

## An Analysis of Non-Vocal Backchannels of The Indonesian Presidential Candidates on The Second Debate 2019

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### **Abstract**

*The aims of the study is to analyze Non-Vocal Backchannels of the Indonesian Presidential Candidates on The Second Debate 2019. This research has two objectives: first, to identify Non-Vocal Backchannels that used by The Presidential Candidates on the second debate. Second, to analyze the function of Backchannels used by the presidential candidates on the second debate. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method. It is concerned with the description of the data in the form of conversation from the presidential candidates' debate based on Yule's theories of Backchannels and function of backchannels. Based on the obtained result, it can be concluded that the most dominant of non-vocal backchannels of the presidential candidates on the second debate is Eye Gaze and The most frequently performed function is Continuer and Acknowledgement.*

**Keyword:** Pragmatics, Backchannels, Presidential Debate.



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### **A. Introduction**

This research is about conversational analysis of 2019 Presidential Election (Pilpres) between Joko Widodo -Ma'ruf Amin vs Prabowo Subianto Sandiaga, in which they are the candidates President and Vice President of Indonesia. They have different characters and style of speech in delivering their vision and mission, their arguments and strategies to convince people if they are the best. At the time of delivery, what is seen and assessed by the community is not just what they convey but how they convey it. This debate will become an exciting debate considering that the 2019 presidential election has become a public spotlight all along from the beginning until the election will be held and the audience became excited to watch them. Before the researcher analyzes the research about presidential debate, the researcher has reviewed five journals related to conversation analysis, in which these journals become references and theorists' data in conducting research and assisting the writer in determining the research gap. The first research by Khapsoh (2017) entitled "An Analysis of Pauses, Overlaps and Backchannels In The Reasonable Doubt Movie By Petter Howitt". This research explained about types of pauses; pauses filled and unfilled, types of overlaps, turn terminal, turn initial and midturn, types of backchannel; verbal and nonverbal. And the overlaps in the movie occurred as an interruption and to show the listener was enthusiastic about what the speaker was saying and the pauses occurred because the speaker felt doubtful, afraid and insecure when speaker is answering or responding the listener.

The next research by Rafiqah Ummu (2018) which entitled "An Analysis Of Pauses, Overlaps And Backchannels In The Zathura Movie By Jon Favreau". This research aim to identify pauses, overlaps

and backchannels by characters of Zathura movie. This research used conversational analysis By Yule's Theory. Functions of backchannels used there are four, such as Acknowledgement, Continuer, Newsmaker and Change Of Activity Tokens. The third research by Nisa (2014) entitled "Analysis On Backchannels Used In SBS (The Special Broadcasting Service) Insight Talk Show Episode Designing Babies". This research backchannels sign occurred in conversation between jennie brockle as the host and some participants. The aim of the research is to find out the backchannels that occurred and categorize th functions in that conversation. The result the research are there are twelve verbal backchannels and seven non verbal backchannels. The others, there are four functions of those backchannels, they are as, Continuer, Convergence Tokens, Engaged Respons Tokens and Information Receipt Tokens. The fourth research by Rahmat (2015) entitled "Verbal Backchannels in English Conversation Between Daniel Radcliffe and J.K. Rowling". This research mainly discussed about the mechanism of backchannels usage in the interview between J.K. Rowling and Daniel Radcliffe, and limited the data to only fourteen data. This research analyse their functions using Maynard's theory. There are six functions that they serve, which are Continuer (CON), Understanding (UND), Agreement (AGR), Strong Emotional Response (EMO), Support or Empathy (SUP), and Request for Additional Information (ADD).

The last research by Risya (2017) entitled "Verbal Backchannels In The Hollywood Reporter Full Oscar Actreess Roundtable Interview". This research explained the conversation mechanism, then determine in which forms backchannel utterances are uttered, and then analyse their functions using Maynard's theory. There are six functions that they serve, which are Continuer (CON), Understanding (UND), Agreement (AGR), Strong Emotional Response (EMO), Support or Empathy (SUP), and Request for Additional Information (ADD) From the five journals, all of them explained about one of kinds of conversational analysis especially backchannel but the previous research just analyze the vocal or verbal backchannels and not explained about non vocal or non verbal backchannels and not detailed. Thus, the research gap that have found is "Non-Vocal Backchannels". Non-vocal backchannel is a topic that has not been widely explored by previous researchers, especially backchannel on debate such as, The Presidential Candidates Debate. Non-vocal backchannels is gesture feedback given listener to speaker when talking. The researcher thinks backchannels is important to be used as a research because by knowing someone's backchannels especially the presidential and vice-presidential candidates, people can find out the hidden meaning of the backchannels that candidates do and people can find out whether someone is respected and interested with something that the other saying, The object of this research is the second presidential debate, where this second debate is only for candidates from presidential candidates and in this debate will later become one of the opportunities for candidates to convey their vision and mission strategies to convince the public and become a reference for the public in choosing the president. The reason for choosing this object is that these two candidates have different vision and mission strategies and many political issues that are being debated by many parties that make people very enthusiastic to watch this debate. The title of this research is "An Analysis of Non-vocal Backchannels on the 2nd Debate of The Indonesian Presidential Candidates in 2019". The reason the researchers chose this title was that the research gap of this study was non vocal backchannels, which backchannels were part of the science of pragmatics. Moreover, the presidential debate is an important debate awaited by the entire community and becomes an interesting object because there will be many backchannels found.

## **B. Methods**

### 1. Research Instruments

The purpose of this research is to identify non-vocal backchannels that used by the presidential candidates on the second debate also to analyze the function of Backchannels used by the presidential candidates on the second debate.

### 2. Data Collection

Data are collected by watching the debate show. The researcher then put the data into the table to define which is the data and which is not the data.

### 3. Data Analysis

Data are analyzed by using Theory of Yule (1997). Backchannels is feedback given while someone else is talking to show interest, attention and willingness to keep listening. Backchannels are typically

short utterances. Listeners should in general give backchannel feedback at times when the other person seems to be welcoming it. These in effect are cues for feedback, although responding is generally optional. Backchannels are important for people wishing to be able to function as supportive, cooperative listeners. The dialog includes not only the information that is being exchanged, but also the management of the communication and expression of nuances of attitude and intention. This is done sometimes with words, but more often with subtle uses prosody, gesture, gaze and backchannel utterances. This dimension of interaction helps make dialogs more enjoyable and efficient. Backchannels occur in both direct and indirect conversation such as, face to face and telephone conversation. People use this signal in conversation because they have to convince that the speaker that the information has received and they understand what the speaker talk about. Some researchers said that the using of the backchannels especially non-vocal backchannels depend on the background of listener, where the conversation occurs, and who is the speaker.

### C. Result

From the research, they are the researcher presents the classification of non-vocal backchannels used by the presidential candidates on the second debate and function of non-vocal backchannels of the presidential candidates on the second debate.

Table 1. Back Channel by Jokowi

Non-Vocal Backchannel	Frequency			Total	Percentage
	Segment 2	Segment 3	Segment 5		
Head Nodd	4		4	8	21.62%
Head Shake	3			3	8.11%
Eye Gaze	13	6	7	26	70.27%
Laughter					
				37	100%

Based on table 1, there are 2 head nodd, 3 head shakes, 13 eye gazes on the segment 2 and 6 eye gazes on the segment 3, 4 head nodd and 7 eye gaze on the segment 5. So, the researcher has found 26 eye gazes, 8 head nodd, 3 head shakes and 26 eye gazes from Joko Widodo.

The other contestant of president second debate is Prabowo, from the video researcher found as follow based on table.

Table 2. Backchannel by Prabowo

Non-Vocal Backchannel	Frequency			Total	Percentage
	Segment 2	Segment 3	Segment 5		
Head Nodd	5	1	6	12	34.28%
Head Shake	-	-		-	-
Eye Gaze	12	3	7	22	62.86%
Laughter	1			1	2.86%
				35	100%

From the table 2, researcher found that there are 5 head nodd, 12 eye gazes and 1 laughter on the segment 2 and 1 head nodd and 3 eye gazes on the segment 3, 7 eye gazes and 6 head nodd on the segment 5. So, the researcher has found 12 head nodd, 22 eye gazes and 1 laughter from Prabowo Subianto.

The researcher also found the function of backchannels which can be seen on the table

Table 3 Functions of backchannels

No	Functions	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Continuer	17	56,67%
2.	Acknowledgement	13	43,33%
3.	Newsmaker		
4.	Change Activity Token		
			100%

### D. Discussion

A vigorous nodding probably indicates strong agreement, whilst slow nodding may indicate conditional agreement. Nodding Whilst the other person is talking sends approval signals and encourages them to keep talking. A nod can be used when emphasizing a point. In this research, the researcher finding 8 head nodding of Joko Widodo and 12 head nodding of Dowo. There are examples

of the conversation of debate between Joko Widodo and Prabowo on the second debate. laughter. So, from So. from the backchannels of prabowo is laughter. the conversation above we can see if the non-vocal Function of Backchannels According to Ray T. Donahue's (1998) Book Japanese Culture and munication. There are four functions of Backchannels. Continuers are termed goons, acknowledgements as accepts, newsmakers as exclaims, and change of activity tokens as okays. In this research, during the researcher conducted the research and analyzed data that obtained well. The researcher has found the classification of non-vocal backchannels occurred on the debate. In this research also analyzed the function of backchannels from the s of non-vocal backchannel has found from the presidential candidates. Backchannels Function No. Function of backchannels Frequency | Percentages Continuer 17 56.67% Acknowledgment 43.33% Newsmaker Change Activity Tokens Total 30 100%

4.1.2.1 Continuer Extract 1. Prabowo: Kita sama-sama memahami dashyatnya perkembangan industri 4.0 yang akan datang Joko Widodo : (gazing to prabowo) 35

### E. Conclusion

Based on the findings and analysis of the research, it can be concluded as follows: from the four non-vocal backchannels that occurred during the debate, the most dominant of non-vocal backchannels of the presidential candidates on the second debate is Eye Gaze. While, the minimal of non-vocal backchannels is laughter and head shake. Therefore, the non-vocal backchannels of the both presidential candidates eye gaze has found in the most dominant is eye gaze of Joko Widodo. The most frequently performed function is Continuer and Acknowledgement. 5.2 Suggestion First, this research can be one of the references about conversation that are very close to pragmatics. Conversation happen in every people, everytime and everywhere. In every conversation there must be backchannels. Because Backchannels is feedback given while someone else is talking, to show interest, attention and willingness to keep listening However, the use of Backchannels is very important that can determine whether the listener appreciate and understand with the speaker saying or not. On the other hand, the absence of backchannels auring a conversation make it seems to be awkward and not going well. Second, this research still have many weaknesses showing the information and knowledge about types of backchannels, especially explained about non Vocal backchannels and function of backchannels to the readers.

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