

The Journalist's Affect on Natural Disaster of CNN Online News: Appraisal Perspective

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ABSTRACT

Appraisal, part of interpersonal meaning, is a theory focuses on the expression of language related to value (Martin & White 2005, Martin & Rose 2007; Fan, 2020). This study examines the writer's affect toward natural disasters on online news articles. This study is limited to one type of attitude appraisal called affect. Affect is concerned with someone's feeling or emotion (Martin & White, 2005) which include dis/inclination, un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfied. Meanwhile, the source of the data of this study was obtained from an online newspaper namely CNN. The topic of the news was about natural disasters which were published during 2nd September 2023 – 1st October 2023. The title of the online news paper is "Morocco's quake survivors must rebuild their homes and lives. But decimated communities can do little to help" which was published on 3:29 AM EDT, Sat September 16, 2023. Furthermore, the data of this study were analyzed descriptive qualitatively and they were gained purposively. Meanwhile in analyzing the data, the researchers employ the appraisal framework proposed by Martin and White (2005). The finding of this study shows that unhappiness affects is dominantly used by the journalist to represent his feelings towards the news he presented both misery and antipathy. It is because the journalist presents his arguments by giving his own views towards the casualties and the government action in helping the victims.

Keywords: *affect, appraisal, attitude, cnn, online news*

INTRODUCTION

People use communication with each other to gain information about any topic they need. Information has become one of the most important things for people, it can help people to fulfill their curiosity (Case & Given, 2016). Due to the advancement of technology, it influences massively on the field of communication. Moreover, technology helps people to easily access information anywhere and anytime they want. It was proven by using a survey of Abbasi & Huang 2020 that shows more than 50 percent of people gain news and information by using online media. People simply gather information in many kinds of ways, for example through chatting on social media, surfing on the internet and reading online news.

Online news widely scopes through all the components of multifariousness of information such as governmental politics and law issues, emergency and public services, science experiment, economical aspect, faith and humanities, educational aspects, and entertainment aspect (Luthfi, 2018). Furthermore, online news has become the most essential online platform because it should include information that is based on factual information and relevant information (Casero-Ripollés, Andreu 2020). The writer cannot easily write the information depending on his opinion, the importance of online news is the objectivity. Besides, the writer also should use language and word choice that is easy for the reader to understand.

Appraisal is a structure arrangement for analyzing the mechanisms in language that aims to evaluate and inspect the text or data (Hadidi & Parvin, 2015). Meanwhile, Appraisal systems focus on the word meaning stated in the text which is positive or negative (Fatmawati & Cahyono, 2018).

According to White 2015, Appraisal is an interpersonal system of meaning. It specifically attempts to provide exploration, description, and explanation of how language makes judgments. It also addresses how language applies positions, constructs characters in text, and controls positions and relationships. Furthermore, Martin & White (2005) classified the Appraisal system into three semantic features such as Attitude, Engagement and Graduation. Affect is concerned with someone's feeling or emotion (Martin & White, 2005) which include dis/inclination, un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfied.

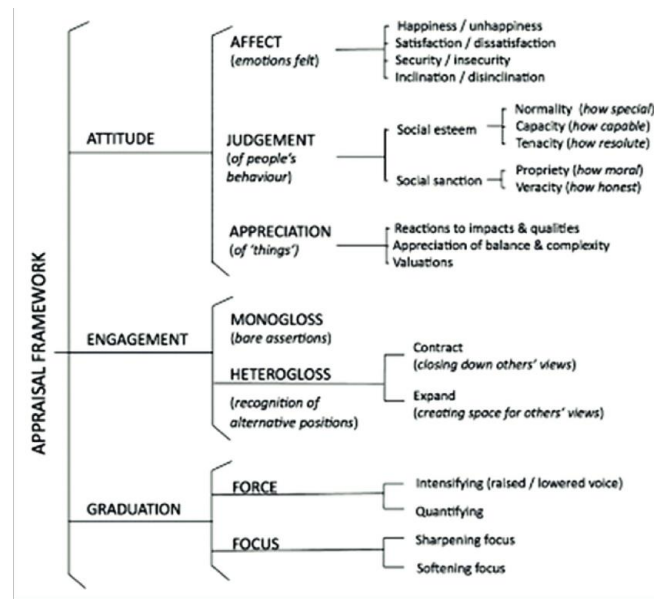


Figure 1. Appraisal framework (Martin and White, 2005)

In so doing, this research focuses on CNN online news through the Appraisal system namely Attitude comprises Affect. Affect related to the way of analysis which uses human's feeling for instance emotional expression of reaction and behavior (Cahyono. Et. al, 2021).

There are some previous studies conducted on appraisal such as Fitriati, Solihah & Tusino (2018); Siagian, Murni & Zainudin (2019); Ngongo (2017). They conducted their research on different types of genre such as argumentative, narrative, and students' theses. The results of their study show that most students tend to gain knowledge on good writing by applying affect, judgment, and appreciation. Students put on their feelings and emotions to express their ideas and opinion towards the topic they discussed. However, Cahyono & Setyaningsih (2019); Rismayanti, Samsi & Abas (2022), focused their study on students' recount writing, which resulted in students giving evaluations towards the text the students made amazingly. Meanwhile, Daniarsa & Ningsih (2023); Prastikawatia (2021); Asad. Et. al (2021) discussed the use of attitude in online newspapers and focused on three subsystems of attitude including affect, judgment, and appreciation. The result reveals that the use of appraisal in newspapers is to show the journalists' views on the news he presented. Besides, the journalist's emotion and judgment can influence the messages they presented. Furthermore, this present study examines the students' recount by focusing on one sub-categorizes of attitudes, namely affect Natural Disaster of CNN Online News. So, it will be the gap of this research of the previous one.

METHOD

In this study, the method used in this study is descriptive qualitative method. Meanwhile, in collecting the data, the researcher applied purposive sampling method by choosing an article in an

online news. The source of data was gained from CNN online news entitled “Morocco’s quake survivors must rebuild their homes and lives but decimated communities can do little to help” which was published on September 16, 2023. In analyzing the data, the researchers employ appraisal framework developed by Martin and White (2005). While, the limitation of this study was on one system of Attitude called Affect for determining the lexis of writer’s emotions such as dis/inclination, un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfied.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The data has been examined and classified into several categories. The writer categorized the data based on classification proposed by Martin & White (2005) that classify the Appraisal systems into three categories such as Attitude, Engagement and Graduation. This research only used the side of Attitude comprises Affect in an online news article of CNN entitled “Morocco’s quake survivors must rebuild their homes and lives. But decimated communities can do little to help”. The classification of finding and discussion are explained below.

Table 1. The system of Affect

No	Types of Affect		Σ	%
1	Irealis	Inclination	2	6,25
		Disinclination	3	9,375
2	Realis	Happiness	2	6,25
		Unhappiness	14	43,75
		Satisfaction	1	3,125
		Dissatisfaction	1	3,125
		Security	2	6,25
		Insecurity	7	21,875
Total			32	100

The result of this study reveals 32 words of Affect that predominant in Unhappiness (43,75%) which followed by Insecurity (21,875%), Disinclination (9,375%), Inclination (6,25%), Happiness (6,25%), Security (6,25%), Satisfaction (3,125%), and Dissatisfaction (3,125%). This concept helps to reveal that the news writer wants to show unhappiness feeling for people of Morocco. There are some examples of appraising items for affect are conducted below.

Unhappiness

Table 2. The example of Unhappiness

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
Her husband died in a road accident	died	her husband	Realis : unhappiness

seven months ago.

The provided data highlights the use of the term "died" as the appraising item, appraising the subject "her husband." In this context, the writer has deliberately employed the word "died" to convey a profound sense of unhappiness. The emotional tone is rooted in the unfortunate reality that the woman's husband has passed away. The choice of the word "died" reflects the gravity of the situation, underscoring the inherent difficulty in accepting the loss of a family member. This poignant expression encapsulates the emotional turmoil associated with the experience of grief and the challenging process of coming to terms with the irreplaceable absence of a loved one. The result shows that Affect type of unhappiness become the predominant due to the natural disaster usually has disadvantages to people, so people feel unhappiness.

Happiness

Table 3. The example of Happiness

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
<p>“When I think of all of the happiness in my life, it’s all here,” he added. He told CNN he was determined to rebuild a home for his family.</p>	happiness	When I think of all	Realis : happiness

Turning to the next item for discussion, the term "happiness" serves as the appraising element, evaluating the phrase "When I think of all." In this context, "happiness" is chosen to convey the individual's emotional state, indicating a sense of joy and contentment when reminiscing about that particular place. The use of "When I think of all" suggests a reflective and positive perspective, as the person finds immense happiness in recalling memories associated with that specific location. This choice of lexis emphasizes the profound emotional connection and positive associations the individual has with the place in question, underlining the significance of these memories in contributing to a sense of joy and fulfillment. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of happiness place 2 times (6,25%) which means happiness have the 4th place.

Inclination

Table 4. The example of Inclination

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
<p>Most people here live where they were born, where their ancestors have lived for centuries.</p>	live	where they were born	Irrealis : inclination

Building upon the third set of data, the phrase "where they were born" encompasses the term "live" which characterizes the comfortable living conditions of the individuals in that location. The use of "live" implies a state of contentment or ease, suggesting that the people in this area find their

living situation to be favorable. Furthermore, the statement emphasizes the resistance to relocation, indicating that individuals in this community are not easily compelled to move away from the place they consider their home. This attachment to their birthplace underscores the significance of the environment and the sense of belonging, portraying a community deeply rooted in their familiar surroundings and resistant to external forces that might disrupt their established way of life. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of inclination place 2 times (6,25%) which means inclination have the 4th place.

Disinclination

Table 5. The example of Disinclination

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
Even when I am very tired, I can't sleep, I keep waking up.	tired	I	Irrealis : disinclination

The statement above brings attention to the term "tired" which is characterized as a manifestation of disinclination. In this context, "tired" serves as an appraisal of the pronoun "I" signifying that despite the man experiencing a profound sense of fatigue, he is unable to succumb to sleep. This reluctance to rest is driven by the necessity to remain vigilant and alert to the potential occurrence of earthquakes. The use of the term "disinclination" underscores the man's internal resistance to yielding to exhaustion, emphasizing the prioritization of staying awake and aware due to the perceived threat of seismic activity. This framing provides insight into the challenging circumstances the individual faces, where the imperative for constant vigilance takes precedence over the natural inclination to rest when fatigued. The result from the whole data shows that the Affect type of inclination places 3 times (9,375%) which means disinclination has the 3th place.

Satisfaction

Table 6. The example of Satisfaction

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
She said that due to the generosity of people from across the country there is now enough food and water, but waste is becoming a problem.	generosity	people from across the country	Realis : satisfaction

The term "generosity" in this context is interpreted as a source of satisfaction. In this specific scenario, "generosity" refers to people from various parts of the country contributing to charitable endeavors. The woman, in turn, benefits from this generosity, allowing her to fulfill her basic needs such as food and water. The use of the term "satisfaction" indicates that the woman perceives this act of generosity positively, finding contentment in the support she receives from individuals across the nation. This framing highlights the significance of collective goodwill and charitable actions in addressing and meeting the essential requirements of individuals in need. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of satisfaction is placed only 1 time (3,125%) which means satisfaction

has the last place.

Dissatisfaction

Table 7. The example of Dissatisfaction

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
Others were angry about the situation.	angry	the situation	Realis : dissatisfaction

The fifth set of data indicates dissatisfaction stemming from the appraisal of a specific item. The term "angry" is employed to appraise "the situation" suggesting a prevailing sentiment of displeasure among the people involved. This choice of lexis reflects the discontent and frustration experienced by individuals in response to the existing situation. The continuous expression of anger implies an ongoing state of dissatisfaction, as the circumstances appear to be persistently unsatisfactory or disagreeable to those affected. The use of "angry" serves as a linguistic indicator of the emotional impact of the situation on the individuals involved, emphasizing the need for a closer examination of the factors contributing to their discontent. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of dissatisfaction is placed only 1 time (3,125%) which means dissatisfaction has the last place.

Security

Table 8. The example of Security

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
Believe me, I thought it was the end of the world," she said.	believe	me	Realis : security

The sense of security emanates from the use of the term "believe" in the context of appraising "me" This choice of lexis conveys a desire on the part of the woman to reaffirm and ensure the accuracy of her statement to the reporter. By employing the word "believe" she signals an intention to instill confidence in the reporter regarding the veracity or sincerity of her words. This linguistic choice suggests a need for assurance, emphasizing the significance of the information she is sharing and underscoring the importance of the reporter's understanding and trust in her account. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of security place 2 times (6,25%) which means security have the 4th place.

Insecurity

Table 9. The example of Insecurity

Data	Appraising Item	Appraised	Affect Type
And I am afraid it will happen again.	afraid	happen again	Realis : insecurity

The last data above with lexis “afraid” as considered as Affect of insecurity. The lexis “afraid” appraised “happen again” simply means that the person feels afraid if something will happen to her again, it makes her to keep aware of every situation surrounding. The result from the whole data shows that Affect type of insecurity place 7 times (21,875%) which means security have the 2th place.

A journalist is an individual who is involved in the task of covering and writing news. In the process of writing news, it is crucial for a journalist to be trusted and objective. This is essential because news serves as a means through which we receive factual information. Various topics are discussed in the news, spanning social, political, educational, and natural disaster-related subjects, among others. The journalist's responsibility lies in presenting these topics accurately and impartially, contributing to an informed and aware society. This research focused on online news that discuss about natural disaster. Natural disasters encompass various forms of distressing expressions, as they bring about suffering and adversity for individuals affected. The manifestations of this unhappiness are reflected in the affective attitude appraisals of those impacted by the natural disaster. The emotional toll of such events can be profound, influencing the way people perceive and respond to their surroundings. These affective attitude appraisals play a crucial role in understanding the broader psychological and emotional impact of natural disasters on individuals and communities. As Martin and White (2005) stated that affect used to reveal the writer's expression from the lexis which he wrote. From the news, the observation reveals that the writer of the news tends to employ expressions of unhappiness and insecurity to convey their emotions about the news they are presenting. This choice of affective language suggests a deliberate effort by the writer to evoke certain emotions or reactions from the readers or audience. By using words and tones associated with unhappiness and insecurity, the writer may be aiming to create a particular atmosphere, elicit empathy, or emphasize the gravity of the news content. The selection of these affective elements adds a nuanced layer to the communication of information, influencing how the audience perceives and engages with the presented news.

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding and discussion above, it can be concluded that the type of feeling and behavior can reveal using Appraisal systems. The finding show tragedy that had happened from the natural disaster in Morocco impact many people. There are many disadvantages that impact the people for instance people lost their home, many people were injured, and some of their family died. Furthermore, this incident caused several feelings and behavior to arise. Based on the data and the discussion, the affect that used by the writer due to the Morocco earthquake online news triggered some feeling. The dominant feeling come from unhappiness which appear for 14 times (43,75%) which followed by Insecurity (21,875%), Disinclination (9,375%), Inclination (6,25%), Happiness (6,25%), Security (6,25%), Satisfaction (3,125%), and Dissatisfaction (3,125%). We can conclude that Appraisals system comprises affect is effectively used to classify the use of lexis or word on a text. Moreover, the dominant feeling and behaviour appear due to the writer mostly gives his views on disaster. So it always deal with Unhappiness & Insecurity. Unhappiness describes how they lost their houses and families and Insecurity express about their feeling afraid of any possibilities of aftershocks.

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