

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Language consist of words that express the thoughts, emotions, and ideas of its speakers. It acts as the main tool for communication among people. Each language offers its own perspective on how the world operates, reflecting the perspective of its speakers. In Indonesia itself, there are 746 regional languages and dialects that are widely spoken throughout the country (Amalia, 2016). Through both spoken and written forms, people use language to share messages and information, whether directly or indirectly.

Nowadays, people can easily gather information from various sources. For instance, in online media newspaper contain a wealth of information that is accessible to everyone. News, as a specific type of media text, captures people's interest. One of media that has such a strong influence to shape public knowledge of the information is newspaper (Fairclough, 1995). Numerous online media platforms, such as BBC News, CNN, The Guardian, and the Wall Street Journal, provide updated news on both domestic and global events through their websites. Meanwhile, as nowadays, power and ideology have been closely related to mass media, a newspaper is considered as one of the strongest media spread out the news which also influences public perception (Pekkarinen, 2016; Evayani & Rido, 2019). Newspaper actively influence public perception through the use of language that is the language used by journalists is possibly purposively taken

with respect to achieving certain purpose, which is either to support or marginalize certain people, groups, or ideology (Evayani & Rido, 2019). On the other hand, the media create representations as key practices for generating shared meaning (Hall, 1997). Representation is a means to investigate something that can be seen through language, voice, and actions produced related to particular condition or issue (Sari & Pranoto, 2019). Representation encourages society to view issues or condition from alternative perspective. In this context, linguists have focused on uncovering people or institutions are portrayed through the media's strategic use of language. Moreover, it is believed that newspapers present news from their own perspective, as everything spoken or written in the world originates from an ideological standpoint or value perspective, even though they occasionally claim to be impartial (Chen, 2016; Risdaneva, 2018).

The issue about the holding of military drills carried out by China in the Taiwan Strait were reported by several international media. Then, one of them is from America, namely The Guardian and BBC News, while from China's point of view there is the South China Morning Post. The difference in point of view in viewing an event between the two parties becomes interesting, the use of language and conflicting points of view is important to study using a linguistic approach. The Guardian (2022) China has completed an unprecedented four-day exercise that showcased Beijing's growing military, following a controversial visit to the democracy island last week by US House speaker Nancy Pelosi. BBC News (2022) on the other hand present that Taiwan accuses China of using this exercise as a rehearsal for its invasion of the island. Taiwan's foreign minister, Joseph Wu, accused China on Tuesday of using military drills to prepare for an invasion.

Different from these to media, South China Morning Post (2022) China has a different point of view, namely that the exercises carried out by the Chinese military are only limited to actions to defend China's sovereignty from the power of the American State which sided with Taiwan which considers it as a sovereign country, while based on China, the territory of Taiwan is still included in the province of the Republic of Indonesia. South China Morning Post (2022) Shen also said patrols by multiple types of warplanes around Taiwan had improved the PLA's ability to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The use of language by online media from the different countries which have different purposes. It is necessary to determine what is contained inside the text and how it was created by taking into account grammatical and other factors (Kuswoyo & Rido, 2019; Suprayogi & Pranoto, 2019). Therefore, this aspect is important to study in linguistic studies because in contextual analysis it will describe or characterize language in the form of words and rhetoric, namely how words are arranged to achieve a goal. Hence, this research necessary to reveal how China represented by reputable media in the UK that is BBC News regarding to the issue China halt military drills around Taiwan using a critical discourse study perspective. In this research the researcher uses the news from BBC News as the data of the research. BBC News is presented in English as a site that focuses on providing international news. The reason why the reseacher selected BBC News because it is the top online news in the UK. BBC News is influential in how it represent information that impacts to the readers in news articles. Based on the a description of the importance of discussing the contextual analysis in online media regarding world political information as the object of research regarding the

China and Taiwan conflict, previous research, this study attempts to give the reader a general understanding of the various strategies journalists adopt when utilizing language and expression in writings to represent specific people, groups of people, or ideologies. Therefore, the researcher will conduct a study entitled “Representation of China on BBC News Online in the issue of military drills around Taiwan”.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the research background above, the research problem as follows:

- How is the representation of China on BBC News Online In the Issue of Military Drills around Taiwan?

1.3 Research Objectives

By employing critical discourse analysis, the objective of this research is to reveal how the BBC News portrays the China government in the issue of military drills around Taiwan.

1.4 The Use of the Study

1.4.1 Practical Use

Conducting a Discourse Analysis of contextual analysis because this research is about finding the China government’s representation through the language used in the selected news. First, it is expected that students can use this research as a real-world example of how the BBC News plays an important role in conveying various information that influences the readers through news. Second,

through the dissemination of the research findings, readers can develop a greater sense of critical awareness of tactics employed by journalists to portray specific individuals, groups or ideologies through their choice of language and expressions in written texts.

1.4.2 Theoretical Use

This research is expected to contribute theoretical significance. Theoretically, this study applies the theory of critical discourse analysis in revealing the issue China halts military drills around Taiwan on news using the framework of Fairclough., because this research is about finding contextual dimension in news representation.

1.5 Scope of Study

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method to analyse how China's government is represented in BBC News in the issue of Military Drills around Taiwan. The research is limited by the three-dimensional model developed by Norman Fairclough, and the textual analysis is the only area of the analysis which comprises the analysis of modality, active and passive voice, and nominalization. The data and the object of this research were text related to the China government as represented in BBC News in the issue of Military Drills Around Taiwan from the BCC News online newspaper's articles. The researcher decides to take some news from the BBC News online media in areas with the issue of China halt military drills around Taiwan to collect the data. The source of the data is visiting the website BBC News online media.