

## Stylistic Features in Pantau Coverage: A Stylistic Study and Its Relationship with Indonesian Language Learning

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### Abstract

This research aims to discuss the language styles used in Pantau's coverage features. The language styles employed in the coverage are deliberately crafted to enhance readers' comprehension and engagement with news presented in feature format. The research utilizes a descriptive qualitative method, with data collection conducted through literature study techniques involving careful and thorough reading of Pantau's coverage features. Data analysis employs semiotic reading methods, including heuristic and hermeneutic readings, to uncover the meaning of the data studied. The research findings and discussions reveal: (1) feature coverage contains language styles such as sound style, word style, sentence style, discourse style, figurative language, and imagery. Journalists utilize these language styles in both narrative and dialog sections of feature coverage; (2) concerning Indonesian language learning, the study's results are relevant to phase E in the Independent Curriculum for learning news texts. This phase can be utilized by students to comprehend features or express news with appropriate language styles.

Keywords: language style, pantau coverage features, heuristic readings, hermeneutic readings, language learning

### Introduction Section

Language and literature are mutually complementary. In employing language, writers engage in a process of weaving words together to convey ideas to readers within literary works. The variation in language usage among writers renders the language within literary works unique. Language in literary works serves as a vehicle to achieve each writer's objectives. Al-Ma'ruf (2009: 3) asserts that the term 'literary language' refers to the elements writers utilize as a medium of expression to generate the aesthetic value of their literary creations. The means employed in this association are referred to as style or language style.

In the process of conveying ideas and emotions in literary works, writers employ language as a medium, thereby fostering communication between writers and readers. This aligns with the essence of literature, which is a form of creation brimming with significance, aimed at offering experiential and entertainment media for its audience within a work (Sukirman, 2021: 20). Beyond serving as a source of entertainment, literary works serve as a platform for authors to articulate their intricate worldviews and ideologies (Al-Ma'ruf & Nugrahani, 2020: 4).

The diversity of linguistic expressions in literature renders the integration of literature into everyday life inseparable from language style. In stylistics, language style is perceived as a hallmark of an author's unique approach in crafting a work with their personal flair. As a rhetorical device, language style is wielded by authors to infuse their literary works with their distinctive style, flow, ideology, and aesthetic sensibility (Al-Ma'ruf, 2022: 7). The aesthetic essence of language style is cultivated through the imaginative and expressive processes inherent in literary works. According to Suhariyadi, imagination encompasses the contemplation, appreciation, and emotional engagement with literary works (Suhariyadi, 2014: 22-23). In this context, writers consciously immerse themselves in the imaginative process. Expression, on the other hand, denotes the writer's manner of articulating imagination through language, thus exemplifying an individualized style of expression.

In the interpretation of a text, one inevitably engages with the author's ideology. Ideology in this context pertains to the author's ideas and perspectives shaped by their background and life circumstances in the creation of a literary work (Al-Ma'ruf, 2022: 21). Research on literature, particularly the examination of language, is inherently intertwined with the linguistic manifestations or features of the literary work itself. Given that the study of stylistics is most closely associated with the language of literary works, it straddles the domains of linguistics and literary science. Enkvist, as cited in Junius, outlines three assumptions regarding stylistics in Al-Ma'ruf's work: 1) stylistics is a subset of linguistics dedicated to analyzing the unique aspects of literature; 2) stylistics is a discipline that can apply linguistic methodologies to the study

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of literature; 3) stylistics operates as an autonomous field that freely incorporates elements from the study of literature and linguistics (Al-Ma'ruf, 2022: 9). Stylistics is a science in deeply immersing oneself in language that authors exploit to create a work and endeavor to interpret literature by understanding the artistic aspects of language styles. These aspects are then summarized into 1) sound style; 2) word style; 3) sentence style; 4) discourse style; 5) figurative language; and 6) imagery (Al-Ma'ruf, 2022: 38).

Sumadiria asserts that news consists of the most recent facts or ideas reported swiftly to the public through periodic media (in Supadiyanto, 2020: 93). One of the positive aspects of technological advancement is the dissemination of news through online networks. News distributed via the web or applications widens its reach and immediacy. From the diverse array of news types showcased in online media, features emerged. Features represent one form of language expression within the realm of journalism.

Structural and linguistic characteristics that distinguish features from other types of news make them unique literary works without sacrificing the actuality of the news content. These characteristics render features as light and easy-to-understand news pieces, immersing readers in the events they describe. According to Pratiwi et al., essential components of a feature include the title, introduction, transition, body, and conclusion (Pratiwi et al., 2021: 68). However, the study of language usage in features has yet to be thoroughly explored as a research topic.

Stereotypes regarding literature solely associated with imaginative works often lead to the misconception that literature is merely a product of the writer's imagination. In disagreement with this notion, Damono posited that literary works actually utilize language as a medium of communication and as social institutions for their readers (in Suseno & Nugroho, 2018: 213). Features, while maintaining the factual nature of their content, are still guided by the elements of 5W+1H. Through its linguistic characteristics, these elements are imbued with imagination and expression to enhance their aesthetic value. The fusion of language and literature in feature texts renders them unique subjects worthy of in-depth study. This sentiment aligns with Azwar's description of the feature pattern resembling a conduit carrying essential content from beginning to end (in Utama et al., 2021: 39). One such feature that readers can enjoy is the feature published in Pantau's coverage.

Setiawati et al. conducted a stylistic study analyzing the language style of Nadin Amizah's song lyrics in 'Bertaut.' Their research, titled 'Language Style Analysis in Nadin Amizah's Bertaut Song Lyrics: A Stylistic Study,' identified various types of rhetorical and figurative devices (Setiawati et al., 2021: 26). Lestari and Aeni explored language style in their study titled 'The Use of Comparative Language Style in a Collection of Student Short Stories.' Analyzing short stories by students of IKIP Siliwangi, they found that metaphorical language styles predominated among the various comparative language styles used (Lestari & Aeni, 2018: 1). Farhani and Sudono examined euphemism and figurative language styles in the television feature script 'Jendela Nusantara' edition 'Setitik Harapan di Ujung Selatan.' They discovered that these styles were used by the author to dramatize the text while retaining important information, particularly regarding the care for disadvantaged children (Farhani & Sudono, 2019: 14).

Mara and Bahry also conducted research on language style, focusing on the satirical language style in the poems of 'didong jalu' Arita Mude and Biak Cacak. Their study revealed that the poems in 'didong jalu' Arita Mude and Biak Cacak serve as critiques of the social backgrounds of the respective clubs and their methods of socialization. The language styles employed include irony, cynicism, sarcasm, and satire (Mara & Bahry, 2016: 61). Additionally, Hasanah et al. conducted research on language styles, analyzing poems by Fadli Zon. The study found that the most dominant language styles used include personification, innuendo, sarcasm, cynicism, epithet, alliteration, epizeuxis, anaphora, and anadiplosis. These styles are employed to satirize government policies perceived as contrary to Fadli Zon's wishes (Hasanah et al., 2019: 13).

Another relevant research on language style is the research conducted by Ibrahim in his research entitled Language Style Analysis in a Collection of Novels *Mimpi Bayang* Hingga Karya Sanie B. Kuncoro. Kuncoro. The research aims to describe the language style and its types contained in the collection of novels *Mimpi Bayang Hingga* (Ibrahim, 2015: 35). Language style has also been studied by Damayanti using data in the form of Instagram social media. In her research entitled *Diction and Language Style in Instagram Social Media*, she found the fact that the use of diction in Instagram accounts is divided into two, namely, the use of connotation meaning and the use of denotation meaning. Meanwhile, the use of language styles in Instagram accounts is divided into two, namely, the use of personification language style and the use of metaphor language style (Damayanti, 2018: 216).

This research also examines the relevance of the feature to learning Indonesian Language in the Merdeka Curriculum. At the end of phase E, learners have language skills to communicate and reason according to purpose, social context, academics, and the world of work. Learners are able to understand, process, interpret, and evaluate information from various types of texts on diverse topics. Learners are able to synthesize ideas and opinions from various sources. Learners are able to actively participate in discussions and debates. Learners are able to write various texts to express opinions and present and respond to nonfiction and fiction information critically and ethically (Kemdikbud, 2021).

From the background described above, this study aims to examine the language style in feature coverage on the Pantau website and its relevance to Indonesian language learning in the Merdeka Curriculum.

## Research Methods

This research employs descriptive qualitative methods. Through its descriptive approach, this study aims to generate information related to data in the form of quotations, assembled with words. According to Nugrahani, the objective of qualitative research is to provide an understanding of a context by offering a detailed description of the actual occurrences in the field (Nugrahani, 2014: 4). This type of research does not rely on statistical procedures or quantitative means to achieve its findings.

The data in this study are features with data sources from Pantau's coverage. Data collection in this research is a literature study by reading the features on Pantau's coverage carefully and thoroughly. Literature study is a type of data collection technique that collects data from library sources both primary and secondary. In this study, the literature sources are collected and then categorized to retrieve the data. After that, the data is used as a display of abstracted research findings with the aim of displaying facts. That fact is the interpretation to produce insight (Darmalaksana, 2020: 25).

The data was analyzed using Riffaterre's semiotic model reading method, which includes heuristic and hermeunetic reading to find the meaning of the data studied. Heuristic reading is a reading that is based on language systems and conventions. This reading performs the first stage of interpretation which reads a literary text from beginning to end so as to produce heterogeneous data. Then for the hermeunetic technique, the reading is based on literary conventions. At this stage, the reader begins to be able to expose the meaning of the literary work from the first interpretation. Readers must do deep thinking to obtain unity of meaning (in Ratih, 2013: 95).

## Results

Based on the results of research conducted on the features in Pantau's coverage, the researcher obtained the language style and evidence contained in the literary work. This research was conducted by conducting a literature study in the process of collecting data which was then analyzed by hereustik and hermeunetik reading. The results of the analysis are explained in the following data.

### Sound Style

The use of sound style found by researchers in the writing of Pantau journalists is as follows.

- (1) *Tapi tak ada lagi wujud manusia dalam tiap bungkusannya, melainkan seonggok arang yang menghitam. Ia ternyata paman korban yang bernama Selamat, anggota KPA yang juga korban tragedi Atu Lintang (Liputan Lelaki dengan Tiga Kepala, Edisi 17 Juni 2008).*
- (2) *Selama tiga bulan, Mursyidah tidak mampu berbicara. Suaranya hilang. Setelah diobati secara tradisional dan dipeusijuek (didoakan dengan upacara) baru ia pulih dari kebiasuannya (Liputan Yang Terlupakan, Edisi 30 Juni 2008).*

Data (1) is a paragraph that contains sentences ending in the phoneme/a/ before a consonant letter. This causes this data to be included in the alliteration sound style section because it has a repetition of dead or consonant sounds. With the use of consonant letters after the phoneme/a/, the paragraphs made by journalists still experience sound harmonization because they are patterned a-a-a-a.

In data (2), journalists use a combination of assonance and alliteration which makes the paragraph harmonize. This is because there is the use of the phoneme/a/ at the end of each sentence. The sentences included in the assonance are "*selama tiga bulan, Mursyidah tidak mampu berbicara*", and "*setelah diobati secara tradisional dan dipeusijuek (didoakan dengan upacara) baru ia pulih dari kebiasuannya*". In the sentence "*suaranya hilang*", the writer also continues to use the phoneme/a/ even though it ends with a consonant letter. That's why the sentence belongs to the alliteration sound style.

### Word Style

In the use of word style, Pantau's coverage writers use concrete words. This is because a feature is still a news story that must be described in a factual and actual manner. Examples of the use of concrete word style are as follows.

- (3) *Ketika berjumpa buat wawancara, Sonny hanya mengenakan kemeja batik coklat, dipadu topi hitam, serta sepatu hitam karet biasa (Liputan Kisah Umat Buddha Bontang, Dua Dekade Merawat Harapan Dirikan Vihara, Edisi 5 Januari 2022).*
- (4) *Menjelang magrib saya menunggu di teras rumah Luhin. Rumahnya bercat hijau. Halamannya lebih luas dibanding rumah-rumah lain. Tepat di depannya berdiri warung kelontong bernama Toko Jagat. Gerai itu milik putra*

*pertamanya yang kini kerja di luar kota. Luhin termasuk orang yang paling awal menempati Gang Lampung. Beliau sudah bermukim di Indralaya sejak 1985. Luhin berasal dari Bengkulu. Namun pekerjaan membawanya menetap di Indralaya. (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*

In data (3), journalists contain an explanation of a person's characteristics. The journalist describes Sonny as wearing a brown batik shirt, black hat, and black rubber shoes. Sonny is the source he met in his coverage of the Vihara built independently by Buddhists in Bontang to carry out worship activities. The paragraphs that are written clearly using a concrete style of words make the reader imagine the shape of the source from the characteristics written by the journalist.

In data (4), the concrete word style is used to describe the physical characteristics of Luhin's house, which is his source in the coverage of the dog slaughter in Indralaya. There is the sentence " *Rumahnya bercat hijau. Halamannya lebih luas dibanding rumah-rumah lain. Tepat di depannya berdiri warung kelontong bernama Toko Jagat*" which is a concrete word to build the reader's imagination to imagine the shape of Luhin's house.

### **Sentence Style**

The coverage written by journalists uses sentence styles in the form of inversions, question sentences and command sentences. This is explained in the following data.

- (5) *Tersumbatnya keran dialog membuat kecurigaan yang kian runcing (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*
- (6) *Suatu hari ia dipanggil Dokter Soetrimo dan ditanya, "Apa kamu mau bekerja?" (Liputan Lelaki dengan Tiga Kepala, Edisi 17 Juni 2008).*
- (7) *Halili pun menjawab: "Itu jelas bentuk intoleransi dan tindak pidana. Aparat tidak boleh diam!" (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*

In data (5), the sentence style used by journalists is the inversion type sentence style. The sentence uses the predicate as the beginning of the sentence. This causes data (5) to be included in the inversion type of sentence style.

Data (6) is an interrogative sentence style. In the data there is a dialog " *Apa kamu mau bekerja?*" which was asked by Doctor Soetrimo as the Head of Datu Beru Hospital to Saheh who was the source visited by journalists.

The sentence style found by researchers in data (7) is a command sentence. It can be clearly seen that the sentence contains dialog that ends with an exclamation mark, " *Itu jelas bentuk intoleransi dan tindak pidana. Aparat tidak boleh diam!*". Halili from the Setara Institute told journalists about the dog slaughter that took place in Indralaya.

### **Discourse Style**

The discourse style used in Pantau's coverage is climax and code-mixing as the data explained as follows.

- (8) *Suatu ketika, pernah terdengar isu kristenisasi di sekitar Gang Lampung. Hal ini berangkat dari dugaan akan didirikannya gereja di dekat tempat tinggalnya. Saat itu, secara cepat Luhin merespon dengan mengusulkan pendirian masjid. Kini rumah ibadah tersebut bernama Masjid Al Furqan. Menurut Luhin orang-orang masjidlah yang sering membantunya menangani persoalan anjing (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*
- (9) *"Kito nih masyarakat Gang Lampung yang muslim merasa terganggu galo dengan anjing." (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*

Data (8) uses a climactic discourse style, because in one paragraph, there are increasing stages. These stages begin with the issue of Christianization around Gang Lampung, which is then responded to by Luhin who proposes the establishment of a mosque. In the mosque, the community then held a meeting to deal with the dog problem that was rampant in Gang Lampung.

In data (9), the journalist wrote the dialog with code-mixing, because it was in accordance with the conversation in the field. The word kito is Palembang language which means us, while galo means all. The sentence shows that the Muslim community in Gang Lampung feels disturbed by the presence of dogs in the neighborhood.

## Figurative Language

Figurative language varieties found in the coverage by journalists monitor metaphors, similes, personification, metonymy, and idioms. The explanation of these varieties is as follows.

- (10) *Isinya larangan bagi pedagang kaki lima berjualan di muka Pasar Atjeh dan pintu masuk Masjid Raya Baiturrahman, Banda Aceh (Liputan Perempuan Ranub, Edisi 31 Mei 2008).*
- (11) *Cara ia memegang kepala-kepala yang sudah terpisah dari tubuh itu mirip gaya tukang buah memegang semangka-semangka dagangannya (Liputan Lelaki dengan Tiga Kepala, Edisi 17 Juni 2008).*
- (12) *Selepasnya, ia mengajak saya melihat tempat ibadah khusus yang ia bangun di sisi kanan Lembah Permai (Liputan Kisah Umat Buddha Bontang, Dua Dekade Merawat Harapan Dirikan Vihara, Edisi 5 Januari 2022).*
- (13) *Anak-anak Batak pun kabur kalang kabut (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*

The sentence in data (10) is a type of metaphor. This can be seen from the use of the phrase “*kaki lima*”. The phrase is interpreted with a meaning that is not true, namely commercial activities carried out on the roadside or public places.

Data (11) contains simile. There is the word “*mirip*” which is used as a form of comparison between one thing and another. Journalists use simile to compare the way Saheh holds the human heads separated from their bodies to the way a fruit vendor holds his watermelons.

In data (12), Pantau journalists use metonymy. The mention of “*Lembah Permai*” in the sentence is a substitute for the name of Lembah Permai Adventure Park, which is a tourist area in the Bontang area. In the data, the journalist is invited by Sonny as his source to the self-built monastery on the right side of Lembah Permai Adventure Park.

Data (13), which is the last data in figurative language, belongs to the idiom type. This is because of the use of idioms “*kalang kabut*”. *Kalang kabut* is a phrase that cannot be interpreted word for word, as it would change the meaning. In the meaning in data (14), the Batak children are running around in confusion.

## Imagery

The images found in the coverage by Pantau journalists are as follows.

- (14) *Sama seperti yang lain, Surip langsung tersulut meluapkan rasa kesalnya. Ia berbicara jauh lebih banyak dari yang lain. Maklum, saat itu saya sudah pernah berbincang dengan Luhin dan Robin. Surip merupakan pria asal Meranjat yang kini menetap di Indralaya Utara. Tubuhnya lebih gemuk dibanding Luhin dan Robin, bahkan cenderung gempal. Surip juga sama ramahnya seperti Robin dan Luhin, kala menyambut perbincangan dengan saya (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*
- (15) *MALAM itu udara terasa sejuk. Di luar sana gerimis menitik dan membasahi sela-sela jendela. Suasana sepi tiba-tiba pecah oleh suara ibu-ibu. Mereka mengajak aku berbincang-bincang. Para ibu ini adalah keluarga para orang hilang yang datang dari berbagai daerah di Aceh. Tapi kemudian ada lelaki yang juga ikut serta. Kami pun akhirnya berkumpul di bawah pohon mangga, sambil menghirup udara malam dan menikmati desir angin (Liputan Perempuan Ranub, Edisi 31 Mei 2008).*
- (16) *Tingginya mencapai 5 meter, dengan batang berwarna coklat kehijauan, bulat, beruas dan merupakan tempat keluarnya akar. Daunnya yang tunggal berbentuk jantung, berujung runcing, tumbuh berselang-seling, bertangkai, dan mengeluarkan bau yang segar. Panjangnya sekitar lima sampai delapan sentimeter dan lebar dua sampai lima sentimeter (Liputan Perempuan Ranub, Edisi 31 Mei 2008).*
- (17) *Pak Robin, seorang penjaga sekolah dasar yang turut serta dalam obrolan, terlihat tidak selera. Ia enggan mencicipi pempek tersebut. “Cukonyo terlalu pedas,” dalih Robin yang pernah menjabat sebagai ketua Masjid Al Furqan. Surip sempat mencicipi sekitar satu atau dua pempek. Begitu pula dengan Luhin. Saat itu Masjid sudah kosong, hanya tersisa kami berempat dan satu orang yang tidak saya kenal (Liputan Stereotip dan Kebencian Melatari Pembantaian Anjing di Indralaya, Edisi 10 Desember 2022).*
- (18) *Menurut kajian kesehatan, sirih mengandung zat antiseptik pada seluruh bagiannya. Daunnya banyak digunakan untuk mengobati mimisan, mata merah, keputihan, membuat suara nyaring dan banyak lagi, termasuk disfungsi ereksi (Liputan Perempuan Ranub, Edisi 31 Mei 2008).*

Data (14) is categorized as visual imagery. This is because journalists use words that describe a person's stature. In this case, what is described is Surip who has a body that tends to be stockier than the other two sources, Luhin and Robin. Readers are invited to imagine Surip's stature from the description written by journalists in the coverage.

Then in data (15), journalists use auditory imagery. The imagery is used to describe the atmosphere at Wisma Bintara Pineng to attend a meeting of families of missing persons throughout Aceh organized by the Aceh Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (Kontras). In this data, journalists invite readers to imagine an atmosphere filled with the voices of mothers talking.

In data (16), there is a sense of smell because there is a sentence "*mengeluarkan bau yang segar*". From this sentence, journalists invite readers to imagine the smell of betel nut. Journalists describe the smell as something refreshing.

Data (17) has a sense of smell from the sentence "*Cukonyo terlalu pedas*," which was said by Robin as the source interviewed by the journalist. In the data, there is a spicy word from the *cuko* used to eat *pempek*. The reader is invited to imagine the taste of the *cuko* served during the coverage process.

Journalists use intellectual imagery in data (18). This can be seen from the way he writes with valid data. There is a sentence "*menurut kajian kesehatan*" to support the next sentences that contain the health benefits of betel. Betel is said to be effective in treating nosebleeds, red eyes, vaginal discharge, making voices loud and more, including erectile dysfunction.

### **Relevance of Research to Indonesian Language Learning**

Stylistic studies are closely related to literature because of its purpose of trying to define literary works from a linguistic-style point of view. Language style is a characteristic characteristic that literature builds in creating works to produce expressions that are individual in nature. They're going to use language exploitation games, so the reader catches the typical language vibration of his works.

Feature that is the kind of news that goes into the category of light and easy-to-understand news. In addition, with the use of unique structures and habits, makes the reader participate in the visualization of the events written in it. By still holding on to the news element of 5W+1H, it does not diminish the uniqueness of the feature in exploiting language. Implementation of language exploitation is what can then be used as learning material for meaning exploration material obtained after reading feature.

The Indonesian language learning related to this research is a phase E in the Merdeka Curriculum. Learning access in general from the above Phase E can be used as a guideline for implementation of learning news text, especially features. There are four elements used in the Freedom Curriculum; listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In the element of reading and reading, the learners are able to evaluate information in the form of ideas, thoughts, views, instructions or messages from various types of text, such as descriptions, reports, narratives, reviews, explanations, exposures and discussions, from visual and audiovisual texts to find explicit and implicit meanings. The learners interpret information to express ideas and feelings of sympathy, care, empathy and/or pro/contra opinions of visual and audio-visual texts creatively. (Kemdikbud, 2021). These accesses can be used as guidelines to make features an exploration material for students to emulate messages informed from the feature text they read.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the analysis of the data conducted, the following conclusions can be drawn. First, the language styles identified in the Monitor cover features encompass 1) sound styles; 2) word styles; 3) sentence styles; 4) discourse styles; 5) figurative language; and 6) imagery. Regarding sound styles, the researchers observed the use of alliteration. Since the features essentially present news, the word style employed in the coverage is characterized by concrete language. In terms of sentence style, inversions, question sentences, and imperative sentences were identified, utilized by journalists in both narrative and dialogue sections. In the realm of figurative language, journalists employed devices such as metaphor, simile, and metonymy. Additionally, the researchers noted the presence of idioms in one of the Monitor coverage features. As for imagery, various types were discerned, including visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile, and conceptual images.

Secondly, the findings of this study have implications for the learning of the Indonesian language, particularly within Phase E of the Merdeka Curriculum. In this phase, reading and viewing components are incorporated, providing students with the opportunity to assess information presented as ideas across various text types. Feature-shaped news texts are among the texts that can be utilized in the implementation of this learning process.

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