore how a speaker's speech is constructed to establish social relations between the speaker and the audience. One of the speech that can be analyzes as modality in the speech of Retno Maraudi at General Assembly of United Nations.

Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi or better known as Retno Marsudi, first served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia from 2014 to 2019 and then the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia from 2019 to 2024. to the United Nations General Assembly.

In Retno Marsudi's speech, many words indicate statements made about the speaker's expressions. These expressions were related to modality, as the statements conveyed by a speaker could take the form of orders, advice, instructions, information, etc. Even in Retno's speech, of course, there were many self-serving statements addressed to the public in the forum of the assembly and outside the forum of the assembly.

In the speech of Retno Marsudi, researcher can find the modality in

which there are many statements of the speaker expressed in her speech. The analysis of the speech of Retno Marsudi at the Assembly of the United Nations is seen from the modality, which shows us the opinions of Retno, the attitudes, the evaluations regarding the problems that happened that were transmitted to the president, the ministers and the security services of different countries. To know the attitude and state of mind of Retno in her speech is to know what influence and approval she generated to support her call for economic development, solidarity and justice. Therefore, the researcher used Halliday's modality theory, which is a field of linguistic study, that is systemic functional linguistics.

Systemic functional linguistics is a branch of linguistics that considers language from two perspectives: systemic and functional (Herman et al., 2022). On the other hand, the notion of "function" in the context of SFL refers to the notion of intentional use in the sense of achieving a practically realized goal and refers to the metasystem of possible meanings and their instantiation/realization in language (Cordeiro, 2018). Therefore, SFL is a branch of linguistics that considers language from a systematic and functional perspective, which considers a system of choices for the production of meaning and which is adapted as a functional approach to grammar, which is a function and meaning as modality analysis.

Researcher adapted this research from several previous studies, that are relevant to the references of this research. First, a research written by Haningtya Cahya Mentari entitled "*Modality System in the speech of Malala*

Yousafzai" (Mentari, 2023). The research used Halliday's theory and used a descriptive qualitative method. The author found four types of ways, namely tendencies, obligations, potentials and abilities, and probabilities. The tilt mode was displayed up to twelve. There were nine high values, two medium values and one low value. In the binding mode there were two, that is, one sentence included as a high level and another as an average value. All probabilities are included as mean value. And in the way of potential and ability, there were ten.

The second is a study written by Siafani Nadia Istakhfarin, a study called "*Mood and Modality Used by the Main Characters in 'Onward'*" (Istkhfarin, 2021). The results of his findings are the use of expression and thought-thought as a statement based on truth or a statement similar to the main statement. So, through the difference in subject, the narrator uses the first person point of view, that is, "I" and "we".

Third, a research written by Rahmawati entitled "*An Analysis of Mood and Modality in Jokowi's Inauguration Speech*" (Rahmawati, 2020). The research analyzes the types of mood and manner manifested in Jokowi's speeches. The research used Halliday's theory and descriptive qualitative method. The result of the search is ninety-five clauses in speech and ninety-two declarative clauses in speech. Jokowi used a lot of modulation-obligation in his speech.

Fourth, a research written by Akbar Ardian Mulya Wibowo and the research entitled "*Values of Epistemic Modality and Discourse-Based Analysis in the Research Proposal*" (Wibowo, 2020).

The researcher used descriptive qualitative method and Halliday's theory. The results of the research found three values of types of epistemic security, namely three high values, eight medium values and twelve low values. The thing showed that there are disciplinary factors that shaped the way students argue.

In this analysis, analysts need to portray and analyze her discourse to discover out the utilize of the modality in Retno Marsudi's discourse, not fair to know that the discourse is fair a explanation calling for making strides the world circumstance and giving human equity. Based on the clarification, there are two identification of problems based on the background of problem which has been explained in this research, as follows: (1) What are modality types used in Retno Marsudi's speech at the United Nations Assembly? (2) What are modal responsibility types used in Retno Marsudi's speech at the United Nations Assembly?

To get it the utilize of modality in Retno Marsudi's discourse, an editorial was composed with the title modality Examination in Retno Marsudi's at the United Nations Assembly on September 23rd.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research design is certainly necessary in research. According to Nazir (Abdussamad, 2021:1001), research design is everything that is related to a process necessary for planning and conducting research. Research design includes the identification and selection of a research problem, the selection and

definition of a conceptual framework for the research problem, the formulation and formulation of a research problem, the construction of a survey, the choice and definition, the choice of a sampling procedure, and the technique, the development of data collection. tools and techniques.

In this research design, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative method. According to Creswell (Abdussamad, 2021:101), the qualitative approach is that first, research plans in detail a general approach to research. Second, some questions are considered problematic for qualitative researchers. Third, the current format of qualitative research varies.

The sample from this research is the statement conveyed by Retno Marsudi at the United Nations General Assembly on the American continent, especially in New York which will be held on September 23 2023.

The data source for this research is a video of Retno Marsudi's speech on the YouTube application. The data source was taken from Retno Marsudi's words in her speech on September 23, 2023 at the United Nations General Assembly. Apart from that, there are theoretical data sources taken from e-books and journals on the internet.

The data collection technique is a way to collect a variety of types of data and information that you want to obtain in order to obtain valid, accurate research and reliable results (Murdiyanto, 2020). Therefore, the data must be valid and reliable. This research used purposive sampling technique for data collection. According to Sugiyono, purposive

sampling is a non-random sampling method that establishes specific criteria to match the result of the research carried out by the researcher himself to provide research illustrations with some other consideration and the purpose of making the information obtained then more representative (Lenaini, 2021). Therefore, the proper sampling technique is used by the researcher to research, collect and analyze the data.

According to Moleong, data collection techniques include listening by researchers to observe and listen to research subjects, the writing method used by researchers to record behavior patterns, the writing method used by researchers to record the behavior of an object (Ma'arif & Lailia, 2022). To collect data, the author first watches and listens to a speech on YouTube videos. Second, the author noted that the clauses were included in modality. Third, the author determined the sentences of Retno Marsudi's remarks that were recorded on modality types and modal responsibility. Fourth, the author presented the data in the results section.

The researcher used data analysis techniques with descriptive qualitative methods. The analysis includes how and which modalities Retno used in his speech. Data analysis includes data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions (Irwan et al., 2020). Therefore, analysis requires data reduction, presentation and conclusion.

The steps of data analysis begin with the observation and understanding of the data that has been recorded and considered as clauses containing modalities. Second, define data based on modal types and modal

responsibility. Third, the researcher writes down the results that have been determined. Fourth, the researcher explains the results in the discussion section. Fifth, the researcher summarizes the results of the research and draws conclusions about the modalities contained in the speech.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Analysis of Modality Types in Retno Marsudi' Speech at The United Nations Assembly

The researcher analyzed a speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Retno Marsudi. The speech was made at the United Nations General Assembly. The researcher analyzed the speech made in 2023, that is on September 23.

The researcher discovered the way used in Retno's speech. The researcher found clauses including the modality in Retno's speech, in Retno's speech in September there are twenty-two clauses.

The researcher have discovered several modalities used in Retno Marsudi's speech att the United Nations Assembly on September 23, 2023. In her speech, the modals found were "must"/ "mustn't", / "should"/ "shouldn't", "can"/ "cannot", "would", "may"/ "may not", "can" and "will". To explain the manner and mode manifested in Retno's speech, the following is a detailed explanation of the analysis of modality in Retno Marsudi's speech.

4.1.1 Modulation

There are two expressions expressed in modulation, namely obligation and tendency. In this

research only obligation was found in the speech.

4.1.1.1 Obligation

In the data found by the researcher there were many obligation caluses. The obligation of modality types are those most often used in Retno Marsudi's speech. In this research, the researcher found only modal obligation with positive or negative polarity, that is "must"/"must not", "must"/"should not" and "can"/"cannot". The speaker, that is. Retno Marsudi used this type of imperative mode to urge and emphasize what is needed or should be done by the listener or even with the speaker.

4.1.1.1.1 Modal "Must"

Data 1

Industrial downstreaming *must not* be an exclusive call of developing countries.

In her statement, Retno expressed her disagreement or protest against the United Nations. The protest arose because only developing countries are allowed to carry out downstream industrial activities. In this statement it can be seen that there is an emphasis on the use of a high value of the modal "must not" with negative polarity. This means that the Retno declaration must be heard and implemented by the audience of the United Nations assembly.

Retno Marsudi's statement does not agree with the idea of downstream industrial activities carried out by developing countries. In other words, Retno wanted other countries to be able to carry out industrial policy. Indeed,

the industrial downstream is considered an important element to help the economy of a country, especially for countries that are going through an economic crisis.

4.1.1.1.2 Modal "Should"

Data 2

*Cooperations colleagues Regional institutions **should** be net contributors and building block for Global Peace.*

As an example of this clause, Retno presented her proposal. She expressed her desire in the statement that uses a high value of the modal "must". Also, Retno used the modal "must" to emphasize her statement so that it is taken seriously. Retno gave her statement as advice to colleagues and regional institutions present at the United Nations Assembly. Retno made this suggestion to encourage enthusiasm among colleagues and regional institutions. Retno told the public that he took care of the performance of the regional institutions and therefore asked the regional institutions to become net contributors and the foundation of world peace.

4.1.1.1.3 Modal "Can"

Data 3

*Forging Collective Global Leadership Leadership the faith of the word **cannot** be defined by the mighty few a Peace ful stable.*

Retno Marsudi's statement indicated the prohibition of using a high value of the "cannot" modal, which has a negative polarity. This statement means that Retno expressed

an obligation that was finally fulfilled. Retno Marsudu showed an opinion about the truth. These truths about collective global leadership should not be determined by some individuals alone. Collective global leadership can be determined by anyone, regardless of power or other status. Thus, collective global leadership does not benefit only a few parties or factions.

4.1.2 Modalization

In this modalization, There were two expressed in the modulation, namely probability and usually. In this research, only probability was found.

4.1.2.1 Probability

The researcher found the probability of the modal with positive or negative polarity, that is "will"/"will not" and "would", and "may". In this probability, the speaker uses it to suggest something and express the hope or probability that it will be obtained by the listener or even by the speaker. Here are some examples of data that includes probability in Retno Marsudi's speech:

4.1.2.2 Modal "Will"

Data 4

*In Afghanistan, Indonesia **will** do its utmost to help the Afghan People and ensure the rights of women and girls are respected including ttheir right to education*

In the statement, Retno Marsudi made a promise. When the promise in the statement used the modal "will" which has a mean value, it means that the promise is sure to be kept and will happen in the future. Retno said she would do her best to help the Afghan

people, especially the rights of women and girls. This shows that Retno has given the Afghan people hope for what they will do in the future.

4.1.2.3 Modal “May”

Data 5

Many developing countries may not meet the SDGS by 2030.

Retno Marsudi has a prediction in this verse. Retno Marsudi’s prediction can be seen using a method with the negative column “*may not*”, which suggests that it may happen in the future. This can happen if developing countries do not adhere to the terms of the sustainable development goals. Retno Marsudi moved the prediction so that United Nations could predict. The value of the meaning “*may*” indicates that Retno came from her own opinion. Retno expressed his opinion that many countries will not be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from the 2030 forecast. This means that many countries have not been able to overcome poverty, hunger, AIDS or disregard for the rights of women and girls.

4.1.2.4 Modal “Would”

Data 6

All of this would contribute to eroding trust and solidarity.

In this clause, the modal “*would*” has a medium value that implies the possibility that something will happen in the future. Retno Marsudi used the modal “*would*” to indicate that there was a possibility of erosion of trust and solidarity between countries due to the

global crisis. The global economic crisis has caused countries to struggle to repay their debts to other countries to finance their national development. This could very well lead to the erosion of trust and solidarity between countries through public debt.

4.2 Analysis of Modal Responsibility in Retno Marsudi’s Speech at The United Nations Assembly

The researcher presents the results of a modal responsibility analysis used by Retno in her speech. Modal responsibility indicates Retno Marsudi's responsibility as a speaker for the attitude expressed in her speech. Modal responsibility is divided into subjective-implicit, subjective-explicit, objective-implicit and objective-explicit responsibility. However, the researcher only found implicit subjective modal responsibility in Retno Marsudi's speech. In this part, the researcher presented data on the modal responsibility used in the speech of Retno Marsudi.

4.2.1 Subjective-Implicit

In this part, the researcher presented subjective-implicit data in the speech of Retno Marsudi to the United Nations Assembly in 2023. In 2023, the researcher found clauses that included subjective-implicit data in three speeches delivered on 23 September. Below is an explanation of some examples of data found in Retno's speech:

Data 7

ASEAN will spare no effort to ensure the People of Myanmar are not left alone

Retno Marsudi was confident in his statement. She clearly stated that ASEAN will take measures to ensure that the people of Myanmar are not left alone to deal with their country's problems. Retno's statement seems to shift the responsibility to ASEAN. Retno did not say that he would make efforts to solve the problems facing the Burmese people. Because she knows that the problems of the Burmese people are not under her authority, but rather that of ASEAN.

Therefore, Retno used the noun "ASEAN" and the modal "will" which are included in the implied subjective expression. This proved Retno's point of view. Retno revealed that ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) will take useful steps to help solve the problems affecting Myanmar. Retno Marsudi said this because the situation of the country of Myanmar was declining stability and economic integration, which affected the people of Myanmar.

Data 8

*We **can** rebuild trust and reignite Global solidarity in line with what we invention through the bandung spirit*

The modal "can" in Retno's statement was subjective-explicit oriented which showed that Retno has self-confidence, loyalty and solidarity within herself. The modal "can" was included in the probability-modalization type and has a low value. Retno used the modal "can" to showed that in fact a trust and global solidarity that no longer exists can be rebuilt. The pronoun "we" in Retno's statement means referring to herself and the people at the United Nations meeting that they can build each other and recreate trust and

solidarity with the spirit of Bandung (the spirit of peace resulting from the peace agreement at the Conference Asia Africa in 1955) which they had created.

Data 9

*Indonesia Global Leadership **should not** only be about listening to others building Bridges respecting international law consistently*

Based on Retno Marsudi's statement, the modal "should" with the negative polarity "not" was included in the subjective-explicit orientation which shows that Retno Marsudi's advice was expressed based on her own wisdom. The modal "should" has the negative polarity "not" which includes probability-modalization. Retno used the modal "should" with the negative polarity "not" to suggest that for global leadership Indonesia should not listen to other people's opinions in building bridges that are consistently respected by international law. The form of advice that uses the modal "should" with the negative polarity "not" was of medium value in terms of modality value, which shows that there is an emphasis on Retno Marsudi's suggestion that she does not want Global Indonesia's leadership to only listen to other people's opinions. What Retno meant was that Global Indonesia's leadership should listen more to the people within its own auspices.

Data 10

*We **must** uphold respect for international law Particularly fundamental Principle of sovy and territorial Integrity*

Retno Marsudi's narrative uses the modal "must" which has a subjective-explicit orientation to show that Retno Marsudi's statement has a sense of respect and integrity from within herself. The modal "must" which was included in modulation-obligation indicates an order which means an action that must be carried out. The use of the capital "must" and the pronoun "we" in this sentence showed that the command sentence is intended not for himself but also for the people at the United Nations meeting to do what he is ordered to do, namely to uphold respect for international law in particular. the basic principle of the unity of the state and region. Apart from that, the "must" modal has a high value in the modality type. This means that Retno wants to emphasize the respect that really must be exercised.

CONCLUSION

Based on the study of Retno Marsudi's speech on the use of modality and modal responsibility, some conclusions can be drawn. First of all, the researcher found forty-one clauses included in modality and modal responsibility in the speech of Retno Marsudi in September 2023 at the United Nations Assembly.

Second, in the analysis of the modality in the Retno 2023 speech that took place on September 26, the most common is modulation-obligation. Retno Marsudi used modulation-obligation to express proposal and order. The proposal and the order are things that must be done and carried out. Therefore, researcher can conclude that Retno used several statements of

obligations. This means that Retno Marsudi has an authoritarian and leadership nature.

Third, in the analysis of the modal responsibility in the speech of Retno, it was also found that the modal responsibility was subjective-implicit. The results showed that Retno Marsudi's responsibility tends to take sides on certain issues based on their own authority and perspective. Authority and point of view are expressed openly, clearly, decisively and directly.

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