

THE TRANSITIVITY OF ALAN WALKER SONG LYRICS IN “DIFFERENT WORLD” ALBUM

Santi Mulyati, Ria Nirwana, Hartono
English Department, Faculty of literature, Al-Ghifari Univesity

ria.nirwana2@gmail.com, hartono@unfari.ac.id, santimulyati30@gmail.com

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis elemen ransitivitas dan makna ideasional dalam lirik lagu Alan Walker Dalam Album “Different World”. Lagu adalah musik pendek dengan kata-kata yang Anda nyanyikan. Dalam kehidupan sehari-hari, orang mendengar musik tanpa mengetahui isi lagu tersebut. Mereka menikmati musik tanpa menganalisis maknanya sendiri. Peneliti menggunakan lagu-lagu Alan Walker dari Album “Different World” miliknya (Faded, Alone and Lily) sebagai objek penelitian yang dianalisis dengan teori transitivitas Halliday, Gerrot, Wignel dan teori lagu sebagai teori pendukung. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif. Ada beberapa langkah dalam menganalisis penelitian ini: menemukan jenis-jenis proses transitivitas yang digunakan dalam lagu-lagu Alan Walker di album “Different World” dan kemudian menjelaskan makna ideasional dari lagu-lagu Alan Walker di Album “Different World”. Hasil analisis adalah sebagai berikut; ditemukan bahwa jenis transitivitas yang banyak digunakan dalam lirik lagu Alan Walker adalah proses relasional. Ada 16 data yang menggunakan proses relasional. 8 data untuk proses mental dan proses material. Kemudian proses verbal ditemukan 3 data. Terakhir, 1 data untuk proses eksistensial dan behavioral.

Kata kunci: **Proses Transitivitas, Makna Ideasional, album Different World Alan Walker**

Abstract

This research aims to analyze the elements of transitivity and the ideational meaning of the song lyrics in Alan Walker’s songs from his “Different World” Album (Faded, Alone and Lily). Song is a short piece of music with words that you sing. In daily life, people listen to music without have to know the content of the song. They enjoy the music without analyzing their meaning itself. The researcher use Alan Walker’s songs from his “Different World” Album (Faded, Alone and Lily) as object of the research which is analyzed by transitivity theory Halliday, Gerrot, Wignel and the theory of song as supporting theory. This research use descriptive qualitative approach. There are several steps in analyzing this research: find out the kinds of transitivity process are used in Alan Walker’s songs in “Different World” album and then explain the ideational meaning of Alan Walker’s songs in “Different World”Album. The findings of analysis are as follows; there is found that the kinds of transitivity are mostly used in song lyrics by Alan Walker are *relational process* which consist of Attributive and Identifying. There are 16 data using relational process, 8 data for mental process and *materialprocess*. Then verbal process are found 3 data. The last, 1 data for existential and behaviouralprocess.

Keywords: **Transitivity Process, Ideational Meaning, Alan Walker’s Different World album**

INTRODUCTION

Now is technology era where everything can be accessed everywhere by internet. Internet provides the network to access everything needed. There are many kinds of benefits of internet such as browsing, online shopping, trading, banking and more. Most of people are using internet for searching, updating, upgrading, streaming, downloading film, song or music.

By using the internet, everyone can access millions of songs they want, even the songs released in the past years as well. Song is one of interesting media for internet user to have, because it can make people relaxed, happy, and cheerful. Every single word of the lyric has some phenomenon whether it is about inspiration, motivation, love, or sadness.

Song is a part of linguistic which is a written form made to represent a language in a text; it is presented from the idea of the artist's message, and presented from his experienced by heart sense. In daily life, people heard the music without having to know the content of the song. They enjoy the music without analyzing their meaning itself. People should know the meaning of song so that they can enjoy the song. But in fact, there are some people that do not want to know about the meaning of song.

Under Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), language performs three metafunctions, they are ideational, interpersonal, and textual forming a systemic network of linguistic choices representing the meaning potentials. The researcher interested to focus on ideational especially in experiential function in order

to conduct the research. It is important to know ideational metafunction because it learns about meaning of text. Through ideational meaning, people can understand the essence of the meaning by revealing experiences, involved participants, and surrounding circumstances contained in a clause. Ideational meaning is formed by applying a grammatical tool called transitivity systems.

According to Halliday (1994), "Transitivity system is a part of the ideational metafunction is used to explore the content or the experiential meaning in a text". Transitivity analysis is a process of analyzing a text at the level of clause. A clause is defined as a realization of phenomenon. In simple terms, transitivity analysis can be helpful in revealing the participants involved in action, how the participants relate to others and if the participants take an active or passive role in the utterance. Transitivity analysis can represent experience and it will be seen in a clause. This is cause a clause is represented as a unit of experience, which is constituted by three elements namely process, participant, and circumstance.

Based on the above phenomenon, the researcher interested to analyze through functional grammar analysis which focuses on transitivity process that are realized in Alan Walker songs in "Different World" Album. The researcher chose this album because this album is very popular at this time. Many people know about the songs and the lyrics but most of people don't understand the meaning of the song lyrics.

Theoretical Review

Definition of Ideational Meaning

According to Halliday (2014:30), “there are two basic functions of language related to ecological and social environment”. They are making sense of human experience and acting out of human social relationship which further, he categorizes three metafunctions language into three areas such as Ideational, Interpersonal, and Textual meaning. In the importance of the author’s research, she is only going to discuss ideational meaning. Ideational meaning that is also called experiential meaning deals with human experience on capturing reality through language (Butt et al., 2000:46).

Ideational meaning leads to an understanding that through language, people send messages according to their experience of the world. Butt et al. (2000:46) revealed that “language is a representative of human reality of life which depicts human experience through things, events and circumstances”. It resembles the question of who does what to whom under what circumstances. Corresponding to Alaei and Ahangari (2016), they said that “ideational meaning is a representation of experience in language”. It is supported by Lock (1996:04) saying that “experiential/ideational meaning deals with the language that is picturing the experience about world accordance to the inner world of people thoughts and feeling such as actions, feelings, and believes”. Ideational meaning are divided into three elements as its function on revealing meaning. those are process, participants and circumstances.

In this research, the researcher is going to focus on ideational meaning in Alan Walker songs to identify the meaning in the songs which represent in “Different World” Album. Deciding to observe language by ideational meaning, the researcher needs a tool to reach out the result.

Definition of Transitivity Systems

The interpretation of ideational meaning is depicted in a system called transitivity. It corresponds to Motta-Roth et al. (2009) saying that “transitivity is a representation of ideational context”. It is also presenting components to analyze the data to reach the whole results of ideational meaning. Hopper and Thomson (1980) revealed that “transitivity involves a number of components with effectiveness in which the action taking place”. Therefore, detailed analysis through transitivity system can be reached because it focusses on the use of participants, circumstances, and processes. According to Lock (1996:73) participant is the receiver or the subject who does an action on the clause, circumstances is dealing with answering the ‘how’ in the process, while process itself is telling the action.

According to Halliday in Gerot and Wignell (1994), “transitivity consists of seven components of process”. They are material (process of doing), behavioral (process of behaving), mental (process of thinking or feeling), verbal (process of saying), relational (process of being or having), existential (process of existing) and meteorological (process of weathering).

Material Process

Material process is related to the term of doing something by the participants such as walking, cooking, and etc. It is included body, physical activities, and material activities. Butt et al. (2000:50) say that material process is not only doing words but also describing actions and happening outside; material world. Moreover, its participants are called “actor” who does an actions or something and “goal” who receives the action from the actor. In addition, there are still additional participants called “beneficiary”

(participants who get the benefit from the actor) (Lock, 1996:75-76).

Behavioral Process

Behavioral process is related to the activity of behaving, such as smiling, dreaming, and breathing. It contains physiological and psychological activities. In behavioral process, the participant is a conscious being and it is such an obligation for its participant to be "behavior". Moreover, there is also a participant in behavioral process called "range" which is actually kind of providing information about the process that semantically, it is regarded to circumstances but it is used as participants (Lock, 1996:80).

Mental Process

Butt et al. (2000:51) said that "mental process is related to the inner world of consciousness. It corresponds to the activities of sensing which are grouped into three types; "affective or reactive" related to feeling, "cognitive" embedded with thinking and "perceptive" referred to five sensing perception. It is identified such as emotional, intellectual, and sensory aspects. Thus, "senser" and "phenomenon" take role as the participant. "Senser" here is definitely a conscious being who can sense five sensory aspects..

Verbal process

Verbal process lies to the experience of bringing the inner world outside by speaking (But et al., 2000:51). It is related to activity of saying something. It is distinguished into two clauses, they are "sayer" (a signal source) and "verbal process" (a signaling) as the projecting clause, while the projected clause is embedded in what is said. However, there are other participants used such as "receiver" (the one whom receives the verbalization), "target" (the one who is

addressed verbalization), and "range/verbiage" (kind of its verbalization).

Relational Process

Relational process is a process of being and having. It is used to define or value things. The process is usually realized by an auxiliary verb or a helping verb. Relational process is divided into 3 units that are discussed as following:

Butt et al. (2000:51) said that "relational process has to deal with attribute of class membership or with specific identity". In relational process, its process is classified into two which are Identifying Process and Attributive Process. Identifying process can be used to describe or identify something which the participants are "token" and "value", and the process is called "identifying". Meanwhile attributive process can be used to describe or give a label to something which the participants are "carrier" and "attribute", while the process is called "attributive".

Existential process

Existential process is a process of existence. It is used to prove a participant's existence. It is usually shown by the word "there" and its process uses was, were, and are (But et al., 2000:51). For instance: apostrophe (')s which usually shows auxiliary verb functioned as *existential* meanwhile the participant is called *existent*.

Meteorological Process

Meteorological process is a process that the participant is "It" and the process is what follows the participants. The 'it' has no representational function, but does provide a subject. These are analysed as process: meteorological.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

This study used qualitative research design and it was undertaken by transitivity analysis. Cresswell (2009:176) defines “a qualitative research is a form of interpretive inquiry in which the researchers make interpretations of what they see, hear, and understand. The interpretations were based on the researchers’ backgrounds, history, context, and their prior knowledge”.

Eggins (2004:214) reveals “the transitivity analysis consist of analyzing participants, processes, and circumstances”. In this study, the transitivity analysis focused on the ideational meaning of the song lyrics by Alan Walker .

Data Source

The data were taken from the album “Different World” by Alan Walker. There were 3 songs that had been selected in this research: Lily, Faded, and Alone. The song lyrics were taken in text from LyricFind.

Technique of Data Analysis

The researcher will do following technique of analyzing data:

1. Collecting the data of Alan Walker song lyrics in “Different World” album.
2. Analyzing the elements of transitivity found in the song lyrics by Alan Walker
3. Finding the elements of transitivity found in the song lyrics by Alan Walker and then classifying the elements of transitivity found in the song lyrics by Alan Walker
4. Finding the message in the the song lyrics by Alan Walker

5. Drawing the conclusion based on the finding of the elements of transitivity found in the song lyrics by Alan Walker

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the data, the researcher found some lyric which taken from the song lyrics “Lily, faded, and alone” in Alan walker’s Different album shows the element of transitivity process. It can be proven by following explanation below:

Elements of transitivity are found in the song lyrics by Alan Walker

Material Process

Material Processes are processes of material doing. They express the nation that same entity physically does something which may be done to some other entity. So clauses with a material process obligatorily have a doing (process) and a doer (participant).

Data 1 : She tried to run

She	tried to run
Participant: Actor	Process : material

In the table above, material process elements are found on the clause. Material process is describing actions and happening outside. In material process, participants are called “actor”. Actor is the entity who or which does something. In this sentence, The word “She” is the actor. Meanwhile, the word “tried to run” describe physical-doing of the actor “She”.

Data 2: She went in the woods away

The clause in the table above indicates material process. In this clause, The word “went” describe physical-doing of the actor “She”. The circumstance is

marked by “in the woods away”. The circumstance tells where actor do the process, so it is classified as circumstance of place.

Data 3 : Something came creeping

Something	came creeping
Participant: Actor	Process : material

The clause in the table above shows material process. In this clause, The word “Something” is the actor and the word “came creeping” describe physical-doing of the actor “Something”.

Data 4 : She ran faster and start screaming

She	ran faster	and	Start screaming
Participant: Actor	Process : material		Relational : Attribute
5a			5b

In the table above, there are two clauses which show material process and relational process.

Data 5 : I’m letting go

I	’m letting go
Participant: Actor	Process : material

The clause in the table above indicates material process. Material process is representing actions and happening outside. In material process, participants are called “actor”. Actor is the entity who or which does something. In this clause, The word “I” is the actor. Material process

is marked by “letting go” which describe

She	Went	in the woods away
Participant: Actor	Process : Material	Circumstance: Place

physical-doing of the actor “I”.

Data 6: You set my heart on fire

You	Set	My heart on fire
Participant: Actor	Process : material	A goal

The clause in the table above shows Material process. In this lyrics, The word “You” is the actor. Material process is marked by “set” which describe physical-doing of the actor “I”. This action is done to a goal which is marked by “my heart on fire”.

Mental Process

There are three types of menta process: affective or reactive (feeling, liking, loving, fearing, and hating), cognitive (thinking, knowing, and understanding), and perceptive (perceiving through the five senses)

Data 7 : She knew she was hypnotized

She	Knew	she	was	Hypnotized
Sen ser	Menta l: Cogni tive	Carr ier	Attribu tive: intensi ve	Attribu te
7a			7b	

In the table above, there are two clauses which shows mental process and relational process elements. The first clause indicates Mental Process. Mental process is

encoded by the word “knew” which indicates the senser’s knowing (cognitive). In this clause, Senser is “she” who knows something happen to herself. The second clause shows Relational process. Relational process is encoded by the word “was” which indicates as attributive: intensive. Attribute is marked by the word “hypnotized” which describe the condition of the subject “She” as Carrier.

Data 8 : She can hear it says “Follow everywhere I go”

She	Can hear	It	Says	“Follow everywhere I go”
Senser	Mental: Perceptive	Sayer	Verbal	Material

8a

8b

In the table above, there are two clauses which mental process and verbal process are found on the clauses.

Data 9 : Everything you want in gold

You	Want	In gold
Senser	Mental: affect	Phenomenon

In the table above, mental process elements are found on the clause. Mental process is encoded by the word “want” which indicates the senser’s wanting (affect). In this clause, Senser is “You” who wanting everything in gold.

Data 10 : I wanna know

I	Wanna know
Senser	Mental: Cognitive

In the clause above, Mental process elements are found on the clause. Mental process is encoded by the word “know” which indicates the senser’s knowing

(cognitive). In this clause, Senser is “I” who want to know something.

Data 11: Did you feel us?

Did	You	Feel	Us
	Senser	Mental: Perceptive	Phenomenon

In the table above, mental process elements are found on the clause. Mental process is encoded by the word “feel” which indicates the senser’s perceiving (perceptive). In this clause, who has role as Senser is “you”, and what is being sensed here is called phenomenon. Phenomenon on the sentence above is “us”.

Data 12: (I) afraid our aim is out of sight

(I)	Afraid	Our aim	Is	out of sight
Senser	Mental: affect	Carrier	Attributive: Intensive	Attribute

14a

14b

In the table above, there are two clauses which mental processes and relational processes elements are found on the clauses.

Data 13: (It) wanna see us

(It)	wanna see	Us
Senser	Mental: cognitive	Phenomenon

In the table above, mental process elements are found on the clause. Mental process is encoded by the word “see” which indicates the senser’s seeing

(cognitive). Here, who has role as Senser is "it", and what is being sensed here is any idea called phenomenon. Phenomenon on the sentence above is "us".

3. Behavioural process

Behavioural processes are processes of physiological and psychological behaviour, like breathing, dreaming, snoring, smiling, hiccupping, looking, watching, listening, and pandering. There is one obligatory participant: the behavior.

Data 14 : I'm breathing

I	'm breathing
Behaver	Behavioural

In the table above, behavioural process elements are found on the clause. the participant in behavioural process called behavior. In this sentence, The word "I" is behavior. Meanwhile, the word "breathing" describe psychological behaviour of the behavior "I".

4 Verbal Process

Verbal Processes are processes of saying, or more accurately, of symbolically signally. Very often these are realized by two distinct clauses: the projecting clause encodes signal source (sayer) and a signalling (verbal process) and the other (projected clauses).

Data 15: They warned her

They	Warned	Her
Sayer	Verbal	Receiver

In the table above, verbal process elements are found on the clause. Verbal process is marked by word "warned" which shows activity of saying. Therefore, the word "they" has a role as sayer who is doing verbal activity. The one to whom the

verballitation is addressed called receiver. Here, the word "her" is receiver who receive a warning from subject "they".

Data 16 : It told her

It	Told	Her
Sayer	Verbal	receiver

In the table above, verbal process elements are found on the clause. Verbal process is marked by word "told" which shows activity of telling. Therefore, the word "they" has a role as sayer who is doing verbal activity. The one to whom the verballitation is addressed called receiver. Here, the word "her" is receiver who receive telling from subject "it".

5. Relational Process

Relational process involve states of being (including having). This process establish an identity are called identifying process and process which assign a quality are called attributive process.

Data 17 : Lily was a little girl

Lily	Was	A little girl
Carrier	Attributive: Intensive	Attribute

The clause in the table above indicates Relational process. Relational process in this clause is marked by word "was" which shows a process of being as attributive. In this sentence, the word "a little girl" is attributive which describe subject "Lily" as Carrier.

Data 18 : She grew up within her castle walls

She	Grew up	Within her castle walls
-----	---------	-------------------------

Carrier	Attributive : intensive	Attribute
----------------	------------------------------------	------------------

The clause in the table above indicates relational process. It is showed by word "grew up" which shows a process of being as attributive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "within he castle walls" which describe the condition of the subject "She" as Carrier.

Data 19 : I'll be the magic story

I	'll be	The magic story
Token	Identifying	Value

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "'ll be" which shows a process of being as identifying. In this clause, Value is marked by word "the magic story" which represent the identity of the subject "I" as token.

Data 20 : You'll be safe under my control

You	'll be	Safe under my control
Carrier	Attributive: intensive	Attribute

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "'ll be" which shows a process of being as attributive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "safe under my control" which describe the condition of the subject "You" as Carrier.

Data 21: I'm wide awake

I	'm	wide awake
---	----	------------

Carrier	Attributive: intensive	Attribute
----------------	-----------------------------------	------------------

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "'am" which shows a process of being as attributive:intensive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "wide awake" which describe the condition of the subject "I" as Carrier.

Data 22: You were the shadow to my light

You	Were	The shadow to my light
Token	Ident: intens	Value

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "'were" which shows a process of being as identifying. In this sentence, Value is marked by word "the shadow to my light" which represent the identity of the subject "you" as token.

Data 23: You fade away

You	Fade away	Away
Carrier	Attributive: intensive	Attribute

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is showed by word "'fade" which shows a process of being as attributive:intensive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "away" which describe the condition of the subject "You" as Carrier.

Data 24: The monster is running wild inside of me

The monster	Is	Running inside of me
Carrier	Attributive: intensive	Attribute

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "is" which shows a process of being as attributive:intensive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "running inside of me" which describe the condition of the carrier "the monster" as Carrier.

Data 25 : These shallow waters never met what I needed

These shallow waters	never met	what I needed
Carrier	Attributive: intensive	Attribute

In the table above, relational process elements are found on the clause. Relational process is marked by word "never met" which shows a process of being as attributive:intensive. In this sentence, attribute is marked by "what I needed" which describe the quality of the carrier "these shallow waters" as Carrier.

6. Existential process

This process is represented by something exist. Existential clauses typically have the verb *be*. The entity or event which is being said to exist is labelled, simply, "Existent".

Data 29 : There's creatures who are hiding in the dark

There are two classes which existential and relational are found on the clauses. In The first clause, Existential processes are found on the clause which is shown by the word "is" which is a process of existing. It is representing something that exist or happen. It talks about the existence of "creatures" who are hiding in the dark. The second clause is Relational processes. Relational process in this clause is marked by word "are".

CONCLUSION

After analyzed and discussed this research, the researcher drew some conclusions of the research.

1. Based on the analysis, the meaning of Alan Walker's songs based on ideational meaning can be seen through the way Alan Walker put the elements of processes in the songs. The researcher conclude the most dominant process is relational process that has the highest number. It means that ideational meaning in the song lyrics by Alan walker in concern on process of being or having which describe the relation between things that he has experienced in his relationship.
2. Based on the analysis, there was found that the kinds of transitivity are mostly used in song lyrics by Alan Walker are *relational process* which consist of Attributive and Identifying. There are 16 data using relational process. After that *mental process* which consist of three types: Affective (feeling), cognitive (thinking) and perceptive (perceiving through the five senses). The researcher found 8 data for mental process and *material process*. Then verbal process are found 3 data. The last, 1 data for existential and behavioural process.

BLIBIOGRAPHY

- Alaei, M., & Ahangari, S. (2016). A Study of Ideational Metafunction in Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness": A Critical Discourse Analysis. *English Language Teaching*, 9(4), 203–213.
- Butt, D., Fahey, R., Feez, S., Spinks, S., & Yallop, C. (2003). *Using functional grammar: An explorer's guide*.
- Creswell, J. W. (2009). *Mapping the field of mixed methods research*. SAGE publications Sage CA: Los Angeles, CA.
- Dallin, R. (1994). Approaches to communication through music. *David Foulton Publishers Online at: <http://www.southdowns.nhs.uk/index.cfm?request=c2007985>*.
- Eggins, S. (2004). *Introduction to systemic functional linguistics*. A&c Black.
- Gerot, L., & Wignell, P. (1994). *Making sense of functional grammar: An introductory workbook*. Antipodean Educational Enterprises Queensland.
- Hopper, P. J., & Thompson, S. A. (1980). Transitivity in grammar and discourse. *Language*, 251–299.
- Halliday, M. A. K. (1994). *1994 An Introduction to Functional Grammar (London: Arnold*.
- Halliday, M. A. K., Matthiessen, C. M. I. M., Halliday, M., & Matthiessen, C. (2014). An Introduction to Functional Grammar. In *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203783771>
- Lock, G. (1996). *Functional English grammar: An introduction for second language teachers*. Cambridge University Press.
- Motta-Roth, D., & NASCIMENTO, F. S. (2009). Transitivity in visual grammar: concepts and applications. *Linguagem & Ensino*, 12(2), 319–349.