

## **Chapter II**

### **Literature Review**

The theoretical foundation outlined in the previous chapter provides a comprehensive understanding of the linguistic and journalistic principles that underpin the construction of political news leads. The discussion on language, its functions, and the role of linguistics in journalism serves as a critical framework for analyzing how news leads are structured to capture audience attention and convey essential information.

#### **2.1 Previous Research**

| No | Research Title   | Researcher, Year of Publication  | Findings  |
|----|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Analysis of the Use of Active and Passive Sentences in Political News on the Online Media Tempo.co | Purnamasari,D. (2019).           | This study analyzes the comparison between active and passive sentences in political news. The results show that active sentences are more dominant in indicating the clarity of the perpetrator of the action. |
| 2. | An Analysis of Active and Passive Voices in News Leads in Jakarta Post Articles                    | Santoso, A. & Lestari, N. (2021) | This study focuses on identifying the types of active and passive sentences used in news leads of English articles from the Jakarta Post.   |
| 3. | Struktur Kalimat dalam Lead Berita pada Harian Kompas  | Ariyanto, T. (2020).             | This study examines the syntactic structure lead section of the Kompas Daily, including the use of SPOK, conjunctions, and phrases.   |

#### **2.2 Journalism**

Journalism, according to KBBI, the work of collecting, writing, editing, and publishing news in newspapers and so on; journalism; According to Hodgins in Suhandang (2016:11) Journalism is the delivery of information, from one place to another. This information is sent correctly, thoroughly and quickly in order to defend the truth and fairness of thought which can always be proven.

Journalism has the principle that only information that has news value will be displayed because the mass media has selectivity in presenting information to the public. The mass media has full authority to decide what will be reported, covered, highlighted and what should be discarded, hidden from the public (Nugroho, 1999:21).

The intricacies of delivering messages or ideas to the public or mass through organized communication media like newspapers/magazines (print media), radio, television, the internet (electronic media), and film (news-reel) can be interpreted as journalism. Journalism is actually the study of the mass communication process, including message analysis, methodology, media research, audience, message delivery, management, business management, industry, message dissemination, and study of effect, among other things.

According to Barnhurst and Lewis (2019) argue, journalism's claim to social distinction came through its "close alliance with political life," insofar as early publishing, frequently linked to parties and partisanship, was often conducted under government control or in opposition to it. Journalism thus emerged "at the nexus of negotiating boundaries to demarcate private life, civil society (or the market), and the state from each other"-leading, for example, to notions of journalism's interstitial role in facilitating a public sphere, a domain apart from government yet maintained in public where debates about civic life could occur.

Finally, they suggest that by the nineteenth century, with the growth of literacy, nationalism, and government information systems such as the post, and with the industrialization of newspapers as key drivers of economic activity, the term "journalism" came to refer to the group of occupations engaged in crafting

and circulating news-with journalists, in particular, becoming "chief among workers" for their visible role as reporters and writers (and, later, broadcasters).

### **2.3 News**

News is information that conveys current or current events, examples of news texts are generally compiled by a journalist or journalist. The contents of this text are facts obtained directly from the field or sources from journalists, so that it can be ensured that the contents of this news text are facts that can be trusted.

According to (Sumadiria, 2006:186), universally, news is written using reporting techniques referring to the inverted pyramid pattern and referring to the 5W+1H formula.

Meanwhile Zaenudin, (2011:22) stated that apart from having to fulfill the requirements of the 5W+1H formula, good news must fulfill the requirements of the news writing structure. News is the latest media report about facts or opinions that are important or interesting to readers and are disseminated through mass media (Muslimin, 2021:40).

Writing a headline in a news must use language that is easy to understand, clear and unambiguous, The use of abbreviations can be applied in the writing of the title, but the abbreviations used abbreviations are those that are commonly used and understood by the readers.

(Romli:170) in his book Practical Journalism for Beginners mentions four news values, namely:

1. Fast, namely actual or timely. News is something new (New).
2. Real, namely information about a fact consisting of real events, opinions, and statements from sources.
3. Important, namely concerning the interests of many people.
4. Interesting, namely inviting people to read the news that is written.

## 2.4 Lead

The news lead is the first paragraph of the news script. Lead is the most important as well as the "hardest" part in news writing techniques. The news lead is a part of the composition of the news, namely after the news title (head) and news writer (by line) or date line (dateline), and before the news body (news body). Bond in RN (2018:54),

According to Chaer (2010:127) a lead, which has the same function as an intro in music, is also called a teaser, because in essence the first part of a piece of writing is no different from a teaser to make the reader interested in continuing to read it.

Summarizing the news in the opening paragraph or lead does have some practical advantages, but the part of making the lead is the most difficult part of writing news, the role of the news lead is like a shop window, in the window are displayed items that can be purchased. The display window basically aims to lure potential buyers to enter the shop, as well as the contents of a news, the lead must promise the reader about the opening of the continuation of the writing ( Hikmat, 2014: 127).

"The lead or news terrace or intro in news is a sentence or a number of first sentences in a news item which is intended to attract interest so that the audience (viewers, listeners, readers) follow the news." Tebba (2005:96),

According to Mohamad (2007:2) that leads have two purposes:

1. Attracts the reader to follow the story.
2. Paved the way for the storyline.

With the two purposes of the lead, to attract the reader to follow the news is to have a lead as a news opener, so that readers know in advance what is being discussed in the news. The lead is also a storyline opener in a news story, with a lead, the reader has an idea in advance about the news being discussed.

Although there is no formula that can be applied that guarantees the creation of a good and interesting lead, there is another way that can be taken,

namely by following the recommendation that the lead, in addition to containing the 5 W + 1 H elements, must also have a punch.

This means making the reader feel like they have been punched. The reader becomes flabbergasted, shocked, and feels empathy. So use simple but effective sentences.

Make the entire lead and the entire content of the news like talking. This means that when someone reads the news, it is as if we are listening to someone telling a story because the news is so interesting and the words are clear. A lead consists of 30-45 words at most. People will better understand and quickly grasp short and simple declarative sentences. The simpler a sentence is, the better. To make it short and simple, avoid starting a lead sentence with an adverbial sentence and a subordinate clause (Budyatna, 2009:130-131).

#### **2.4.1 Scanlan's Theory on News Leads**

In the world of journalism, writing a lead or news story is the most vital element in conveying information to the public. The lead functions as an opening for the news that aims to attract the attention of readers while providing an initial overview of the core of the news being conveyed. One figure who specifically discusses lead typology systematically is Chip Scanlan, a writer and senior journalism trainer at the Poynter Institute, a renowned journalism education institution based in the United States.

In his guide article entitled "Writing the News: A Guide for Print Journalists" Scanlan ( 2001:1-9), he classifies leads based on the basic elements of news which are often referred to as 5W + 1H (Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How). This classification aims to help journalists determine the best point of view to open the news, depending on which element is most prominent or has the highest news value.

### **1. Who Lead**

Who lead is used when the main figure or subject in the news is considered to have high news value. Usually, the figure is a public figure, government official, community leader, celebrity, or group that is relevant to the issue being reported. According to Scanlan, this lead is suitable if the reader already knows the figure or if the figure's actions have a significant impact on the public.

Example: *"President Joko Widodo inaugurated the new railway line in Central Java yesterday."*

The focus is on the perpetrator, so this type of lead is most appropriate to use when the perpetrator is the key to the news.

### **2. What Lead**

This lead highlights what happened, and is very suitable when the event or incident itself is more important than who was involved. This lead is usually used to report new policies, natural disasters, regulations, survey results, or other major events that have a wide impact.

Example: *"A 6.2 magnitude earthquake struck West Java, causing panic among residents."*

According to Scanlan, this lead helps the audience immediately understand the gist of the event from the start.

### **3. When Lead**

This lead focuses on the time of the incident. This type is less common than the others, and should only be used if the time is the most important or surprising element in the news, such as a midnight launch, or an event on a big day.

Example: *"At midnight, the parliament passed the controversial labor law."*

Scanlan emphasizes that time should only be placed at the beginning if it has high news value.

#### **4. Where Lead**

Where lead is used when the place or location of the event is the most significant element. Usually this is used when the event occurs in an unusual, symbolic, or geopolitically sensitive location.

Example: *“In the heart of Papua’s highlands, a new school was opened by volunteers.”*

Place is key to understanding the context in the news, especially if it is related to geography, conflict, or local culture.

#### **5. Why Lead**

This lead functions to explain the reasons or causes behind an event. Usually used in in-depth reports, analysis, or feature writing. According to Scanlan, this type of lead is ideal for readers who already have background information and want to know more about “why” something happens.

Example: *“Because of rising fuel prices, fishermen in North Sulawesi have stopped going to sea.”*

This type emphasizes causality or cause-and-effect relationships in conveying information.

#### **6. How Lead**

Used to explain how an event occurs, including the process, stages, or chronology. Typically used in investigative news, in-depth reporting, or explanatory writing.

Example: *“Through years of lobbying and legal reform, environmental activists finally succeeded in banning toxic waste dumping.”*

This lead directs the reader to understand the mechanism or steps of an event.

## **2.5 Linguistic**

In the Linguistic Dictionary, Kridalaksana (2001:213) defines linguistic theory as a set of hypotheses used to explain language data, both external such as phonemes, morphemes, words, phrases, clauses, sentences, discourses, and internal such as meaning. According to Soeparno (2003:19), linguistic theory is a subdiscipline of linguistics that discusses language from a particular theoretical perspective.

According to Chaer (2003:2), linguistics is derived from Latin, *lingua* 'language'. The basic form of *lingua* in French becomes *langue/langage*. In English it is equated with *language*, while in Arabic it is equated with *lughah* (Chaer, 2003:2). Meanwhile, in terminology, what is meant by linguistics is the science of language or scientific investigation of language (Kridalaksana, 2001:128). And, if we look at the scope discussed in linguistics, etymologically Soeparno (2003:17) defines linguistics as a discipline that studies language broadly and generally. Broadly, it means studying all elements of language, from the smallest to the largest (sounds, morphemes, words, clauses, sentences, discourses). Linguistics is the main science of language which has branches such as phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics ;

### **2.5.1 Phonology**

Phonology is a part of linguistics that studies the sound system/rules of sound and how to produce it. Why is sound studied? Because the most basic form of language is sound. Sound is the vibration of air that enters the ear so that it produces sound. Language sounds are sounds formed by three factors, namely breathing (as a source of energy), speech organs (which cause vibrations), and changes in vibrations (vocal cords). Phonology is divided into phonetics and phonemics. In phonology there are the terms phoneme, phone, and allophone. Phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that is still abstract or not articulated.



### **2.5.2 Morfology**

The word morphology is adapted from the English word morphology. The word morphology comes from morph which means '*bentuk*' and -logy which means '*ilmu*'. Literally, the word morphology means 'science of form' (Chaer 2003: 3). In linguistics, morphology is defined as a branch of linguistics or language science that studies morphemes and words. Morphemes are the smallest grammatical units that have meaning. Morphemes cannot be divided into smaller linguistic forms, which may or may not stand alone.

### **2.5.3 Syntax**

Syntax is a branch of linguistics that discusses the relationship between words in speech. The elements of language included in the scope of syntax are phrases, clauses, and sentences. A phrase is a combination of two or more words that are non-predicative, for example a luxury house. A phrase discusses the relationship between a word and another word. In this example, neither house nor luxury function as predicates.

A clause is a grammatical unit in the form of a group of words, which at least has a predicate, and has the potential to become a sentence. In other words, a clause discusses the relationship between a combination of words and another combination of words. A sentence is a relatively independent unit of language, which at least has a subject and predicate, has a final intonation (spoken sentence), and actually or potentially consists of clauses. It can be said that a sentence discusses the relationship between a clause and another clause. When viewed from its function, the elements of a sentence are subject, predicate, object, complement, and description. (according to Arifin;1-5)

### **2.5.4 Semantics**

The word semantics comes from the Greek sema which means sign or symbol. The verbal form of semantics is semaino which means to mark

or symbolize. What is meant by a sign or symbol in semantics is a linguistic sign. According to Saussure, a linguistic sign consists of a signifying component in the form of sound, and a signified component in the form of a concept or meaning (Chaer; 2002:2).

The word semantics was first used by a French philologist named Breal in 1883. Semantics is agreed upon as a term used in the field of linguistics that studies linguistic signs with the things they signify. Semantics is referred to as the field of linguistics that studies the relationship between linguistic signs and the things they signify. In other words, semantics is a field of study in linguistics that studies the meanings contained in language units. ( according to Madani:2017:3)

## **2.6 Syntax**

According to Arifin (2011:1) Syntax is a branch of linguistics that discusses the relationship between words in speech. The elements of language included in the scope of syntax are phrases, clauses, and sentences. A phrase is a combination of two or more words that are non-predicative, for example a luxury house. A phrase discusses the relationship between a word and another word. In this example, neither house nor luxury function as predicates. A clause is a grammatical unit in the form of a group of words, which at least has a predicate, and has the potential to become a sentence. In other words, a clause discusses the relationship between a combination of words and another combination of words. A sentence is a relatively independent unit of language, which at least has a subject and predicate, has a final intonation (spoken sentence), and actually or potentially consists of clauses. It can be said that a sentence discusses the relationship between a clause and another clause.

### 2.6.1 Syntactic Aspects

#### 1. Words:

Words can be viewed from various aspects. First, words are viewed from the perspective of language users. According to language users, words are grammatical units that are spoken, repetitive, and potentially can stand alone. Second, words are viewed linguistically (according to the views of language experts). Linguistically, words can be distinguished based on their constituent units. Therefore, words can be distinguished as phonological units, grammatical units, and orthographic units.

#### 2 Phrases:

A phrase is a grammatical unit in the form of a combination of words that are non-predicative (Rusyana and Samsuri, 1976) or a grammatical construction consisting of two or more words. Phrases consist of exocentric phrases and endocentric phrases. Exocentric phrases consist of directive exocentric phrases and non-directive exocentric phrases.

Endocentric phrases consist of single-axis endocentric phrases and multiple-axis endocentric phrases. Single-axis endocentric phrases can be divided into nominal phrases, pronominal phrases, verbal phrases, adjectival phrases, and numeral phrases. Multiple-axis endocentric phrases are divided into coordinative phrases and appositive phrases.

#### 3. Clauses:

A clause is a grammatical unit that consists of at least a subject and a predicate. A clause has the potential to become a sentence. Clauses can be distinguished based on the distribution of their units and based on their function. Based on the distribution of their units, clauses . Based on their function, clauses can be distinguished into subject clauses, object clauses, adverbial clauses, and complement clauses. In general, clauses, both singular and plural, have the potential to become sentences.

#### 4 Sentences:

A sentence is a language unit that is relatively independent, has a final intonation (spoken sentence), and actually or potentially consists of clauses. It can be said that a sentence discusses the relationship between a clause and another clause. When viewed from its function, the elements of a sentence are subject, predicate, object, complement, and adverb.

### 2.7 Active Sentence

An active sentence is a grammatical construction where the subject of the sentence performs the action expressed by the verb. The focus is on the "doer" of the action. Active voice is considered the default or unmarked voice in English grammar, meaning it is the most direct and natural way of expressing ideas.

Active sentences are sentences in which the subject function performs an action. A sentence can be categorized as an active sentence if the subject function in the sentence plays the role of the main actor or actor who carries out an action (Kridalaksana, 2008:124).

Related to clarity and effectiveness in news texts, writing using active sentences tends to be clearer and more direct, making it easier for readers to understand. In journalism, writing with active sentences can make news more interesting and clear. In addition, it also focuses more on objects or actions.

#### 2.7.1. Huddleston & Pullum's Theory on Active Sentence

In *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* (2002:142-144), Huddleston and Pullum state that the active sentence is the basic form in the syntactic structure of the English language. An active sentence is a construction in which the subject acts as the agent of the action expressed by the verb, and the action may affect an object (the recipient of the action). They emphasize that the active form is more widely used in communication due to its clarity, directness, and efficiency. Active

sentences convey information by placing the main actor at the beginning, enabling the audience to easily understand who is performing the action and what is being done.

Huddleston & Pullum also explain that the typical structure of an active sentence in English follows the basic SVO pattern (Subject – Verb – Object). In this structure, the subject as the agent appears at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the verb indicating the action, and then the object that receives the action. For instance, in the sentence “*The president signed the bill,*” the subject is “*The president,*” the verb is “*signed,*” and the object is “*the bill.*” This structure is known as a monotransitive clause, which consists of a direct object. However, they also describe other types of active sentence forms such as ditransitive (with two objects), complex transitive (with an object and a complement), and intransitive (without an object), depending on the type of verb used.

In practice, Huddleston and Pullum demonstrate that active sentences are preferred in both formal and informal writing contexts because they provide clarity of meaning and communicative effectiveness. In the field of journalism, active sentences are considered more dynamic and engaging for readers because they focus directly on the actor and the action. This makes active voice the primary choice in writing news leads, including those in political news genres. The use of active sentences allows journalists to highlight key subjects such as politicians, government institutions, or community groups so that the news message is delivered with greater strength and precision.

Furthermore, Huddleston & Pullum underline that the active sentence is not merely a grammatical structure but also has discourse value. Active sentences are often used to construct information focus, especially when the new information to be emphasized is positioned as the object. In political news contexts, for example, subjects like “*The president,*” “*The*

*minister,”* or *“The voters”* are often placed at the beginning of the sentence because they carry ideological or rhetorical significance. Thus, the active structure can help shape political narratives that align with a media outlet’s editorial intent.

Overall, the syntactic theory of Huddleston and Pullum provides a robust analytical framework for identifying and classifying active sentences in news texts. Their approach not only explains the surface structure of sentences but also the communicative function and meaning conveyed by that structure. This theory is highly suitable for a thesis analyzing the types of active sentences in news leads, as it allows the researcher to explain the relationship between grammatical form and communicative purpose within journalistic contexts. Therefore, Huddleston and Pullum’s theory is not only linguistically appropriate but also practically relevant in examining how active structures are strategically employed to influence readers’ understanding of political issues and figures in mass media.

## **2.8. Active Sentence in the Past Tense**

An active sentence in the past tense is a grammatical construction in which the subject of the sentence performed an action at a specific point in the past. The past tense is used to express actions or events that have already happened, and in the active voice, the subject is the agent or performer of the verb.

active voice sentence in the past tense refers to a sentence where the subject is the doer of the action, and the action occurred before the present time. In this form, the emphasis is placed on who performed the action, not on the recipient of the action. This is a fundamental aspect of English syntax and is essential in both written and spoken discourse.

Form of Active Voice in the Simple Past Tense;

Subject + Verb (Past Form) + Object (if applicable)

For example:

"The teacher explained the lesson clearly."

Here, "the teacher" is the subject, "explained" is the verb in the past tense, and "the lesson" is the object receiving the action.

#### Detailed Characteristics:

1. The verb used is always in the simple past form. For regular verbs, this means adding “-ed” (e.g., worked, played, watched). For irregular verbs, the past form must be memorized (e.g., go → went, eat → ate, write → wrote).
2. The subject actively performs the action in the sentence.
3. The focus remains on the subject as the agent of the verb, unlike passive voice where focus shifts to the object.
4. The sentence usually includes time expressions that clarify when the action happened, such as *yesterday*, *last night*, *two days ago*, or *in 2020*.

## 2.9 Active Sentence in the Present Tense

active voice sentence in the present tense refers to a construction where the subject performs the action expressed by the verb, and the action is happening currently or occurs regularly or habitually. The focus is on the agent (doer) of the action, making the sentence more direct and typically clearer than passive constructions.

### Forms of Present Tense in Active Voice

There are two main forms of the present tense in the active voice:

#### 1. Simple Present Tense Structure:

Subject + base verb (or verb + s/es for third-person singular) +  
object (if any)

Example:

"She reads novels every evening."

## 2. Present Continuous (Progressive) Tense

Structure:

Subject + am/is/are + verb-ing + object (if any)

Example:

"They are watching a movie."

### **Characteristics of Active Voice in Present Tense**

The subject is the agent or doer of the action.

**The verb agrees with the subject in number and person (especially in simple present).**

**In the simple present, actions are described as:**

Habitual (e.g., "He drinks coffee every morning.")

Factual or universal truths (e.g., "The Earth orbits the sun.")

In the **present continuous**, actions are happening at the moment of speaking (e.g., "I am writing a paper now.")

Active voice structures are **more concise** and preferred in academic writing and journalism.

## **3.0 Active Sentence in the Future Tense**

the active voice in the future tense refers to a sentence construction in which the subject performs an action that is expected to happen at a later time. The verb forms used in future tenses in active voice explicitly indicate that the action has not yet occurred but will happen in the future. The subject remains the agent or doer of the verb, distinguishing the sentence from its passive counterpart.

### **Forms of the Future Tense in Active Voice**

There are three primary future tense forms commonly used in active voice:

#### **1. Simple Future Tense**

Structure:



Subject + will + base verb + object (if any)

Example:

*"She will write a novel next year."*

This form expresses a voluntary action, a promise, or a future prediction

## **2. Be Going To + Verb (Planned Future)**

Structure: Subject + be (am/is/are) + going to + base verb + object

Example:

*"They are going to start a business soon."*

This is used when the future action is planned or decided in advance.

## **3. Future Continuous Tense**

Structure:

Subject + will be + verb-ing + object

Example:

*"I will be working on my thesis tomorrow at 10 a.m."*

This form expresses an action in progress at a specific time in the future.

## **Characteristics of Active Voice in the Future Tense**

The subject is the agent of the action.

The sentence is forward-looking, referring to events yet to happen.

The use of "will" or "be going to" distinguishes the future from present and past actions.

The structure keeps the subject prominent, maintaining clarity and agency.

Common in academic, professional, and predictive writing, especially when outlining plans or forecasting outcomes.

### 3.1 Types Of Active Sentences

#### 1. Monotransitive Active Sentence

A monotransitive sentence uses a transitive verb, which requires one direct object to complete its meaning. The object receives the action of the verb directly.

Structure:

S (Subject) + V (Verb) + DO (Direct Object)

Example:

The teacher explained the lesson.

**Explanation:**

*"The teacher"* is the **doer** of the action (subject).

*"Explained"* is a **transitive verb** — it needs an object to complete the meaning.

*"The lesson"* is the **direct object**, i.e., what was explained.

**Why it's active:**

Because the **subject performs the action** and the **object receives** it.

#### 2. Ditransitive Active Sentence

A ditransitive sentence has a verb that takes two objects — usually one indirect object (IO) (the receiver) and one direct object (DO) (the thing given or acted upon).

Structure:

S (Subject) + V (Verb) + IO (Indirect Object) + DO (Direct Object)

Example:

She gave her friend a gift.

**Explanation:**

*"She"* is the subject performing the action.

*"Gave"* is a **ditransitive verb**.

*"Her friend"* is the **indirect object** — the one who receives something.

*"A gift"* is the **direct object** — the thing being given.

### 3. Complex Transitive Active Sentence

A complex transitive verb needs a direct object and an object complement. The complement gives extra information about the object like its identity, role, or description.

Structure:

S (Subject) + V (Verb) + DO (Direct Object) + OC (Object Complement)

Example:

“They elected him president”

**Explanation:**

*“They”* is the subject (doer).

*“Elected”* is the complex transitive verb.

*“Him”* is the **direct object**.

*“President”* is the **object complement** — it tells us what *he* was elected as.

### 4. Intransitive Active Sentence

An intransitive sentence uses an intransitive verb, which does not take any object. The verb expresses a complete idea without needing to transfer action to an object.

Structure:

S (Subject) + V (Intransitive Verb)

Example:

The baby cried.

**Explanation:**

*“The baby”* is the subject.

*“Cried”* is an **intransitive verb** — it does **not need** a direct object to complete its meaning.

## 5. Copular (Linking Verb) Sentence

A copular (or linking) verb connects the subject to a subject complement (not an object), which can be a noun, adjective, or phrase describing or identifying the subject.

Structure:

(Subject) + LV (Linking Verb) + SC (Subject Complement)

Common Linking Verbs:

Be (is, am, are, was, were)

Become, seem, appear, feel, taste, look, sound

Example:

She is a doctor

**Explanation:**

*"She"* is the subject.

*"Is"* is the linking verb (a form of *to be*).

*"A doctor"* is the **subject complement**, describing the subject.