

## **The Mood And Modality In The Second Presidential Debate Between Donald Trump Vs Hillary Clinton**

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### **Abstract**

*This study analyzed the mood and modalities in Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speech. The objectives of this study were to find out the types mood and modality occur in transcript of the second presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. This research applied descriptive qualitative research. The data were taken from the transcript of debate. The data source is taken mood and modality appearing in each clause in transcript debate. It data of the research were of sentence contain mood and modality. The findings are showed 237 clauses used modalities and 23 clauses used mood. In the study, there are four types of modalities (47.2% probability, 16.5% usuality, 34.6% Obligation and 1.7% inclination). And there are three types of mood (8.7% Imperative mood, 56.5% Declarative mood, 34.8% Interrogative mood). From this research, the suggestion is for English learners to study and understand mood and modality in order to avoid misunderstanding between English users. Next, teachers should introduce and explain mood and modality as clearly as possible because mood and modality are always used in producing utterance and composition. And the next for research, hopefully there is an analysis about modality taken from other source and analyzing mood and modality. The most dominant types of mood and modalities found in Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speech is probability (47.2%), and Declarative mood (56,5%).*

**Keywords:** *Modality, debate, mood, systemic functional linguistics.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Modality is perspective, consideration of uncertainly things, personal opinion that could be expressed in the meaning of clause mainly in the speech delivered. In modality, theory Halliday(1994) states that to obtain 'yes' and 'no' could expressed in order account to distinction between proposition and proposals. The concept of modality is language to expressed attitude or express thought in utterance in which the expression can be delivered in communication such as in debate, in speech, etc. Moreover, modality is as the speaker's judgment, or request of the judgment of the listener, on the status of what is being said (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004:13).

Mood and Modality cannot be separated from another live in producing text, either written or spoken text. Mood and structures indicate how speakers and listeners, and writers and readers, use language for expressing themselves in verbal exchanges. Modality means a speaker's judgment of the probabilities, or the obligation involved in what he is saying (Halliday, 1994). In harmony with Halliday, Fairclough (2003) sees that modality has to do with commitment which covers the speaker's judgment and attitude in presenting his ideas and messages in text. Therefore, modality choices in texts can be seen as part of the process of texturing self-identify. In addition, who you are is a matter of how you relate to the world and to other people.

In accepting or refusing information or goods and services in an interaction, interactants do not constantly say 'yes' or 'no'. There is a space lying between 'yes' and 'no', known as modality (eggins). Through modality with the two grammatical subsystems of Modalization and modulation, we can know how interpersonal meaning are made, along with the interpersonal relationship of the interactants which realized by modalization and modulation.

The study concerns about mood and modality. It is intended to study the meaning of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speech by using modality theory. By analyzing that it can be interpreted the meaning of modality used by Donald trump and Hillary Clinton into category of modalities. Therefore, the perspective or personal opinion found in the speech can be proved the real meaning of modality based on the category of modalities. Because of through modality the speaker can influence listener of what is said. The relationship between speaker and listener in communication will succeed because of playing a role of paying attention toward the using of proposition and proposal found in indirectly establish modalities. So many people and students at University of Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara didn't understand about the use of modality in a sentence and the students hard to understand the speech delivered by the candidate presidential debate. The researcher also intends to make students and listener understand the mood and modality, because a lot of students and listeners don't realize or know about the modalities in the speech of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Hence, modality is also important to be analyzed.

The researcher intends to find out the types and values of mood and modalities. In addition, obtain the most dominant type and value of modalities. From modality is obtainable express of speaker's attitude towards about situation, condition or others to detect the meaning for the listener used in interpretation of the meaning of probable, usuality, supposed and willing to. Mostly, the modality is used in daily conversation unconsciously. So, modality is important part of clause exchange to be analyzed in order to know how modality impacts the meaning of language. For this research, the writer analyses modalities in debate of the second U.S presidential debate in Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speech. To the reason why the writer is interested in Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speech using modality due to the writer finds outs some clauses consists of modalities used in different types and value each of sentence. The presidential debate was conducted before the U.S. Presidential Election Day.

The presidential elections of United States of America was conducted on Tuesday, November 08th, 2016. The debate was performed by two parties. The nominee of the both of by Donald Trump from Republic party and Hillary Clinton from Democratic party. In Presidential debate, the nominees have to express their idea with using their own language. Using language in presidential debate is the right way into convincing audiences because candidate will be voted through what they said in candidate statement. Mostly, the candidate

in political debate uses the term of politics language. Language plays important role to in political debate because Halliday identifies in one of metafunction such interpersonal function found in using of language establish, negotiate and assume

their position in social relationship. So it is concerned with clauses as exchange. There was one key system involved in interpersonal meaning namely as the system of "mood choice". Those elements of mood meanings about how the interaction is being organized, and the writer or speaker's attitude towards the interaction (Egins, 2004: 225).

In this study, the researcher focuses in analyzing clauses consist of mood and modalities based on types and also writer focuses in analyzing the most dominant types of mood and modality. The result of this study can help the reader in understanding about the use mood and modalities such as in speech of debate. The writer need to do this research in order to find out how mood and modality constructed through language in order to become better speech as used in Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton speaker in the second U.S presidential debate.

## 2. METHOD

This research were applied descriptive qualitative method. It means the study, specifically, textual analysis is performed with the aim of analyzing the expression of modality and evaluation in a speech. Creswell (2008) states, Qualitative researcher is a type of educational research in which the researcher relies on the views of participants, asks broad, general question: collects data consisting largely of words (or text) from participants, describes and analyzes these words for theme, and conducts the inquiry in a subjective, biased manner.

The Data were using some steps according to Creswell as follows:

1. Reading the script of presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.
2. Identifying types of mood and modality.
3. Counting the percentage of modality. The percentage of identification types of modality is obtained by applying the formula:  $N = \frac{X}{Y} \times 100\%$  X = the amount of types of mood and modality obtained Y = total amount of mood and modality. N = the percentage of each types of modality.
4. Showing the meaning of the dominant type of modality used in Presidential debate Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.
5. Concluding the result of the study.

## 3. FINDINGS

The data were gathered from the transcript of Second Presidential Debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. The transcript is the second edition on October 10th, 2016. From the data obtained by analyzing the transcript debate there are 237 clause of modalities and 23 clause of mood.

Since this study deals with mood and modality in exchanging experience in a presidential debate, the mood and modality analyzed were those used by both the candidate president.

There are mainly two types of modality, they are Modalization and Modulation. Modalization is a part of modality which associates with proposition, which emerges in information exchanging. Modulation is the other part of modality which associates with proposal, which emerges in goods and services exchanging. It is a way for speaker to express his/her judgment or attitude about actions and events.

Both Modalization and Modulation have two subcategories. The subcategories of Modalization are Probability and Usuality, while the subcategories of Modulation are Obligation and Inclination.

Having analyzed the data, it was found that modalization (probability, usuality) and Modulation (Obligation, inclination) Mood (imperative, declarative, and introgative) in the Second Presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. It is proved by the evidences of similar characteristic of types mood and modality which were found in the

transcript debate. The following are some representation of the analysis of the clause in the second presidential debate using mood and modality.

**MOOD**

**Imperative Mood**

We are going to respect one another

We	are	going to	respect	one	another
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement		
Mood		Residue			

We will come together in this campaign

We	will	come	together	in this campaign	
Subject	finite	predicator	adjunct	complement	
mood		Residue			

**Declarative Mood**

I have tremendous respect for women

I	have	tremendous	respect	for women	
Subject	Finite	Predicator		Complement	
Mood		Residue			

We have The best education

We	have	The best	education		
Subject	finite				
Mood			Residue		

I have been a Politican

I	have	been	a Politican		
Subject	finite	predicator	Complement		
Mood		residue			

We have right now almost \$20 Trillion in debt

We	have	right	now	almost	\$20 Trillion	in debt
Subject	Finite	predicator	Adjunct		complement	
Mood		Residue				

We have enough problems in this country

We	have	enough	problems	in this country
Subject	finite	Adjunct	predicator	complement
Mood		residue		

She will always allow it

she	will	always	allow it
subject	finite	Adjunct	predicator
Mood		Residue	

They had a chance

They	had	a chance
Subject	Finite	complement
Mood		Residue

She has a place in our country

She	has	a place	in our country
Subject	Finite	Adjunct	Complement
Mood		Residue	

He is never apologized for

He	is	never	apologized for
Subject	Finite	Adjunct	Complement
Mood		Residue	

He is supporting me 100 percent

He	is	supporting me	100 percent
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue	

We have to make it possible

We	have to	make it	possible
Subject	Finite	predicator	adjunct

Mood	Residue
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I have a comprehensive energy policy

I	have	a comprehensive energy policy
Subject	Finite	complement
Mood		Residue

I will say this about Hillary

I	will	say this about Hillary
Subject	Finite	Complement
Mood		Residue

**Interrogative Mood**

Why should we cooperate with The Americans?

Why	should	we	Cooperate with	The Americans?
Wh-complement	Finite	Subject	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue		

What we can together?

What	we	can	together?
Wh-Complement	Subject	Finite	Adjunct
Mood		Residue	

Are you a teacher?

Are	you	a teacher?
Finite	Subject	Complement
Mood		Residue

Who is a wonderful women?

Who	is	a wonderful	women?
Wh-Complement	Finite	Complement	Subject
Mood		Mood	

Why aren't you bringing up the email?

Why	aren't	you	bringing up the email?
Wh-Complement	Finite	Subject	Complement
Residue	Mood		

Why don't you interrupt her?

Why	don't	you	interrupt her?
Wh-Complement	Finite	Subject	
Residue	Mood		

Why can't they do it quickly?

Why	can't	they	do it quickly?
Wh-Complement	Finite	Subject	Complement
Residue	Mood		

How stupid is our country?

How	stupid	is	our	country?
Wh-Complement	Predicator	Finite	Subject	Complement
Residue	Mood			

## MODALITY

### Modalization Probability

I hope by the time I am president that we **will** have pushed ISIS out of Iraq.

we	will	have	pushed	ISIS	out	of	Iraq
	Finite: modalization probability						

|

in the clause, the word “will” attach the value of uncertainly. It is similarwith the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.  
 And honestly, you **ought to** be ashamed

And	honestly	you	Ought to	be ashamed
			Finite: modalization probability	

In the clause, the word “Ought to” attach the value of uncertainly. It issimilar with the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

**Certainly** I’m not proud of it

Certainly	I’m	not	proud	of	it
Modal Adjunct: modalization probability					

In the clause, the word “certainly” attach the value of certainly. It issimilar with the characteristic of probability.

a. I **would** not have had our people in Iraq

I	would	not	have	had	our	people	in	Iraq
	Finite: modalization probability							

In the clause, the word “would” attach the value of certainly. It is similarwith the characteristic of probability.

I **will** do everything

I	will	do	everything
	Finite: modalization probability		

In the clause, the words “will” and “can” attach the value of uncertainly. Itis similar with the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

I **can’t** believe I’m saying that about myself

I	Can’t	believe	I’m	saying	that	about	my self
	Finite: modalization probability						



In the clause, the word “Can’t” attach the value of uncertainly. It is similarwith the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

In every way **possible**

In	every	way	possible
			Modal Adjunct: modalization probability

In the clause, the word “possible” attach the value of uncertainly. It issimilar with the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

b. **Obviously**, as secretary of state

Obviously	as	secretary	of	state
Finite: modalization probability				

In the clause, the word “Obviously” attach the value of uncertainly. It issimilar with the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

c. which **has to** be the highest priority of the next president

which	has to	be	the	highest	priority	of	the next	president
	Finite: modalization probability							

In the clause, the word “has to” attach the value of uncertainly. It is similarwith the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

It’s catastrophic in **certain** ways

It’s	catastrophic	in	certain	ways
Modal Adjunct: modalization probability				

In the clause, the word “certain” attach the value of uncertainly. It issimilar with the characteristic of probability which shows uncertainly.

We **might** come up with a different system.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Having analyzed the data in the previous chapter, some conclusions are drawn as follow:

1. In the second presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, types of mood and modality used by the candidate is (Imperative Mood 2 clause, Declarative Mood 13 clause, and Interrogative Mood 8 clause) and Modalization (Probability 112 clause, Usuality 39 clause) while types of Modality expressed by the candidate is Modulation (Obligation 82 clause, Inclination 4 clause).
2. Modality is proved to be the dominant used by both the candidate in Second Presidential Debate. There are 237 clause used modality.

3. Declarative Mood is proved to be the dominant type of Mood used by both the candidate in Second Presidential Debate. There are 13 clause used mood.
4. Probability is Proved to be the dominant type of Modality used by both the candidate in Second Presidential Debate. There are 112 clause used modality.

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