

**AN ECOLINGUISTIC STUDY: THE STORY OF  
CONVICTION, ERASURE, AND SALIENCE OF SANGIHE  
GOLD MINING PROJECT IN TEMPO AND VOI ARTICLES**

**THESIS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK  
IBRAHIM MALANG  
2023**

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**THESIS**

Presented to

Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S)

By:

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2023**

## STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

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I state that the thesis entitled “**An Ecolinguistic Study: The Story of Conviction, Erasure, and Salience of Sangihe Gold Mining Project in Tempo and VOI Articles**” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, May 19, 2023

The Researcher



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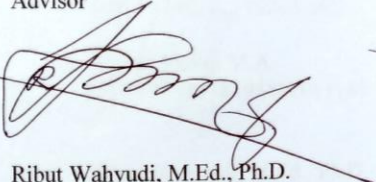
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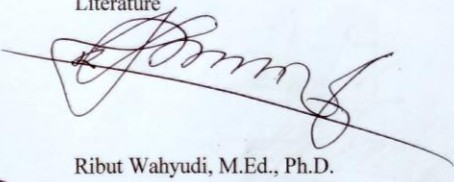
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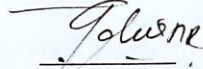
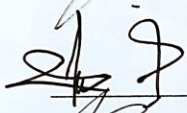
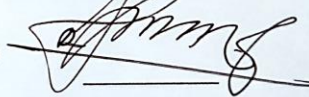


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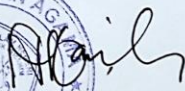
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**MOTTO**

“Some things are up to us,  
some things are not up to us”.

— Epictetus

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to my beloved Mom, Bapak, little sister, and my advisor,  
*Bapak Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed, Ph.D.*

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The prime and highest gratitude is always delivered to Allah SWT. Through His guidance and blessing, I am able to feel the beauty and emotion in seeking knowledge. He is the One who gives me the abilities to speak, write, think, and express my emotions. This blessing has been the greatest thing that influences my journey to explore knowledge. May *Salawat* and *Salam* always be upon prophet Muhammad SAW, the most flawless man exists.

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Finally, this is the best capabilities of mine to complete this thesis. I do realize that this thesis might have a lack in some ways. Thus, any critical suggestions and corrections would be helpful for better research in the future

Malang, April 9, 2023

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## ABSTRACT

**Nabila, Izzatun.** 2023. *The Story of Conviction, Erasure, And Saliency, of Sangihe Gold Mining Project in Tempo. co and VOI.id Articles.* Minor Thesis (*Skripsi*). Linguistics, English Literature Department, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D.

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Environmental issues have been a decade issue that is unresolved until now. Mining is one of the causes of environmental damage. In this case, the media take a role in creating a story for the readers about the situation in the field. This story is able to influence readers' attitudes toward ecology. Taking the case of the gold mining project in Sangihe Island, this study aims to investigate the story of conviction, erasure, and saliency proposed by Stibbe (2015) that influence the wellbeing of ecology in Sangihe Island. It is necessary to give attention to this national issue and bring it into academic discussions since most of the current discussions talked about an international issue, climate change. The data sources were taken from related English news from Tempo. co and VOI.id about the gold mining project on Sangihe Island. Then, the data were analyzed using eco-critical discourse analysis by Stibbe (2015) and ecosophy by Stibbe (2015). The study revealed that Tempo. co produces a beneficial story for the wellbeing of ecology by constructing the conviction of the description 'mining creates ecological damage' and presenting the salient image of the elements of ecology in Sangihe. Meanwhile, VOI.id produces a potentially destructive story for the wellbeing of ecology by undermining the description and erasing the salient image of ecological elements in Sangihe. Lastly, further study can employ other stories to give a comprehensive understanding of the influence of media reporting on environmental issues.

## ABSTRAK

**Nabila, Izzatun.** 2023. *The Story of Conviction, Erasure, And Salience, of Sangihe Gold Mining Project in Tempo.co and VOI.id Articles*. Tesis Kecil (Skripsi). Linguistik, Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D.

Kata Kunci: Ekolinguistik, *Conviction, Erasure, Salience, Ecosophy*

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Isu lingkungan merupakan permasalahan yang sudah menjadi fokus perhatian selama satu dasawarsa terakhir namun hingga saat ini masih belum terselesaikan. Pertambangan menjadi salah satu penyebab kerusakan lingkungan yang sering menjadi perbincangan di media massa. Peran media massa sangat penting dalam menciptakan cerita tentang situasi lingkungan di lapangan, yang kemudian dapat mempengaruhi sikap pembaca terhadap ekologi. Studi ini mengambil kasus proyek penambangan emas di Pulau Sangihe yang bertujuan untuk menyelidiki cerita dari *conviction, erasure, dan salience* yang dikemukakan oleh Stibbe (2015) yang memengaruhi kesejahteraan ekologi di Pulau Sangihe. Isu ini merupakan isu nasional yang perlu mendapatkan perhatian dan dibahas dalam diskusi-diskusi akademik karena banyak diskusi saat ini hanya membicarakan isu internasional, seperti perubahan iklim. Data untuk penelitian ini diambil dari berita berbahasa Inggris yang terkait dengan proyek penambangan emas di Pulau Sangihe dari Tempo.co dan VOI.id. Data kemudian dianalisis menggunakan analisis wacana eko-kritis oleh Stibbe (2015) dan ekосоfi juga oleh Stibbe (2015). Hasil studi menunjukkan bahwa Tempo.co mampu menciptakan cerita yang bermanfaat bagi kesejahteraan ekologi dengan membangun keyakinan atas deskripsi 'penambangan menciptakan kerusakan ekologis' dan menghadirkan citra yang menonjol dari unsur-unsur ekologi di Sangihe. Sementara itu, VOI.id menghasilkan cerita yang berpotensi merusak kesejahteraan ekologi dengan merusak deskripsi dan menghapus citra penting elemen ekologi di Sangihe. Studi selanjutnya dapat menggunakan cerita lain untuk memberikan pemahaman yang lebih komprehensif tentang pengaruh pemberitaan media terhadap isu lingkungan. Oleh karena itu, peran media dalam menginformasikan isu lingkungan yang berkelanjutan harus lebih dipertimbangkan untuk mendukung kesejahteraan ekologi.

## مستخلص

نابيلا، عزتون. 2023. قصة الإيمان، الحذف، والأهمية لمشروع تعدين الذهب في سانغيه في مقالات تيمبو.كو وفوي.آي.دي. رسالة بكالوريوس (سكريبسي). اللغويات، قسم الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية العلوم الثقافية، جامعة إسلامية نيجري مولانا مالك إبراهيم مالانغ. المشرف: ريبوت واهيودي، م.د.د. د. فلسفة الكلمات الدالة: اللغة الإيكولوجية، الإيمان، الحذف، الأهمية، الإيكوسوفي.

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كانت القضايا البيئية مشكلة عقدية لم يتم حلها حتى الآن. التعدين هو أحد أسباب الأضرار البيئية. في هذه الحالة ، تلعب وسائل الإعلام دورًا في إنشاء قصة للقراء حول الوضع في الميدان. هذه القصة قادرة على Sangihe التأثير على موقف القراء تجاه البيئة. مع الأخذ في الاعتبار حالة مشروع تعدين الذهب في جزيرة والتي (2015) Stibbe تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى التحقيق في قصة الإدانة والمحو والبروز التي اقترحتها ، من الضروري الاهتمام بهذه القضية الوطنية وإدخالها في Sangihe. تؤثر على رفاهية البيئة في جزيرة المناقشات الأكاديمية لأن معظم المناقشات الحالية تحدثت عن قضية دولية هي تغير المناخ. مصادر البيانات حول مشروع تعدين الذهب في VOI.id و Tempo.co مأخوذة من الأخبار الإنجليزية ذات الصلة من Stibbe بعد ذلك ، تم تحليل البيانات باستخدام تحليل الخطاب النقدي البيئي بواسطة Sangihe جزيرة ينتج قصة مفيدة لرفاهية Tempo.co كشفت الدراسة أن (2015) Stibbe بواسطة ecosophy و (2015) البيئة من خلال بناء قناعة بالوصف "التعدين يخلق ضررًا بيئيًا" وتقديم صورة بارزة لعناصر البيئة في قصة يمكن أن تكون مدمرة لرفاهية البيئة من خلال تقويض VOI.id سانجيه. وفي الوقت نفسه ، تنتج أخيرًا ، يمكن أن تستخدم الدراسة الإضافية Sangihe الوصف ومحو الصورة البارزة للعناصر البيئية في قصصًا أخرى لإعطاء فهم شامل لتأثير التقارير الإعلامية على القضايا البيئية.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

Environmental damage has been an issue for more than a decade. Beginning with the UN Scientific Conference in Stockholm in 1972 until the upcoming 2022 conference in Sharm el-Sheikh (UN Publication 2007; UNFCCC Publication 2022). This discussion has been through several topics starting from pollution, and climate change, until the arrangement of the Paris Agreement and Kyoto Protocol. Since then, national and international organizations have created an attempt to reduce the damage. One of the attempts was using the media as an ally to advocate this issue. Not only organizations, but scholars also put their attention to the environment through their research on ecology.

Linguists who have an interest in ecology believe that ecology has a relation with language. Furthermore, the different patterns of linguistic strategy can create different stories of ecology. Stibbe (2015) introduces 8 kinds of stories produced by the different linguistic patterns. There were ideology, framing, metaphor, evaluation, identity, conviction, erasure, and salience. Each of the stories has a strong relationship that influences one another. That is why to analyze ecolinguistic, the researcher should consider identifying more than one story that has a relation to another (Stibbe, 2015). The story of conviction, erasure, and salience is a package that should be considered. It is because the conviction was built by the speaker by strengthening the element that they believe is prominent and erasing the other elements that are unimportant. That is why my study will explore the story of conviction, erasure, and salience in a text.

Several previous studies have also discussed conviction, erasure, and salience. They found that claims or descriptions with less modal have a high truth (Jaworska, 2018; Nasser, 2021; Zhdanava. et,all, 2021). Furthermore, the use of personal experience as a legitimation can also be considered as a truth (Burke&Demasi, 2018). The other studies that discuss the erasure or the exclusion of certain participants in the text showed that the word choices can exclude a participant that considers as unworthy of consideration (Moernaut. et, all, 2018; Fernández-Vázquez.et,all, 2020; Fernández-Vázquez, 2021; Runge, 2021; Pratiwi et al., 2021; Alva, 2022). Whereas, the vivid picturization of a participant through language devices such as the use of activation, personalization, and specification give important effect to be considered (Fouad, 2019; Norton & Hulme, 2019; Schmitt, 2019; Torkington et.all., 2020; Zhdanava, 2021). I discuss the strength and weaknesses of the previous studies in the following paragraphs. Thus, I face difficulty to find previous studies about conviction in environmental discourse. That is why I also mention the other studies that related to the conviction strategy.

The previous studies about the conviction are mostly present in political discourse. The study that was close to the Eco-CDA analysis model of Stibbe (2015) is Nasser's (2021) on his political discourse analysis. He studied the allegation of COVID-19 origin between U.S. and China authority speech. By using Machin and Mayr's (2012) CDA theory of truth, he analyzes the speech of Senator Tom Cotton, President Donald Trump, Ambassador Cui Tiankai, and Director Lijian Zhao. He found that both sides avoid the direct allegation with similar patterns of conviction. The U.S., Senator Tom Cotton, and President Donald Trump use hedge "*a lot of*

*people*", and "*a certain kind of bat*" to ground their belief that the virus is not from the U.S. This shows that their allegation does not have strong ground. The Chinese Ambassador Cui Tiankai and Director Lijian Zhao, also use hedge "*a lot*" to justify their claim that the virus origin is not from China. He concluded that, even without authoritative evidence, the claim from both sides is not false because they do not claim to be true instead, they express their claim based on their belief which is grounded in hypothetical premises.

The study from Jaworska (2018) uses corporate social responsibility (CSR) reports, by major oil companies from 2000 to 2013, to analyze the attitude of the corporation toward environmental issues. Corpus technique by Rychlý (2008) was used to collect the data that related to the phrase climate change. He finds that CSR uses linguistic features to undermine the importance of addressing the environmental issue, for instance, the word *believes* is used when the report discusses the factor of climate change and its effect on the environment. Furthermore, the energy demand was described as *enormous* which means more important than greenhouse gas emissions which were described as *significant*. This study gives a detailed analysis of the linguistic devices that were used in reports. Thus, the linguistics used does not reflect its impact of it on ecology. That is why the assessment uses *ecosophy* from Stibbe (2015) is needed to give a deep understanding of this issue.

In their study, Burke & Demasi (2019) investigate the fact construction use discursive psychology. The theory of discursive psychology and fact construction by Edwards & Potter (1992) was used to analyze the extract. They use debate

conversations from the debate between Great Britain and the European Union about Islamophobia in the wake of the Charlie Hebdo attack as their data. They find that the fact that was delivered by the speaker to undermine the opponent's claim was constructed through personal experience, factual evidence, and general knowledge. This study gives insight into the fact construction strategy in two-way communication. However, this study was conducted based on the psychological field. That is why my study will explore the influence of the linguistic strategies that are used to construct the conviction in ecology discourse to broaden the field.

Another study about conviction construction is from Wang (2022). He aimed to reveal the linguistic strategy that Donald Trump (USA) and Xi Jinping (China) used in their speech about COVID-19. By using legitimation strategies analysis by Van Leeuwen (2007), he found that Donald Trump and Xi Jinping used “authorization (authority of personal and impersonal authority, tradition), rationalization (instrumental, and theoretical and nominalizations), mythopoesis (storytelling), appeals to emotions, and moral evaluation (legitimation through modality, evaluations, and comparisons)” to construct their statement as a justified claim to solve the COVID-19 problem (Wang, 2022, pg. 902).

One of his analyses is the modal “*must*,” “*should*” and “*will*” that were repeatedly used by Xi and Trump to show their expression of high commitment and accountability of their governments. Wang’s (2022) and Nasser’s (2021) linguistic analyses are in line with the conviction framework from Stibbe (2015). They try to reveal the linguistic strategies that the speakers or writers used to convince the audience of their claim. Thus, their studies do not give a deep understanding of the

influence of the strategies through the audiences' understanding of the problem. Additionally, it is used in the political discourse. That is why my study will explore the influence of the linguistic strategies that are used to construct the conviction in ecology discourse. (Wang, 2022)

The story of erasure is also represented in a various media such as articles, news, and webpage. Using theory of corpus Franklin et al., (2022) and Clare Cunningham et al., (2022) used a webpage for their data. Franklin et al., (2022) used the corpora from the webpage UK campaign (Gov.uk) and corpora from Twitter, Reddit, and Mumsneasses the degree of differences between British consumer language and supermarkets and government entities as a public-facing body. The result found that the corpora of "consumer" is consistently linked with the corporation vocabulary such as assets, business, and financial. This finding concluded that individuals must depend on the action of corporations to make a difference.

Meanwhile, Clare Cunningham et al., (2022) used corpora of English web 2018 that discuss about climate change as the main data to analyze how the public figures' discourse, activists and politicians, reactions hegemonic perspective on climate change either agree or disagree. They found that the activist mostly portrays the negative impact of a climate change on the environment while the politician portrays finance and economy degradation as effects of climate change. Those two studies have a similarity in the method but different data resulting the different findings. Franklin et al., (2022) in their study found that economy and finance which is part of corporation is part of the agent of change of environmental damage while

Clare Cunningham et al., (2022) found that economic degradation happened because of climate change. Thus, those finding is still on a surface because the corpora cannot give the deep understanding of the media since the analysis is based on the corpora that appeared in the tool.

The other study that uses corpus based analysis is Moernaut et al. (2019). Additionally, they used Discursive news values framework by Bednarek and Caple (2017). Taking articles from three Flemish mainstream newspapers, they try to investigate how language was used to portray environmental justice by using the keyword of climate change, global warming, and greenhouse effect. Furthermore, they also try to discover the news value in reporting climate change. They find that news value is not always the same from one news to another. It depends on the ideological context of the topic being reported. Furthermore, they also find that the language used in reporting the climate change is neutral to naturalize the phenomenon, for example the phrase *magic trick* is used to define emission trading. The word *cause* is used to define climate change. By using those words, the severe phenomenon that needs more attention is being naturalized so that the audience does not aware of it. Thus, this study focuses more on the news value rather than how the neutral word used reflects the ideology of the media. That is why this study does not give deep understanding of the ecolinguistic.

Another ecolinguistic study focused on the representation of human and environmental relations in the text such as articles, poems, and webpage (Nasar, N., et al 2020);Zhang & He, 2020);Maledo & Edhere, 2021);Fernández-Vázquez, 2021). Using qualitative methods Nasar, N., et al try to define Halliday's meta

function to reveal hidden meaning of five COVID-19 advertorials. Furthermore, they also try to analyze the impact of the use of certain language in the advertorials using SFL approach. They found that the advertorials contain vocabulary of mental processes and circumstantial feature, for instance find, seek, assume, and grapple. In the text, these vocabularies are used to generalize. As a result, it makes people panic and worried that their ecosystem breaks down. Zhang & He (2020) also use SFL specifically transitivity to analyze the relationship between human and their environment in chinese language and to investigate the transitivity in constructing ecological experiences. They interview the employee of mega oil company in China. The transitivity used by the worker is a reflection of how they treat their environment. Although those two studies use the same theory of SFL their finding is different because the data are different. Nasar's study explain that language can influence people's emotion toward their ecosystem while in Zhang's study language is the reflection of people's attitude towards their environment.

Another study that attempt to discover the concept of nature in more than 60 languages was conducted by Coscieme et al., (2020). Using qualitative methodology they interview 60 native speakers of different languages. They use the question Howw would you translate the word 'nature' in your language' and then the peoplewere asked to write down the answer. After that to confirm the right understanding check and review of translation with the native was conducted. Theory of Mace (2014) was used to characterize the answer. They found three clusters of the meaning which are inclusive, non-inclusive, and deifying conceptualization. Inclusive means that human are viewed as an integral component

of nature for example, the concept of *iwigara* from Raramuri, people of Mexico, explain that nature is a shared space, we can see that human is involved in this concept. Non-inclusive means that human is excluded from the nature, for example, the concept of *Ziran* from Chinese language explains that nature is pure or untouched environment.

Lastly, deifying means that nature has a relation with spirituality, for example, the concept of *Vasudha* from Bengali (Hindi) language explains that nature is God's gift. These findings shared a light on the understanding of nature from diverse languages. Thus, it does not explore further on the influences that make the native speaker of each 60 languages have that conceptualization. That is why the analysis is stuck in the surface.

A study that used webpage as their data is Fernández-Vázquez and Sancho-Rodríguez (2020). The articles from IBEX 35 companies and NGOs were used. Using corpus, CDA, and multimodal analysis they want to discover how Spanish corporations construct their identity in environmental issues. Furthermore, they try to identify the type of discourse that the corporation produces and compare with other social actors like NGOs. They find that these companies are environmentally concerned reflected by the visual image and linguistic pattern used. In their visual design, they use the combination of nature and technology to discuss climate change matter while in terms of linguistic patterns the nominal structure was used to define climate change as a challenge. Comparing the discourse of IBEX 35 companies and NGOs, the companies' discourse is more complex because it combines nature and technology to express climate change while in NGOs the discourse is only

concerned with nature to express climate change but NGOs depict the climate change more diverse not only challenge but also problem. This study has a complex analysis. Thus the linguistic analysis can not convey the whole identity of the companies' webpage because it only discuss the dominant structure which appear in the corpus machine.

Fernández-Vázquez (2021) in his study try to compare the concern for environment between 20 oil companies and NGOs webpages. These 20 companies have a good reputation as environmentally concerned agents in relation to climate change. Using multimodal analysis and corpora, he found that only 50% of those companies have references and article that discuss about climate change in their webpages compared to NGOs webpage. He conclude that those companies are not really aware to address the climate change issue since only few article used eco reference to discuss the climate change. This study analysis can not be used to deeply understand the issue because it only analyse the chosen corpora instead of the whole content of the article.

In his study, Runge (2021) attempts to investigate the influence of ideology in climate change narrative. Norton and Hulme (2019)' theory was used to analyze the type of narrative. Moreover, corpora was also used to collect the data. Data were taken from three Swedish newspapers: Aftonbladet, Svenska Dagbladet, and Dagens Nyheter. From these newspaper, corpora technique was used to collect 128 editorials that contain the phrase "climate change". They found that climate change was widely accepted as a threat in Swedish editorial. The similarity with Norton and Hulme (2019) study ,which analyze UK newspaper, is that the more

conservative the media, the narrative was more Lukewarmer. “The Lukewarmer story accepts that climate change is real and mostly man-made, but does not consider it to be a planetary emergency”(Norton & Hulme, 2019, p. 4). Nevertheless, in Swedish editorial the ecomodornist narrative was still found in Aftonbladet which present the advance of technology that can help to combat the climate change. Thus, this study has complete the previous study by Norton and Hulme (2019) by giving comparison with different media, the analysis still in a surface because no further analysis on the value of the narrative based on the ecology philosophy by Stibbe (2015) that can be based to judge wheter this narrative beneficial for the ecology or not.

Study that used book as their data are Pratiwi et al., (2021) and Alva (2022). Pratiwi et al., (2021) use BIPA textbook titled BIPA Sahabatku published by Kemendikbud in 2019 to investigate the ecolexicon and the use of euphemism to raise awarness of environmental problem. Using qualitative method they found that euphemism was used in a reading material where human is the cause of environmental destruction, for example the phrase industrial waste was used to avoid violation comitted by human. Furthermore, ecolexicon was also commonly used in the text, for example the word “Kesuburan” with subur as an indication of grow well in ecology. This study cannot deeply understand whether the book is beneficial for environment preservation or not because no further analysis based on ecological philosophy.

In Alva's (2022) study, The European Commission’s handbook was used as the data. Using qualitative methodology, she attempts to analyze the characteristic

of language in the handbook. She found that the handbook generally used economic terms and phrases to explain the phenomenon. This decreases the awareness of people on the case of climate change because the focus is on the economy rather than the climate change, for example, the word *service* in the phrase *ecosystem services*, the word *capital* in the phrase *natural capital*, and the phrase *trade-off* to explain market-driven mindset on natural resources. She sums up her finding with the suggestion for EC policy to make NBS more eco-friendly rather than still rooted with its economic terms. This finding put light on the use of certain language that can blur the other intended meaning. Thus, the analysis still surfaces because no ecological philosophy by Stibbe (2015) analysis can measure whether the handbook is beneficial for the environment or not.

Furthermore, a study about salience in ecological discourse is conducted by Fouad (2019). He aimed to investigate the linguistic strategies used in the articles whether it is beneficial or destructive to the ecosystem. The data was about Swine Flu in Egypt. It was taken from 20 Egypt news articles. Fouad used Fowler's (1991) transformation and transitivity theory to analyze the data. He found that several erasing strategies are used in the texts that support the government's decision to kill the pigs. The news that challenges the government's choice, on the other hand, personalizes the pigs as beings with feelings and the capacity to suffer by bringing them front and center as agents in the active sentence. One of the results of erasure and salience in his analysis is the phrase *the disposal of dead pigs* to describe the pig which was killed due to the spread of the virus. By using nominalization, it erased the actor that killed the pig. On the other hand, the salient strategy is found

in describing the pig. The news describes the pig as cute, naïve, and fat which gives character to the pig. This study gives a diverse analysis of erasure and salience on the issue. Thus, it does not imply the ecosophy framework to deeply understand the impact of the news on the ecosystem. (Fouad, 2019)

Magd & Simpen, (2020) and Daulay et al., (2021) explore more the relation of eco-lexicon and the ideology of local community in their cultural which are Malaka and Padang. Bang and Door (2000) theory of three dimensions was used to analyse the relationship of eco-lexicon and the community ideology. The utterance of Tentun Fehan ritual of Malaka community is the main data analysed. They found that the ritual has more noun eco-lexicon than any other word categories for instance, ‘udan’ as the ritual process of rain, ‘rainain’ as the ruler of the universe. These lexicons appeared as a sign of human-nature relationship of the local community and the ecology surrounding. It is supported with the fact that the land is the main resource of life for the Malaka community.

Meanwhile, in Upah-Upah Ceremony at mandailing tribe wedding in matondang village located in Padang Lawas Regency, discover there are differences between generations in practice and understanding, along with lexicons’ endurance and tendency, revealed the dynamics of the natural environment lexicon (Daulay et al., 2021). For instance, the literal meaning of rice is a white substance that was function as main food commodity but for local community rice which is called “eme” means a blessing from heaven and earth because of its transcendental. Thus, in the ritual of Upah-Upah it has more deeply meaning as a sign of intention and desire to start a new life for husband and wife. Both discovery from these studies

has a deepen level on understanding the eco-lexicon of each culture. So that I can be the reference to understand the tribe of Malaka and Padang specifically on their ritual of Tentun Fehan and Upah-Upaha. So, ecology and linguistic is also represented culturally through the tradition of a tribe. Thus, ecology and linguistic is also represented in the contemporary context such as online news and articles.

Ecology and linguistic in a media always have a pattern that strengthen a specific side whether the hero or the villain of environment sustainability. Norton & Hulme (2019) used corpus study to investigate the climate change's representation in editorial of five UK national newspaper (The Times, The Telegraph, The Independent, The Guardian and The Daily Mail). They used the Stibbe's *story-we-lived-by* framework containing, metaphor, framing, evaluation, ideology, erasure, salience, identity, and conviction to investigate the representation. The data was chosen in a specific edition of 2001, 2007, and 2015 because those year were identified as major years for climate change events. The results show that those media represent an ecomodernist story that emphasize the responses of energy innovation and technology to climate change. Thus, this result is not deeply understanding the reality because the analysis is general for certain corpora in several media. That is why it is stuck in the surface.

In Schmitt's (2019) study, he investigates the salient of Scapegoat Ecology in social media. The ecologically-motivated conversation is shortened to scapegoat ecology. In scapegoat ecology, a group of environmentally conscious and nature-loving people focuses their attention and vitriol on a single person for being especially harmful to the environment and blaming that person for the

environmental decline. In his finding the Reddit Post that post a picture of an after-party in a forest campsite with a bunch of trash left behind between the tree and plant in the forest get a lot of negative commentary from the Reddit user. The picture saliently portrays how the people involved in that picture do not respect other mankind in the forest. This study gives a broad understanding of the impact of visual images on people understanding of an environmental issue. Thus, it is limited to visual analysis without considering the linguistic features used. Furthermore, it can be deeply understood by implying the ecosophy to assess whether this discourse is beneficial for the good of future ecology.

Torkington, Stanford, & Guiver (2020) examine the linguistic features to identify the backlash of economic growth, environment, and social sustainability. Corpus and CDA were used to analyze 7 European national tourism policy documents in English and Portuguese language. To analyze the data, they used Wodak & Meyer (2016) Critical Discourse Analysis theory. They found that economic goals were described as important to community well-being and environmental sustainability was described as important to maintaining tourism stability. In their linguistic analysis, the document vividly portrays that the economic goal that is growing is good, for instance using the metonymy sustainable principle to describe growth. Moreover, the word growth is also put in a subject position when discussing environmental protection. It creates a clear image that growth still considers environmental sustainability. This study is in line with the current study in terms of ecology sustainability. Thus, the current study will apply ecosophy to understand further the impact of text on the ecology itself.

Zhdanava (2021) also investigate the stories behind 27 posters of the vegan campaign “Go Vegan World”. He used Stibbe (2015) eco-CDA model to investigate the story. Van Leeuwen’s Social Actor and Social Action theory was used to analyze the linguistic devices to identify the story. He found the story of salience and conviction. The salience story vividly described the animal as an individual that has feelings and emotions, for instance, the animal was put in a subject position that can feel love. While the conviction story constructed a high facticity that animals as much matter as humans, for instance, the sentence milk is a myth that does not have modal support for the goal of a vegan campaign in a high commitment. This study gives a deep analysis of the linguistic features presenting the story. Thus, the story identified should be assessed with the ecosophy from Stibbe (2015) to get more understanding of the impact of the story on the ecology. From these previous studies, there is a possibility to analyze the relationship between humans and the environment in environmental discourse using linguistic theory.

Several theories can be used to analyze ecology issues. Linguistic strategies like passivation and nominalization make certain objects invisible in the text (Fowler et al., 2019). According to Fowler and Kress (20019), this strategy is mostly used to protect the perpetrator or to strengthen the certain value that conveys the ideology of the text. Moreover, Stibbe (2015) argues that the pattern of the grammatical structure that is analyzed using critical discourse analysis can reveal the ideologies convey within the text. Another theory that is possible to analyze ecology issues is Lakoff and Wehling's (2012) frame theory which was used to

understand how discourse can bring a frame to mind using its trigger words. Metaphor theory by Muller (2008) is also used to understand the frame but in a specific field which is figurative language. Meanwhile, the appraisal theory from Martin and White (2005) is used to evaluate how the discourse represents the ecological issue whether positively or negatively. Linguistic theory can also be used to understand how the story constructs a fact. Potter (1996) and Richardson (2007) attempt to use modality analysis to understand the fact construction in a story. Erasure and salience theory by van Leeuwen (2008) attempts to understand what part of the area was hidden and stands out in the story. Stibbe (2015) also argues that democracy, justice, and solidarity do not automatically lead to a sustainable society. It is because nature exploitation is working behind that. Therefore, the media has a powerful role in establishing people's mindset about any issue (Fowler, 1991).

Due to this powerful role, I will analyze the conviction, erasure, and salience story represented by Tempo and VOI Indonesia articles. According to Stibbe (2015), there are 8 kinds of stories that influence people understanding of environmental issues. They are ideology, framing, metaphor, evaluation, identity, conviction, erasure, and salience. Thus, I will analyze only three of them which are conviction, erasure, and salience. It is because my data reflect the description in my problem of the study that can be deeply understood with the story of conviction. Moreover, erasure and salience are two stories that also influence a conviction. These patterns have a role in representing the issue. Through the analysis of the conviction, we can understand whether the description of mining activities that

cause environmental damage is true, untrue, or false based on the media. Then, the salience pattern gives light on which element of ecology is important and needs to be salient in the story. While the erasure pattern can show us which element of ecology is unimportant and unworthy of attention in the story (Stibbe, 2015). Additionally, an article is a social and ideological product within the structure of semiotic and other linguistic elements (Bhatia, 1994). This product is more powerful because its role, as media, is significant to inform the environmental issue (UNEP Publication Team 2019). Due to these reasons, this study is important because it completes the previous studies about representation of climate change in mass media by Norton & Hulme (2019) and Moernaut et al., (2018); representation of climate change in webpage by Clare Cunningham et al., (2022), Franklin et al., (2022) and Fernández-Vázquez & Sancho-Rodríguez (2020); the impact of eco-lexicon to human behaviour by Nasar, N., Ramzan, A., Tufail, S., Qasim, D. S., & Hussain (2020); relation of eco-lexicon and human understanding of environment in text book by Pratiwi et al., (2021) and Alva (2022) by providing new insight on how linguistic pattern represent the side of a media in supporting or not supporting the ecology protection over economic growth.

I choose the case of the Gold Mining Project on Sangihe Island because the case is unique and controversial. It is unique because based on UU article 1, 2014 the project vividly cannot be continued but the government keeps giving chance to continue this project (BPK RI Publication 2014). Additionally, Canadian investors through CNN interviews are confident with the good result that it can develop the island and improve the economy (BBC Youtube Channel 2023). Then, local society

who realize this matter attempted to oppose the government by conducting a demonstration, collecting petitions, and asking for help from the local government. This issue is more controversial because the local government rejected the project and even send a rejection letter to the central government. This makes me interested in further understanding how the media report this case whether they report that mining activities are dangerous for the environment so acknowledging the existence of the environment is very important rather than supporting economic growth.

Furthermore, I used Eco-Critical Discourse Analysis model by Arran Stubbe (2015) to analyze this issue. In his analysis, several linguistic theories are used such as; the modality by Machin and Mayr (2012), for instance the use of *might and probably* that can decrease the degree of facticity of speaker' or writer' claim, the theory of exclusion by Van Leeuwen (2008), for instance the structure of passive sentence exclude the agent of the claim, and the theory of inclusion by Van Leeuwen (2008), for instance the use of a sense image like see, hear, and touch that can vividly describe the component of ecology as a living creature. These theories are suitable to be used because with these theories I can discover how the media take the side in the environmental issue.

By understanding the level of facticity, we can discover how media attitude influences the reader by making them feel that the issue is true, untrue, or false. The theory of modality by John E. Richardson (2007) gives light on the pattern of modality that has a level of certainty of a sentence. While the theory of exclusion and inclusion by Van Leeuwen has the same purpose as this study which is to analyze what element in the story wants to be erased and stressed. Additionally, I

used the ecosophy from Stibbe (2015) to understand whether this story is beneficial or dangerous for the wellbeing of ecology. I choose this framework because it is suitable for my data which convey the relationship between human and human, human and the natural world, and humans with the future. This relation is also reflected in Stibbe's (2015) ecosophy framework. Therefore, those theory is appropriate to be used in this study.

Additionally, to give in-depth analysis, understanding the background of Tempo and VOI is indispensable. Tempo was become controversial media in 1994 and 1982 due to their articles that criticized government. The articles was too critic until government needed to ban Tempo from produce any articles at that time. This incident lead to the esthablishment of Aliansi Jurnalis Indonesia (AJI) to accommodate and protect Indonesian journalists in order to gain freedom in delivering information to public. Since then Tempo was recognized as independence media. This was supported by the transparancy of their shareholders that were mostly hold by Jaya Raya Foundation which lead by Ciputra, an Indonesian businessman. Meanwhile, VOI was a new media under the management of PT VOI Media Informasi. VOI was built since 2019 with Satria Pinandita as the CEO and Moho Setiya Putra as the commissioner. Satri and Moho was graduated from computer engginering and information technology major. Moho is currently working as chief executive officer in PT Atmatech Global Informatika which focus on technology development. Furthermore, Satria is currently working as chief executive officer in PT Digital Siber Indonesia which also focus on technology development.

The importance of this study leads to the assumption that media can influence people's understanding of the importance of environmental preservation. This influence is produced by the linguistic pattern in the article. The structure reflects how the stance of the media on an environmental issue. It can support the environment or support economic growth. As a result, this study aims to analyze the linguistic pattern and understand the worth of the story to the ecology.

### **B. Problems of the Study**

To clarify the preceding discussion, this study aims to answer these research questions:

1. How do linguistic patterns in Tempo and VOI articles represent the description of “Mining activities cause ecology damage” based on the facticity?
2. How linguistic patterns are used to erase the element of ecology in the Tempo and VOI articles?
3. How linguistic pattern is used to represent the element of ecology saliently in the Tempo and VOI articles?

### **C. Significances of The Study**

Taking into account the proposed topic, this study attempts to contribute to the practical of ecolinguistic study. Practically, this research illustrates how Tempo Magazine and VOI Indonesia as media Indonesia, portrays the importance of environmental issue. Additionally, this research is beneficial for English linguistic students to understand the linguistic pattern used by Indonesian media in the environmental discourse. Furthermore, the study might be useful for the writer,

environmentalist and linguistic student to create a discourse that address environmental issue for the wellbeing of ecology. In the end, the student could use the findings and discussion of this research for further studies to extend similar frameworks in various fields.

#### **D. Scope and Limitations**

This research attempt to investigate the linguistic strategy used to convey the conviction, erasure, and salient story by Tempo English Magazine and VOI that influence the way they represent an environmental issue. The scope of the data are English articles by Tempo and VOI about Sangihe environmental issue caused by the gold mining project. The articles found covers several topics: The death of the vice regent, local demonstration, and the impact of the project on the environment. The primary data was limited to the English articles that discuss about the mining project and the struggle to protect the environment. Therefore, to analyse the linguistic pattern of the three stories, all the utterance in the Tempo Magazine titled “Large Gold, Small Island” and VOI “There Is No Justification For Mining On The Small Island Of Sangihe” are used to give context to this study.

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

To prevent misunderstanding, the term used within the research are defined as follows.

1. Ecolinguistic: A macro level of study that learns about the relationship between ecology and humans through the influence of language.
2. Conviction: Linguistics patterns that revealed a certainty of a description related to ecology.

3. Erasure: Linguistics patterns that revealed elements of ecology that were unimportant and excluded in the discourse.
4. Salience: Linguistics patterns that revealed the element of ecology that is important of attention.
5. Facticity: A degree of certainty that was reflected in the linguistics features and represented the level of certainty of a claim.
6. Ecosophy: Ecological philosophy, a set of norms and values that sustain ecology.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### A. Ecology and Language

Ecology is always related to the environment and the life of natural resources. It includes the relation and connection between human and other living things. It means that they are related to each other. Thus, this is not as simply as the connection or relation between human and non-human. Ecology can also mean the relation between human and human, Human and their environment, language and the culture. Due to this different definition of ecology, several approach to understand this term arises. There are several interpretations or approaches of ecology.

According to Stibbe (2015), there are four different interpretation to define ecology. First interpretation defined languages as an explicit aspect in a form of *symbol* in which there are interactions between different languages. This approach assumed that ecology consisted of language which act as a symbol to identify certain term. Second, define that language is a part of *sociocultural ecology* in which language can influence and shape societies and culture. It assumes that ecology condition is influenced by language so that the changes of language can give impact to the ecology.

Third interpretation discuss about cognitive ecology. Moreover, it also discussed the adaptation with the environment that was influenced by cognitive capacity that was owned by each organism. It means that how individual react and behave to the ecology or environment is based on the cognitive ecology they

experienced. The last interpretation concerned with natural ecology which discuss about language and its connection with biological and physical environment. It means that there is always a connection or relation between language and biological environment like plant, animal, bacteria, algae, and fungi or physical environment like water, climate, temperature, etc. Those interpretation of ecology have already explained the relation of non human with language which created by human.

Language is also part of ecology that has a big influence towards the condition of the ecology itself. In ecology, language became a symbol to define ecology state (Stibbe, 2015) for example, *deforestation* which means the over destruction of forest with the aim to exploit natural resources without maintaining the sustainability, *bloom* which define the state of plant that healthy enough to growth its flower. This symbol however can shape how society react and behave to the environment or their ecology. For instance, the word *destruct* and *destroy* have different level of awarness of how ecology conditions in which it is exploited. *Destruct* means that the exploitation does not cause severe effect on the ecology because it does not completely exploit the whole ecology. While, *destroy* means completely exploit the natural resources which means it has severe effect to the sustainability of the ecology. That is why language in ecology is defined as a symbol of the ecology state.

The relation between language and ecology cannot be separated with how society behave through the their environment. The belief of people about how severe the condition of our environment is shaped through the language people used(Cheng & He, 2022). Moreover, through language we can also reveal how the

main belief and condition of our environment. For example, Indonesia who is known as an archipelagic state which mean Indonesia is a green country that reach with natural resources spread in more than 17 thousand island (UNGEEN 2019 session). It is supported by the fact that most island in Indonesia still urban island which has a low level of industrial development.

Language can reveal the state and even the identity behind the state of ecology (Kaushal et al., 2020). It is because human communication is through language. So they convey their identity to influence others by language. It is possible to manipulate the severe ecological state by the linguistic pattern in language since every word has their own meaning eventhough they are synonym. Furthermore, language shape a culture thorough the story that was delivered hereditary.

The story made is a way to shape people belief about their ecological state and how they should behave to it. So, story that is spread in a society is the primary tool to shape people mind about ecology surrounding. Cognitive structure is the main component in the story which place in a every person mind and influence the way they perceive the world (Stibbe, 2018). It can be examined through the linguistic pattern that the speaker or writer produced (Stibbe, 2015).

According to Stibbe (2015), the fundamental component of cognitive structure is a mental model that live in individual mind. For example a model where human is living surrounded by the environment, or a model where environment is the natural resources that gives live to human. The existance of mental model have a strong influence on how environment is treated by the culture. Thus, mental model

cannot be examine directly since it is in the mind of each individual. Whereas, the clues of this existance can be examine through the langugae that they use. So, the role of language as a tool of communication is not marely communicate but also as a sign that influence the way society treat their surrounding ecology.

## **B. Ecolinguistic**

The study of language and ecology is known as ecolinguistic. ‘Eco’ define as the life-sistaining connection or relation of humans with other organism, humans, and physical environment that also concern with a moral orientation that aim to protect the system that all living things depend on to survie and continuing their life (Stibbe, 2015). This means ‘eco’ is not limited to the relation of human and environment, buat also human and animal, plant, algae, bacteria, and even human itself. As long as this relation has a moral orientation that attempt to support the healthy life of the living things. So that in this research I used the concept of ‘eco’ by Steffensen and Fill (2014) which define it as interaction between each living or non-living things like human and plant or animal, human and water or soil, and even human and human. Therefore, langugae, human cognition, story, culture, and text play a crucial role in human ecology and come to the level where they can influence human behaviour and interaction with others and even the larger natural world.

This influence can be understood through the ‘linguistic’ aspect. In ‘ecolinguistics’, the ‘linguistics’ was understood as the framework and technique of linguistic analysis to revealing the meaning behind the story through the linguistic pattern. The technique used concern with every word, sentence, phrase,

and even word stress in language. One of the frameworks that reveal the culture and identity behind language is the theory that can be used to reveal how language can influence people.

Due to this reason Critical Discourse Analysis exist. Even though primarily it wants to reveal sexism, discrimination, and oppression between humans and human but now it can also be possible to reveal the stories that influence human to treat surrounding environment (Stibbe, 2018). It is because ideology that influenced the way people communicate is exist in every text (Fowler, 1991). This is the primary technique which often used in ecolinguistic.

The story which we want to analyze is a story that has a unique structure that is possible to shape people belief. A story of 'progress' for example is negatively describe as a strunggle to chop and survive within the bad condition of previous ecosystem where human has no intelligent to utilize their natural resource, or where human still againts each other to fight for natural resources. While a story of present promote the idea of improvement through the industrialization that somehow not considering eco-sustainability(Stibbe, 2015). Whereas, either peace in society not always refletced eco-sustainability or war not always reflected destruction of ecology. It explained by Cultural Critical Discourse Anlysis that introduced by Gavriely-Nuri (2012) which conclude that peace not always bring the sustainability of ecology. The silent in a peace of natural exploitation under the belief that it enhanced the human development is possible to destroy the surrounding ecology. Meanwhile war is not always about negative action to seek

for justice but it is also possible to be defined as the struggle to defend natural surrounding resources.

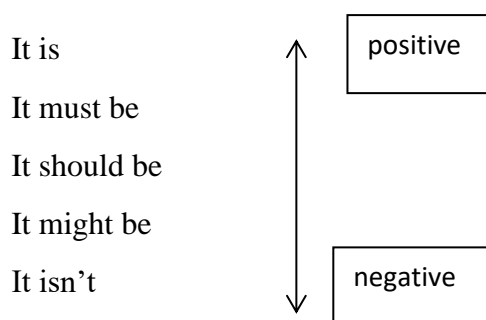
There are several frameworks that can be used to analyze ecological aspect in language. According to Stibbe (2015), first is Critical Discourse Analysis (Fairclough 2003) that try to reveal language that contain oppression that affect ecology surrounding. Second is cognitive linguistic which examine metaphor of ecology in a text and the primary aspect in political role which is cognitive frames (Lakoff 2004). The other theories are erasure and salience by Van Leeuwen (2008), and identity theory by Benwell and Stroke (2006). All of those theory has the same purpose to reveal how language influence surrounding ecology but with different approach and terms.

### **C. Conviction**

Evaluation of the speaker's stance or value of position can identify the degree of commitment in their utterance. In relation to evaluation, Martin & Rose (2003) introduce an appraisal system which consisted of three system: attitude, amplification and source. There are three components that are considered as a key component that constructed Attitude, namely, affect, judgement, and appreciation. Amplification involves grading, 'including force and focus' (Martin & Rose, 2012, pg. 59). It adjusted the intensity and focus of gradable items. Force refers to the decision to increase or decrease intensity, while focus involves sharpening or softening boundaries.

Engagement involves incorporating additional voices into a discussion through projection, modalization, or concession. Hoods (2004) stated that

engagement “refers to the personal state or commitment”. The main decision in engagement is whether to have one voice (monogloss) or multiple voices (heterogloss). This system tends to explore the opinion (Chusna & Wahyudi, 2015). The existence of multiple voices in an utterance can indicate the degree certainty of speaker’s utterance (Martin & Rose, 2003). They argue that “modality as a resource which sets up a semantic space between yes and no” (Martin & Rose, 2003, pg.53). This space was shown through the degree of certainty between positive and negative polarity. In their example about negotiating information, different modality gives different degree of certainty for the description. Description without modal has a strong commitment. Meanwhile, description in a form of negation has the lowest degree of commitment.



This modality concept was adapted by Stibbe (2015) in ecolinguistic analysis. He used this concept to analyze the story of conviction. In line with the concept of modality by Martin & Rose (2003), in conviction, a sentence that was uttered by a speaker or writer has a degree of truth (Richardson, 2007; Machin & Mayr, 2012). The different degree of truth that was exposed to the audiences created a different conviction towards a certain issue. It is because, in the degree of truth,

there is a range of facticity, beginning with the absolute truth until the absolute falsehood (Stibbe, 2015).

Conviction is a “story in people's mind whether a particular description is true, untrue, uncertain, or false” (Stibbe, 2015, pg.129). Whenever people are exposed to stories, they build an understanding and belief. This understanding and belief are conveyed through linguistic patterns. In conviction, we called the linguistic pattern as the pattern of facticity. A facticity pattern is a cluster of linguistic devices built together to describe description in a story as certain, uncertain, or false. Facticity patterns are built up by several linguistic features such as modality, reference to expert person and authoritative body, quantifiers, and hedges (Stibbe, 2015).

a. Modality

In a low level of commitment, for instance, the modal *might* or *probably can* reduce the facticity of the description. When the sentence has no modal, it has a high level of facticity.

b. Reference to expert person and authoritative body

The use of expert or authoritative source quotations is somehow for increasing or decreasing the facticity of the description.

c. Hedges

In a high level of facticity, the unhedged word expresses a strong claim from the writer or speaker. While the words like *believe* and *think* to express that there is low claim commitment from the speaker or writer.

Furthermore, Machin & Mayr (2012) introduce more detail linguistic features that can hedge the commitment of a description. These linguistic features are:

a. Long noun phrase

In this feature a long noun phrase was used to push the actual meaning in the back of the sentence so that it creates effect of indirectness. This indirectness effect lowers the degree of commitment in the description.

b. Modal verb and adverb

Through the modal verb and adverb like ‘seems’, ‘may’, ‘perhaps’ and ‘likely’ speaker or writer can show the uncertainty of their claim.

c. Approximator

The approximator like ‘some’ can hedge a certainty of description by hiding the exact number of something discussed. For example, in the sentence ‘*some* residence rejects the agreement’, the exact amount of residence who reject the agreement is unknown. So, the credibility of the rejection is also uncertain because if the residence who reject is less than half of the voice this means most of the residence support the agreement.

d. Comparative form

Using comparative verbs of adverb like *more ... than...* can increase the certainty of a description. It is because the comparison is used to strengthen the description. For example, ‘the survey has *more* respondent *than* before’ the comparative word increases the certainty of

the survey by comparing the amount of respondent in previous and current survey.

These linguistic features can be the tool to identify the level of the facticity of the story. Through this identification, we can understand how the writer aims to present the description in the story either true or false.

#### **D. Erasure**

In the text, there are two participants namely the explicit participant and excluded participant. An actor who is excluded from the text is usually erased by the author because they are unimportant or irrelevant to the value of the text (Leeuwen, 2008). Erasure is a term that has been used to explain the exclusion of certain participants. Between the language itself, erasure exists to strengthen the conservative belief and neglect the current development, like the English language that was conservatively strict to the rule of grammar creating an erasure of uniqueness from the multilingual speaker (MacDonald, 2007).

Erasure also studies colonialism aspect which is defined as the exclusion or silenced of minority members from its historical record. Roche (2019) found an erasure in the practice of language standardization in Mongolia. This language standardization creates the erasure of minority languages and results in language loss of certain minorities' languages like Evenki. Furthermore, Campbell-Montalvo (2021) discover erasure in the concept of raciolinguistic. It appears when the linguistic re-formation process occurs due to the language ideologies that emerge and influence the invisibility of minority ideologies. In his study, indigenous Mexican languages were unmeasured and unregistered in the school during the

school registration session. It concludes that erasure is commonly addressed to minorities because they are different from others so excluding them is equitable (Balme, 2021; Phyak, 2021).

According to Van Leeuwen (2008), the exclusion of certain actors can be realized linguistically. Backgrounding and suppression are the linguistic strategy that were used to exclude participant in a discourse. Although suppression and backgrounding are same in sense of participant exclusion, they are different in how the participant is excluded. In suppression, there is completely no reference to the participant in the discourse. While in backgrounding, the participants are still shown but not in a given action. They are shown in the other context in the discourse. Several linguistic features that can be used to suppress or background the participants are;

1. Passivation

Participants that were passivated were represented as experiencing the activity, or as being ‘the receiving end of it’ (Leeuwen, 2008, pg.33). Furthermore, they’re also depicted as object in the sentence.

2. Nonfinite clause

Using nonfinite clause as a replacement of the participant can give an effect of backgrounding, for instance, in a sentence ‘to maintain this policy is hard’ the infinitive clause exclude the participant who responsible for *maintenance*.

3. Generalization

Participants who were generalized were represented as classes or group of them. This allows the exclusion of a certain participant as unique individual.

#### 4. Impersonalization

In this strategy participants were represented by other means. This representation can be divided into two types namely abstraction and objectivication. In abstraction the participants were depicted by means of their quality. Meanwhile, in objectivication they are closely depicted by means of reference to their place or things related to the participant or their action.

#### 5. Overdetermination

The combination of generalization and abstraction can create an overdetermination. Overdetermination occur when the participants were represented to several functions or practicies which involved several participants that share the same feature which was depicted abstracly.

This concept was extended by Stibbe (2015) into ecology field. in ecolinguistics, it is called erasure which means excluding unimportant participants in the text. Stibbe (2015) argues that the exclusion of certain participant means that the participant is unimportant or have a different value from the discourse meaning does not relate to the ideology of the discourse(Stibbe, 2018a). Furthermore, he also explains that in the ecolinguistic study, a good environment is reflected by the good social relation of people. So, if the good social relation of people is erased equality and justice to protect the environment will be difficult to achieve. Good social

relationships in this context mean good teamwork between the poor and the rich, or the society and the government. Then Stibbe (2015) introduces three kinds of erasure in the ecology concept.

Three kinds of erasure reflect the degree of importance of the participant being erased or excluded in the text. They are:

- a. *The void*, the important thing is totally erased from the text. The participant who is totally erased means that they are completely unimportant in the text.
- b. *The mask*, the participant is erased but then changed by distorted version of itself. The participant who was replaced by the different version of them means that their existence is less important compare to their replacement, for example stocks of biotic, the word stocks is economic term which become the head of the noun phrase. It means the economic term is more important compare to the ecology term which is biotic.
- c. *The trace*, something is still present but partially erased (Stibbe, 2015, p.149). It means the present of the participant is not vivid, in other words they are abstract leaving a trace, for example the word *biodiversity* which makes the life of animal, plant, and the whole ecosystem included in it become abstarct. The abstract depiction of the participant indicate that the level of important is just general knowledge which people do not need to put more concern on the deeper level of the participant.

These three kinds of erasure can be identified through the linguistic pattern of the story such as passives and nominalizations (Stibbe, 2018). The deepen meaning of an utterance can be seen through the changes structure of the

utterance. This technique is concerned with nominalization and passivation that was used in the discourse. It identifies that passive utterance can manipulate the audience of the existence of an agent (Fowler et al., 2019). It excludes the agent of the sentence. For example “the land is destroyed”, this utterance deletes the agent by using a passive structure. It has a meaning that the land is broken completely by someone. The explanation of someone is deleted in the utterance since it is used passives. The use of passive structure is to strengthen the object which is the affected noun, not the subject which is the affecting noun. That’s why with passives and nominalizations we can understand the unimportant element of ecology that is unworthy of attention in the story.

Other linguistic devices that can erase the element of ecology are metonymy and hyponym (Stibbe, 2015). A hyponym is a linguistic device “where the meaning of a specific word is included within the meaning of general term” (Stibbe, 2015, pg.76). It means the individual term that initially specifically refers to the element of life for instance, fish, spinach, and meat is replaced by the more general term like food. While metonymy is an object that is referred to by its close term or concept instead of its own name. The use of the close term creates an abstract image for the object, for instance, the term a loss of species is the metonymy for the animal deer, elephant, and rare bird (Stibbe 2015). Instead of using its own name (deer, elephant, and bird), the term species is applied to exclude the object by creating an abstract image of it. All in all these linguistic devices attempt to discover which kind of erasure that was presented in the story.

## E. Saliency

According to Van Leeuwen (2008), saliency is in a unique identity of an actor that is represented in the text. Through saliency, the writer gives a clear characteristic of an object and portrays them as an important aspect of the text. Additionally, the concept of saliency is often used in visual analysis. It was described as “The degree to which an element draws attention to itself due to its size, its place in the foreground or its overlapping of other elements, its color, its tonal values, its sharpness of definition and other features” (Kress and van Leeuwen 2006: 210). Thus, saliency can also be constructed to bring certain participants prominently through the linguistic devices that were used in the text (Stibbe, 2015). Van Leeuwen (2008) introduces several linguistic features that can represent a salient image of a participant in a discourse. There are;

### 1. Activation

This strategy occurs when participant is represented as the active participation of the activity in the sentence. This role can be realized by the transitivity structure of the sentence, for instance, in the sentence *chickens are scratching in the yard and looking for the insect*, chicken become a senser in the process of ‘looking’ and actor in the process of ‘scratching’.

### 2. Specification

In contrast with generalization, specification occur when the participants is depicted by their unique characteristic which distinguish them with their group. This strategy allows them to be easily identified as individual, for instance, ‘mangrove’ in the phrase *A toddler, Mathew Harding, two, one of*

*twin boys, had to climb over a one-metre child-proof fence* which indicate the unique kind of the boys which was as the second twin boy.

### 3. Personalization

This strategy allows the participant to be represented as living being. It was shown through the use of possessive pronoun or proper names; adjective or noun include human' feature, for instance, the proper noun of 'Alice' in the sentence *Alice, the immigrant girl, escape from her country.*

This concept was extended in ecology field by Stibbe (2015). He defines salience as “a story in people’s mind that an area of life is important or worthy of attention” (Stibbe, 2015, pg. 162). It means the salience of the elements of ecology in the text can influence people's belief and understanding about what is important to be considered in life.

Nevertheless, the salience that was meant in this study is in line with the purpose of salience by Stibbe (2015). In his analysis, the salience was used to reminding the element of ecology that was erased in the story. Stibbe argues that it is important to identify the area of life that should be salient when this area has been erased in other stories. By saliently bringing up the erased element of life we can call attention to the erased element and remind people that the element is also important. By analyzing these linguistic features such as abstraction, transitivity, and metaphor we can reveal the salience patterns that can represent the element of life vividly. Linguistic devices that can create salience patterns are activation, sense image, and personalization (Stibbe, 2015).

#### a. Personalization

The abstraction of an object can create ambiguous meanings or even make the object less identified. For instance, in the sentence ‘The rapid loss of a species’, the word species are ambiguous since it can refer to almost all living things. While using personalization, species is expressed as the clawed animal or the hoofed animal. The hoofed animal can easily be recognized as a cat, cow, or other. It is also the same with the clawed animal which we commonly find in the Carnivora one. The picturization of the species is more salient when it uses personalization.

b. Transitivity

In transitivity, the object is acknowledged as a living thing that conducts a mental process. When the part of ecology is described as carrying out an activity then they become *salience* as conscious beings, for instance, the bird is watching the man haunting her.

c. Sense image

Living creatures are defined by their ability to sense their surroundings. Sense image can lead to prominence for what is being described to the reader. It is because sense image provides a clear subjective description of what the object saw, heard, smelled, tasted, or touched.

## **F. Ecosophy (Ecology Philosophy)**

Ecology has diverse connotation meaning because literally it means the relationship between living things and their environment (Cambridge dictionary). It means human and human relation in their house can be called as ecology because they are living things and they have relations with their house. The relationship

between social movements can also be called as ecology since they are living things that also have relation with their environment that influence their movement. Thus, I used the definition of ecology from Gare (2002) because his definition in line with the purpose of my research to investigate the representation of environmental preservation which include human, animal, plant, and the whole ecosystem. According to Gare (2002), ecology is the interaction of organism, human and physical environment. Then, I choose ecosophy from Stibbe (2015) because it is in line with the definition from Gare (2002) that relating all creatures in to the ecosystem. According to Stibbe (2015) ecosophy in one word is *living*. He describe living in to several points which are:

- a. *Valuing living*, requires norms and considerations,
- b. *Wellbeing*, means that living in a well condition not just to survive,
- c. *For now and the future*, requires us to also think about the future generation so that they can live in the same condition as we are or even better,
- d. *Care*, means increasing empathy to minimize destruction and harm,
- e. *Environmental limits*, limiting the use of natural resource which mean do not over exploit them,
- f. *Social justice* requires us to be equal in the level of consumption,
- g. *Resilience* that requires us to be ready to adapt with the dynamic change of our environment.

Then from this ecosophy, story can be classify in to two kind which are story which we can appriessed positively and discourse which we should be challenged (Stibbe, 2015). Story that we can appraise positively is story that

promoted human wellbeing, appreciate the lives of all species, promoted the reduction of consumption and redistribution of resources. While story that we should challenge was story that promoted human and natural resources exploitation, inequitable distribution of resources, and profit oriented or economic maximalization that neglect environment preservation. To sum up, this ecosophy concern with human attitude that can influence other creature wellbeing. Furthermore, it also concern with the wellbeing of future and current generation. Therefore, this ecosophy can be used to identify discourse that not only consisted of human and nature relation but also human and human, and human with the future. Meanwhile, the discourse used in this study reflected the relation human and nature, human and human, and human with the future.

### **G. Sangihe Gold Mining Project**

Sangihe is located in the North Sulawesi of Indonesia. With 736.98 km<sup>2</sup> of area, it is inhabited by more than 139 thousand people in a 2020 census (BPS Sangihe Publication 2021). The land is included as a small island (BPK RI Publication 2014). According to Law No.1 of 2014, a small island is prioritized for nine purposes that focus on conservation, education, and development. This island has a lot of natural resources since it is still far from industrialized development. The main livelihood on this island is farming (BPS Sangihe Publication 2022). Thus, this island has a large resource of gold.



*Figure 1. Are of gold mining project in Sangihe Island.*

The large gold resource attracts foreign attention. That is why Canada invest a bigger amount in this project. Initially, government agree with this project. Then, PT. Tambang Mas Sangihe who was invested by Canada explains, in their interview session with BBC, that the entry of this project can open up more vacancies to the local community (BBC Youtube Channel 2023). Meanwhile, the local community disagrees with this project since they are aware that it can destroy their natural resources. Save Sangihe Island (SSI) create an online petition for The President in an attempt to take down the project. It is because the project almost spent half of their island which is full of natural uniqueness like the endemic animal and plants.

Then, the vice-regent of Sangihe island, Helmud Hontong, send a rejection letter of the gold mining to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources. The Ministry does not give any response to the letter. On June 9, 2022, reported by CNN Indonesia, Helmud Hontong was death in a plane due to a disease complication. on

August 31, 2022, State Administrative High Court revoked the gold mining project (Tempo Publication 2022).

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### **A. Research Design**

This study tries to investigate the representation of Sangihe's environmental preservation through Tempo and VOI Indonesia articles. Since, the purposes are to understand a phenomenon specifically presented by certain media, this study belongs to interpretive paradigm with qualitative approach. The meaning beyond the surface, social reality, that is immersed behind the next can be uncovered using interpretive paradigm (Creswell, 2013). Furthermore, Meanwhile, Research design that can be used to explain phenomena with descriptive analysis is qualitative approach (Johnson & Christensen, 2019). Moreover, this approach is used to understand and explore human problems that are interpreted through discourse (Creswell, 2013). As a result, the interpretive paradigm, with its qualitative approach, is oriented to dynamic and subjective social processes (Rahardjo, 2018).

Those explanations are suitable with the objective of this study that is to investigate how Tempo Magazine' and VOI Indonesia' article represent the Sangihe's environmental story through linguistic pattern. This study aims to unfold the position of Tempo Magazine and VOI Indonesia as a massive independent media in reporting Sangihe's environmental issue through the linguistic pattern used. To get a deep interpretation of the text,

depth analysis and elaboration on this phenomenon will be conducted. Therefore, this study belongs to interpretive paradigm.

### **B. Research Instruments**

In this research, I play as a main instrument (Creswell, 2013). I collected the data from online media and also evaluated the data that is in line with the topic of this study. Then, I do an intensive reading on the data chosen.

### **C. Data Source**

Two online media put the best light as the source material in this research: Tempo Magazine and VOI Indonesia. VOI Indonesia has been verified by the Press Council (VOI Publication 2021). While Tempo is a trusted media in the ten top trusted media based on a survey from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (Digital News Report Publication, 2021). I choose English article that discussed about the mining project and the effect towards environment. The data involves one premium English article in Tempo Magazine and free access article on VOI Indonesia with title “Large Gold, Small Island” by Rizky Ferdianto, Fransisca Christy Rosana, and Ronny Buol; and VOI Indonesia “There Is No Justification For Mining On The Small Island Of Sangihe” by Detha Arya Tifada. The other media are not considered to be chosen because the chosen topic is provided in the video report.

#### **D. Data Collection**

The data were collected through several stages. First, I searched for an article on google, on December 21<sup>st</sup> 2022, that related to Sangihe's gold mining project. Second, an article that is related to the environment of Sangihe Island and the project was chosen. Because the article in Tempo magazine was premium, I use the privilege of a new account, which is given three chances to read premium articles. Then, I copy and paste all utterance in the articles chosen from Tempo Magazine and VOI Indonesia into Microsoft Word. I use all utterances, that related with the three stories analyzed, in the articles as my data to deeply understand the context and get a deep analysis.

#### **E. Data Analysis**

This study employed three levels of analysis. In the first level, I started the linguistic analysis of the story, namely, conviction. I use eco-critical discourse analysis model by Stibbe (2015) that was based on a theory of committing and evading by Machin & Mayr (2012) and modality by Martin & Rose (2003). The data are classified based on the modality and hedge. Then, I examine the kind of story constructed by the two media whether the description in research questions one is true or false based on Stibbe (2015). This step answers the first question of this study. In the second level, I analyze the linguistic pattern of the erasure story using the analysis model by Stibbe (2015) that was based on a theory of exclusion by

Van Leeuwen (2008). The data are classified based on backgrounding and suppression linguistic strategy. Then, I investigate what element of ecology is not important or erased in the story based on the analysis model by Stibbe (2015). This step answers the second question of this study. In the third level, I begin with analyses of the linguistic pattern of the salience story. I use the analysis model by Stibbe (2015) that was based on the theory of inclusion by Van Leeuwen (2008).

I classified the data based on categories of inclusion. After that, I examine the element of life that is prominent and important in the story based on Stibbe (2015)'s analysis model. This step answers the third question of the study. Furthermore, I attempt to assess all the stories that I analyze to understand whether this story is beneficial or dangerous to shape people's minds about this environmental issue using the ecosophy of Stibbe (2015).

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### A. Findings

In this section, I attempt to show the results of linguistic analysis of conviction, erasure, and salience and discuss their impact for the wellbeing of ecology based on the Stibbe's (2015) ecological philosophy.

##### 1. Conviction

In the story of conviction, I found that modality and hedge were used by Tempo and VOI to construct facticity pattern of the description 'mining activities cause ecological damage'. Through this pattern, Tempo put this description up to the highest facticity creating a true conviction that 'mining activities cause ecological damage'. Meanwhile, VOI undermines the description by lowering the level of certainty that 'mining activities cause ecological damage' and presenting a new description that 'mining activities benefit economic growth'.

##### 1.1 Tempo

In Tempo, the modality and hedge were used respectively to support the description in research question one. Some of hedges who refer to the political engagement in the discussion degrade the certainty of the description.spo

##### 1.1.1 Modality

Datum 1.

Now the region is in danger of being damaged because it has become a part of a mining concession of Tambang Mas Sangihe

A sentence without modal being used shows a high facticity level of the description. Instead of saying that the place that was projected as mining was ‘may be in danger of being damaged’, this sentence certainly said that ‘it is in danger of being damaged’. Sentence with non-modal shows a strong degree of commitment (Stibbe, 2015).

#### Datum 2.

Tambang Mas **will** carry out open mining, excavating four million tons of material containing approximately 900,000 tons of gold ore, which **will** be extracted using cyanide.

In this sentence, the facticity was increased through the use of modal ‘will’ which indicates a certainty (Martin & Rose, 2003). ‘Will’ indicates that open mining which uses cyanide is inevitable to happen. This mining process has negative effects on the balance of ecology. It can cause erosion, water pollution, and destruction in the habitat of the species (Eisler, 1991).

#### Datum 3.

That island is not suitable to become a mining area and is vulnerable to disasters.

#### Datum 4.

That law forbids mining activity on small islands.

#### Datum 5.

That there is an increased risk for disasters because Sangihe Island is located at the convergence of the Eurasian,

#### Datum 6.

This endangers the endemic animal population.

The facticity was increased again with no modal being used in these sentences (Stibbe, 2015). The first sentence means that the author was certain the mining projected in Sangihe island is the source of ecological damage. Furthermore, this island is not suitable to become a mining area because this island is one of the small islands that has been prohibited to be a mining area (BPK RI Publication, 2014). The second sentence means environmental damage is certainly happen if mining is kept being conducted on this island. The third sentence explains how mining certainly damages the area. The fourth sentence committed that animal degradation is caused by mining activity.

Datum 7.

Helmud was also concerned that Tambang Mas operations **would** damage the environment, whether on land, along the coast, or for marine life.

Datum 8.

Mining activity **would only** benefit the holders of the working contract, but **would not** provide any public prosperity,

Apart from the unmodalized sentence, modal ‘would’ also give a high level of facticity on the meaning (Martin & Rose, 2003). Tempo, use modal ‘would’ in sentences that discuss benefit and loss caused by the mining. The first sentence, datum 7, shows that conducting mining certainly damaged the ecological surroundings. Then, it was repeated in datum 8 that also added more specific parties who certainly get the benefit which is in this case PT TMS included. Additionally, the word ‘only’ strengthens the claim that no one gets the benefit besides the holders of working contract. Moreover, description was supported with the following clause

that used the negation of ‘would’ to describe the benefit for the residence. it only gives benefit to the holders of the project which is in this case.

Datum 9.

Wahyu Muryadi, a spokesman for the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP), said that Tambang Mas **cannot** exploit Sangihe Island because they **do not have** a recommendation from their ministry. For that reason, such utilization **must** obtain a recommendation from the KKP.

This is high facticity which implied that mining activity in Sangihe is allowed when KKP agree to give their recommendation. It means mining damages the area if it’s not observed intensively. The word ‘must’ make this sentence certain (Martin & Rose, 2003) that observation from KKP is essential to prevent the damage. Furthermore, the negation of ‘have’ and ‘can’ strengthen the claim that PT. Tambang Mas has low probability to conduct mining in the Sangihe Island.

Datum 10.

The thing is, if the mining operation continues, half of the island **will** be lost through excavation work.

The modal ‘will’ increased the certainty of the claim that the island lost because of the mining (Martin & Rose, 2003). It makes the description become true that mining caused ecological damage through its lost island.

### **1.1.2 Hedge**

Datum 11.

The mining endangers the small island ecosystem.

With no hedge being used, this sentence certainly described ecosystem damage caused by mining (Stibbe, 2015). Instead of describing ‘the mining likely endangers’ ecosystem, this sentence used no hedge to clearly describe that ‘mining endangers’ the ecosystem in Sangihe.

Datum 12.

Alfred **protested** the ministry of energy and mineral resources, which issued the production operation license for Tambang Mas last January 29. According to him, the environmental impact analysis (AMDAL) documents, which serve as the basis for the issuance of such licenses, were **never** discussed openly.

Furthermore, Tempo also used adverbs to increase their facticity (Machin & Mayr, 2012). ‘Never’ was used to indicate the time ministry of energy and mineral resource discuss the AMDAL with the society that will be affected, and other parties involved. Using this adverb implied that the ministry does not give time to discuss AMDAL which means they do not concern with the impact of the mining to the ecology surrounding. Therefore, this hedge increased the facticity level of the description in the first research questions.

Datum 13.

At that time, **Helmud** was the only one who was strongly opposed to the operational plans of TMS. Support came from some **members of the Sangihe Islands Regional Legislative Council (DPRD)** in a meeting forum, not long after the operational license was given to TMS.

Nevertheless, approximator and reference to authorities were also used by Tempo to construct the facticity. This first sentence began with addressing Helmud, as the vice-regent of Sangihe Island, as someone who is the only one against the mining. The use of authority references increases the level of certainty that the

mining dangerous for ecology (Stibbe, 2015). Then, Tempo wanted to give justification to the opposition of the project by explaining ‘some’ members of DPRD who are in the same side. The sentence gives a sense of vagueness on exactly how many members support to oppose the project through the use of ‘some’. It decreases the level of evidence to show that this project deserves to be opposed (Machin & Mayr, 2012).

Datum 14.

As of Saturday, July 3, that **general treasurer of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P)** had not responded to the letter.

Datum 15.

A request for confirmation made to **Chief of Communication and Informatics Office Christiano Talumepa** also did not provide any results. He did not reply to any messages sent to his WhatsApp number.

Datum 14 and 15 referred to the official that involved in the project. In this case rather than increase the evidence that mining activities do not cause environmental damage, this reference decrease the evidence through the negative expression such as ‘had not responded, did not provide, did not reply’ that describe the official’ abstain of discussion (Stibbe, 2015). The absence of government in the discussion can be interpreted as their agreement to the opposite side’s claim that the mining cause ecology damage since there was no clarification from political side. Additionally, it can also imply that this is a sensitive discussion for government to be talked in public.

## 1.2 VOI

In VOI, modality was mostly used to construct that the description in the first research question is true. Then, its certainty was decreased using hedge such as comparison and negation.

### 1.2.1 Modality

Datum 16.

So, the entire ecosystem in Sangihe **will** be in danger of being lost, even damaged.

Datum 17.

Because it **will** have big consequences for the environment,

The conviction began with the use of modal 'will'. These sentences implied the high level of certainty that the damage to the environment happened through the high possibility of modal 'will' (Martin & Rose, 2003). VOI was certain that ecosystem in Sangihe has a high possibility of being lost by the mining. Moreover, in datum 20 the lost was strengthened with the adverb 'even' that implies the extreme consequences of mining activity (Oxford dictionary)

Datum 18.

Human safety **must** be prioritized. **Don't** just look at it from an economic perspective.

Then, the facticity increased through the modal 'must'. This modal indicated that it is essential to protect ecology instead of conducting mining which promoted the value of economic growth (Machin & Mayr, 2012).

Datum 19.

Whatever the system, the handling of tailings--whether the disposal of waste into the sea commonly known as Submarine Tailings Disposal (STD) or the disposal of waste into the deep sea, Deep Sea Tailings Placemet (DSTP)--both **have great risks** and **are harmful** to the environment.

In this sentence, VOI was certain that handling of tailing 'have great risk' and 'are harmful' instead of 'might have great risks and be harmful'. Certainty was presented with no modal being used in the sentence (Martin & Rose, 2003).

Datum 20.

**Even** in mining in Sangihe, the government **is required** to maintain the safety of the people, especially the people of Sangihe. For this reason, mining permits **should** have been rejected. Because it **not only** affects the coastal ecosystem, **but also** affects the economic management ecosystem of the Sangihe residents who live from natural resources.

In datum 20, unmodalized sentence was used as an initial sentence. This implied a certainty that government 'is required' to have responsibility protecting the ecology in Sangihe island from the damage of mining activities. This is emphasized with the adverb 'even'. Furthermore, the facticity increased through the multiple danger that was shown using conjunction 'not only' affect coastal ecosystem 'but also' the life of Sangihe residents. Nevertheless, the facticity decreased because the mining permits 'should have been rejected' instead of 'must have been rejected'. The modal 'should' have lower level of certainty compared to 'must' (Machin & Mayr, 2012).

Datum 21.

Mining activities **are prohibited** because they **can have** a negative impact on life on small islands.

Here, the main clause countered the modal ‘should’ in datum 20. It increased the facticity that mining ‘are prohibited’ certainly instead of ‘should be prohibited’. However, this facticity was decreased in its subclause that implied the mining ‘can have’ negative impact to the ecology instead of certainly ‘have’ negative impact to the ecology (Stibbe, 2015).

### 1.2.2 Hedge

Datum 22.

The project **not only** threatens the lives of the Sangihe residents, **but also** threatens the extinction of endemic birds.

Datum 23.

**Not only** for rare species of flora and fauna (one of which is Sariwang Sangihe), **but also** the people of Sangihe are threatened with their lives and livelihoods.

In hedging strategy, VOI increased facticity level of the description with the use of conjunctions. The multiple dangers shown through the conjunction ‘not only’ threatens lives of the resident ‘but also’ threatens the endemic bird give emphasize to the danger that was cause by mining (Machin & Mayr, 2012).

Datum 24.

The mining permit is contrary to **Law (UU) Number 1 of 2014** concerning amendments to **Law Number 27 of 2007** concerning the management of coastal areas and Small Islands.

Datum 25.

Environmental observer who is also the **Director of the Institute for Living Life (LOH)**, Yani Sagaroa agrees with this.

Datum 26.

Yani emphasized that what he said was in line with what **President Joko Widodo** said. Jokowi said that the highest law is the safety of the people.

Then, VOI increased the certainty that ecological damage was caused by mining using official references. In datum 24, official Law Number 27 of 2007 was used to explain that the gold mining project in Sangihe is backlashing the management of small island (Machin & Mayr, 2012). The Law explained that small island and the coastal surrounding are prioritized for conservation, education, research, marine aquaculture, tourism, fishery business, animal farming, organic farming, and national defense (bpk.go.id Publication, 2014). In datum 25 and 26, the evidence increases using expert references, which is the director of LOH, that agreed with the claim and the speech from President Jokowi about the safety of society (Machin & Mayr, 2012).

Datum 27.

..., the destructive force of mining activities is much **more** complex **than** other environmental activities.

Datum 28.

Because the **economic value** of the entire ecosystem in Sangihe is **much more** meaningful which is able to provide a sustainable life for the surrounding community

In datum 27, the certainty increased with the use of comparison ‘more’ to compare the destructive effect of mining with other environmental activities. This sentence implied that mining has ‘more’ various destructive effects ‘than’ other activities that involved environment (Machin & Mayr, 2012). Using this comparison VOI increased the level of facticity of the description that mining caused ecological damage.

Meanwhile, in datum 28, the description was undermined with a certainty that was shown using economic perspective and quantifiers ‘much more’ to describe the benefit of mining project. The certainty of the benefit was stressed using the word ‘much’ which indicate number of things that is uncountable and ‘more’ which indicate something valuable than the other things (Machin & Mayr, 2012). Using these linguistic devices, VOI present new description that mining project in economic perspective bring a positive impact to the ecology surrounding.

Datum 29.

If we look at it only from an economic perspective, in our opinion it is very narrow.

Furthermore, the new description was supported with the use of hedging terms. In datum 29 Yani Sagaroa, director of the Institute for Living Life (LOH), described that economic perspective is not good to decide the continuation of the mining project. By showing that this criticism came from ‘opinion’ instead of ‘fact’, it gave consideration to the economic benefit (Machin and Mayr, 2012).

## **2. Erasure**

In the story of erasure, I found several linguistic patterns that were used to background and suppress the element of ecology in the story. They were generalization, impersonalization, passivation and overdetermination. Some of these patterns still present the vague image of ecology which Stibbe (2015) called *the trace*. The trace was found in Tempo and VOI. While, the complete exclusion of the ecology, using the technical term, was found in VOI.

## 2.1 Tempo

Datum 30.

The mining endangers the small island *ecosystem*.

In this sentence, Tempo used generalization to describe the living creature on the island. The danger is referred to as an ‘ecosystem’ which was less imaginable because it defined a complex relation between living things. This generalization created a less imaginable effect to the animal, plant, and non-living things like soil, water, and air which also get the dangers (Stibbe, 2015). Tempo used this strategy to picturize the big picture of the danger. However, instead of giving awareness to the audience, it decreased the salient image of each living and non-living creature. This cause vagueness to the reader understanding of what creature is in danger.

Datum 31.

Now *the region* is in danger of being damaged.

Then generalization also occurred in a form of assimilation. The assimilation of living things referred to the term ‘region’ make the animal and plant become less imaginable although they are who was talked about (Leeuwen, 2008).

Datum 32.

This company will likely manage a mining area on 42,000 hectares *of land* in Sangihe based on a working contract.

In datum 32, element of ecology was also backgrounded using generalization. Land is the general term that is categorized a part of the earth that was not covered by water. Forest is part of a land that was managed to be the mining

area. Using the term land, the writer was backgrounding the forest which is the home for wild animal and plant (Leeuwen, 2008). This strategy was used to create an effective writing so that readers can simply understand that some of the area in Sangihe was going to be converted to be mining area. However, instead of increasing readers awareness of the ecology damage, it created a vague image on what was going to be lost apart from the surface of the earth that is not sea, land.

Datum 33.

That *island* is not suitable to become a mining area and is vulnerable to disasters.

In datum 33 generalization was also used. Instead of specifically mention ‘Sangihe’, this sentence used generic term of ‘island’ as the reference for the vulnerable things to protect from disaster. “That island” created generalization that made the exact reference backgrounded in the sentence especially when there is no direct reference in the previous or next sentences (Leeuwen, 2008). In this sentence Sangihe is backgrounded by the phrase ‘that island’. This pattern created a vagueness of which island is talked about.

Datum 34.

... excavating four million tons *of material* containing approximately 900,000 tons of gold ore.

Moreover, generalization was used again in this sentence. The use of the term ‘material’ suppressed the other living things that were live in the excavation area. ‘Material’ was supposed to refer to the area that was mined. One of them was the forest that was composed of trees. Furthermore, the excavation was also

projected in settlement which means it was also the reference of 'material'. Thus, the 'material' was only described as gold. It means the writer tried to suppress the plant and human that loss their home because of this excavation.

Datum 35.

It is located on the southern side of that island measuring **72,000 hectares**. In other words, nearly **57 percent** of the island is becoming a gold mining concession area.

Furthermore, generalization was used by Tempo to create backgrounding of ecology. In datum 35, '7200 hectare' aggregate the area of mining which consists of forest and village (Leeuwen, 2008). The use of this indefinite quantifier suppressed the existence of organism and human who live in that area.

Datum 36.

The thing is, if the mining operation continues, **half of the island** will be lost through excavation work.

Generalization was also used in this sentence to background the forest in Sangihe Island. The excavation from mining activities was described as the cause of the lost 'island'. The existence of Bowone village, Niu bird, Mangrove Forest, and the rain forest is erased because it is aggregated as 'a half of the island' (Leeuwen, 2008).

Datum 37.

Helmud was also concerned that Tambang Mas operations would damage the environment, whether on **land, along the coast, or for marine life**.

This sentence used generalization to background the element of ecology. The mining activities describe to be the cause of the environmental damage. The

'environment' in this sentence is described as the life on 'land', 'coast', and 'marine'. The general term of 'land', 'coast', and 'marine' fail to picturize Pelagis fish, Demersal fish, Niu bird, mangrove forest and rain forest which are one of the vulnerable animals and plants in Sangihe (BPS Sangihe Portal, 2021).

Datum 38.

During the meeting, said Elbi, a representative of Tambang Mas management said that they were going to purchase all of the *villagers' land*.

Datum 39.

This endangers the **endemic animal** population.

Impersonalization was used by Tempo in datum 38 and 39. In datum 38, Instead of purchasing all of 'Bowone's villager house', the writer used 'land' as the reference to the 'house of the villager' which is the place where the villager live. The term of 'land' that was used to described 'house of villager' created an objectification that there is no life because 'land' can refer to the uninhabited field (Leeuwen, 2008). Meanwhile, 'Bowone's villager house' create a vivid image that there is exactly a life of a group of people in the area.

In datum 39, mining activities affect the population of 'endemic animal'. Which animal that was describe is not vividly picturize in the sentence. This impersonalization create less imaginable danger since there was no clear description of what animal was talked about (Stibbe, 2015). It can decrease the awareness of protection to Niu bird which is the endemic bird that is already endangered.

## 2.2 VOI

In VOI the discursive strategy is more complex. It is because VOI backgrounded and suppressed the element of ecology. There are several strategies that were used by VOI namely generalization, passivation, overdetermination, and impersonalization.

Datum 40.

*The project not only* threatens the lives of the Sangihe residents, *but also* threatens the extinction of *endemic birds*.

Impersonalization occurred in datum 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44. ‘Project’, a general term that in this context refers to the mining activities, erased the kind of activities that threaten the live of Sangihe’s society. It creates a backgrounding effect that made the reader unaware with the cause of the threat and endemic bird extinction. Furthermore, the bird which threatens extinction is abstractly described as ‘endemic birds’ instead of specifically mentioning Niu birds. This impersonalization made the bird become an object of the activities instead of the living creatures who were impacted by the activities (Stibbe, 2015).

Datum 41.

Not only for rare species of *flora and fauna* (one of which is Sariwang Sangihe), ...

The superordinate ‘flora’ and ‘fauna’ were backgrounded the vivid image of Niu bird, Anis Bentet bird, and serindit bird which is the endangered bird in Sangihe (Stibbe, 2015). This overdetermination makes those birds become less imaginable and decreased reader’s awareness of their existence.

Datum 42.

The project **not only threatens** the lives of the **Sangihe residents**, ...

Datum 43.

Even in mining in Sangihe, the **government is required** to maintain the safety of the people, especially the **people of Sangihe**.

Datum 44.

... but also affects the economic management ecosystem of the **Sangihe residents** who live from natural resources.

The more salient description can increase awareness that there is a life on the area (Stibbe, 2015). In datum 42, 43, and 44, VOI failed to give salient image of the human who are affected by the mining. They use general term of ‘Sangihe’ to refer to the resident who is affected. Sangihe residents refer to the whole people in the island, but the project is only conducted on several areas of the Sangihe. This generalization cannot give a salient image because the BOWONE’s people do not exist in the description.

Datum 45. (proses)

The reality is that the **tailings** (waste) handling technology system in Indonesia is still **inadequate**. Whatever the system, the handling of **tailings**—whether the disposal of waste into the sea commonly known as Submarine Tailings Disposal (STD) or the disposal of waste into the deep-sea, Deep-Sea Tailings Placement (DSTP)—both have great risks and are harmful to the environment.

The nominalization of ‘tailing’ created an abstract image of what is being disposed? Are they poisonous? (Stibbe, 2015) Moreover, using the term ‘tailings’ erase the proses of material disposal that drove away homes for marine animals to serve as material dumps (Stibbe, 2015).

Datum 46.

So, the entire **ecosystem** in Sangihe will be in danger of being lost, **even damaged**.

In datum 46 and 47, the elements of ecology were erased using generalization. The general term of ‘ecosystem’ replaced its co-hyponym of living beings; animal, forest, and human (Stibbe, 2015). It creates vagueness of what was at loss because ecosystem referred to the living beings and non-living materials such as water, air, and soil. This makes readers become less aware of the danger that impacts the living beings.

Datum 47.

Because it **not only** affects the coastal *ecosystem*, **but also** affects the economic management ecosystem of the Sangihe residents who live from natural *resources*.

The general term of ‘ecosystem’ replaced its co-hyponym of living beings; animal, plant, and human (Stibbe, 2015). It creates generalization of what is actually being affected because ecosystem refers to the living beings and non-living materials such as water, air and soil. This makes readers become less aware of the danger that impacts living beings. Furthermore, the superordinate ‘resources’ replace the living beings in its description. ‘Resources’ referred to the living beings and non-living material which then created the objectifications of this living beings. It is because the general characteristics of ‘resource’ list the living being along with inanimate object (Stibbe, 2015).

Datum 48.

The *economic value of the entire ecosystem* in Sangihe is much **more meaningful** which is able to provide a **sustainable** life for the surrounding community.

The modification of economic and ecological frame can also erase the vivid image of living being. The phrase ‘economic value of the entire ecosystem’ put economic frame as the head of the phrase. The life of animal, plant, and human portray as equal as economic growth (Stibbe, 2015). This can create an interpretation that maintaining the ecology from mining is not impactful for the sustainability of society.

### 3. Salience

The vivid picturization of ecology only find in Tempo’s story. Tempo used personalization as linguistic strategy to show the prominence image of ecology.

#### 3.1 Tempo

Datum 49.

THE *Sahendaruman Mountain* is located about 15 kilometers from government offices of the Sangihe Islands Regency, North Sulawesi.

The vivid picturization of non-human world was shown by personalizing ‘Sahendaruman Mountain’. Giving a mountain name is the same as giving a village name which represents the existence of particular living beings in it (Stibbe, 2015). This increases people’ awareness that there is life in the mountains which also important to be considered.

Datum 50.

Its *densely forested hills* act as the main water reservoir area for this island located north of the City of Manado.

The representation of live become more salient with the vivid description of hills which was going to be mining area. The hills were picturized as a hill which

was crowded or ‘densely’ with forest. This picturization gave a reader sense of seeing a lot of trees in the hills. This implied that the hills have many animals and trees. Therefore, this description created a salient image of the life of ecology in Sahendaruman Mountain which is going to be mining area (Stibbe, 2015).

Datum 51.

*BOWONE village* in the Tabukan Selatan Tengah subdistrict of Sangihe Islands Regency covers 65 hectares.

Datum 52.

*Residents of Bowone* learned that the land around their places of residence is to be cleared out when Tambang Mas invited all of them to a school building on March 22.

Furthermore, the mining activities were also projected in the village which means the affected parties were also human. However, the term human is too abstract to give a vivid image for the reader who is people will be affected because of the mining. The more salient description can increase awareness that there is a life on the area (Stibbe, 2015). This sentence specified the village by describing the name of the village ‘BOWONE’. It saliently represented that human affected by the project is BOWONE’s people.

Datum 53.

A 3.6-kilometer stretch *of mangrove forest* runs along the village coast.

In datum 53, the use of specific reference ‘mangrove’ to describe the forest gave vivid images of the animal and plant which was going to be lost in the projected area of gold mining (Stibbe, 2015). This salient image gave awareness for

the reader about the mangrove trees that is main home of mollusks and birds living in the area.

Datum 54.

There is an increased risk for disasters because Sangihe Island is located at the convergence of *the Eurasian, the Pacific and the Maluku-Sangihe plates*.

The description of the name of the plates referring to the location of Sangihe island create a salient image on what is the state of the island geologically (Stibbe, 2015). By knowing that Sangihe is in the middle of these three plates can give awareness that this area is sensitive for mining activity because earthquakes or landslides can occur anytime the plates are distracted.

## **B. Ecosophy**

Assessment of the story with ecological philosophy is needed in order to understand whether the story is worth the preservation of ecology in current condition. In Tempo, the story certainly promotes that mining is the cause of ecological damage. The conviction is built using high facticity in modal and hedge related to the description about the rejection of the project, the effect of the project through several parties involved, the process that exploited ecology, and the authority abstain for clarification of the project. Even though several salient images of ecology are erased, the existence of ecology still present by the use of eco-lexicon, for instance 'land' which refer to the forest that being exploited, 'endemic animal' which referred to the Niu bird which was one of the local and endangered bird. Furthermore, VOI does not give a more vivid representation of ecology to remind the existence of the erased living beings in Tempo. Instead, Tempo has a

more salient representation of ecology compared to VOI. For this result, Tempo's story is beneficial to the wellbeing of ecology.

The story is in line with the ecological philosophy of Stibbe (2015) which promote the wellbeing of ecology. The story promotes the danger of mining to the life of living beings in Sangihe. The wellbeing of living beings is distracted shown through the high facticity pattern in a description about the process of the mining, for instance the excavation using cyanide. Tempo describes how the cyanide excavated four million tons of natural biotic and abiotic material in the area. In fact, the use of cyanide can harm the life of living beings because of the leach ponds that were used for metal extraction can cause water and soil pollution (Eisler, 1991). When the pollution occurs, living beings are difficult to get clean water, to fulfil their body need, and plant is difficult to grow even fish will lose their house. In sum, this kind of description that presented by tempo using high facticity increase awareness of ecology vulnerability.

Furthermore, Tempo's story also give moral consideration to the affected ecology in Sangihe. The moral consideration is shown through the specification of affected resident in the tempo's description. Tempo explains that Bowone village is the area that is going to be the area of mining. Therefore, Bowone's resident is going to lose their home. Moreover, tempo also specifically describe that mangrove forest is also going to be affected by the mining. This specification means that the forest or and residents have a unique characteristic from the other residents or the other forests. This personalization implies that there are no other things that will likely have the same characters to replace them (Stibbe, 2015). It means the

rebuilding of village or forest due to the mining impact in the area will not produce the same output as the current condition. Therefore, this description also increases the awareness of society to the existence of the living beings in the area affected.

Nevertheless, the story from VOI is destructive to the wellbeing of ecology because it is counter with the ecological philosophy. This is shown in the linguistic pattern that built the conviction. In the beginning VOI is certain that mining cause ecology damage through its high facticity in describing the danger that 'will' impact Sangihe's ecosystem. However, the facticity decreases when they describe about the justification of mining permit. In their description the danger for the life in Sangihe's uncertainly happened. It was shown through the modality 'can' that undermined the possibility of the danger. Furthermore, not only undermining the description VOI also promoted a new description that mining give benefit to the economy. This is represented when VOI described that the vulnerability of Sangihe's ecosystem is lie on its economic value. It indicates that VOI agreed that ecological damage is equal to economic growth. This can decrease people's awareness of the sustainability of ecology. Therefore, VOI's story destructed wellbeing of the ecology.

To support this new description, VOI backgrounded the vivid representation of affected parties in the story, for instance the generalization of resident who affected with the phrase 'Residents of Sangihe'. This does not give moral consideration to the affected parties. The residents that actually are not affected, residents which not in the area of the project, will not be aware of the actual resident who get the impact. They are likely to think that everything is alright because their

village is still fine. This decreased the awareness that there are living beings who really face the impact of mining. In sum, VOI's story does not consider the life of living beings and does not give a care to the ecology. Therefore, this story potentially destructs the wellbeing of ecology.

### **C. Discussion**

The findings above present some linguistic features used by Tempo and VOI that can influence ecological wellbeing. Firstly, Tempo and VOI use hedge and modality sentences to present the conviction of a description. Both of them used some positive modalities, such as 'will' and 'must' to strengthen the facticity that mining caused ecological damage. In Tempo, some unmodalized sentences were used when explaining the destructive activities of mining. For example, Tempo used sentence without modal to describe the danger of mining to the environment. This shown the certainty that ecology is important to be protected (Zhdanova, 2021). Tempo also used hedge, such as 'modal adverbs' and 'authoritative references' to increase the facticity of the description in research problem one. Nevertheless, VOI uses hedge like 'authoritative references', 'comparative form', and 'passivation' to undermine that mining cause ecological damage. For instance, the phrase "more complex" is used when describing the impact of mining to the ecology. This hedge undermines the importance of ecology since it does not comprehensively explain the impact (Jaworska, 2018).

Furthermore, these different linguistic features also create different patterns to build a conviction from Tempo and VOI. Tempo built a pattern that gradually increased the facticity of 'mining causes ecological damage'. Using this pattern

Tempo stories can influence reader understanding that mining activities are acertainly cause ecological damage. Meanwhile, VOI built a pattern starting with presenting the high facticity of the description, then undermining the description, and finally presenting a new description. In the beginning, VOI presents that mining is dangerous for ecology, then undermined the description that the dangerous uncertainly occurred, and finally presented a new description that mining also brings economic benefit. This pattern can influence reader understanding that mining activities are not dangerous to the ecology, instead they are beneficial to boost the economic conditions in local community. Therefore, VOI create a conviction that potentially harm the ecology compared to Tempo which created a conviction that supported ecological protection.

Secondly, Tempo and VOI used generalization, impersonalization, and overdetermination to background elements of ecology in the story. For example, 'endemic animal' and 'endemic birds' were used by Tempo and VOI to describe Niu birds, the endangered bird in the area. This generalization, passivation, and impersonalization decreased people's awareness of the ecological damage (Fouad, 2019). Nevertheless, VOI used passivation to suppress the element of ecology. The use of 'tailing' when explaining the danger of mining suppressed the marine life which impacted by the process. Furthermore, VOI also passivated the value of ecological elements by activating the 'economic' perspective in explaining the benefit of mining. As Stibbe (2015) argued, using passivation to suppress certain species can create ambiguity and a unimaginable image of the species. Using these patterns VOI made the element of ecology unimportant that does not need to be

considered in the discourse. These patterns made readers become unaware of the existence of elements of ecology, animals, plant, and human, that in the end make readers do not consider protecting their live. Meanwhile, Tempo still tried to give an abstract existence of elements of ecology through its use of eco-lexicon. The strategy used by Tempo still made readers aware of the existence of ecology although they do not get a salient image of it. As a result, VOI linguistics patterns, *the void*, is potentially harmful to the ecology compared to Tempo, *the trace*.

Thirdly, in Saliency I found that the prominence image of ecology was only shown in Tempo by using personalization. For example, Tempo used “Bowone’s villagers” and “Sahendaruman Mountain” to describe the part of ecology which was affected by the mining project. The use of personalization to create a vivid image of ecology can increase people’s awareness of the existence of living beings that are vulnerable (Fouad, 2019; Torkington et.al., 2020). Thus, I do not find any vivid image of ecology in VOI’s story.

These different linguistic patterns in the three stories were potentially influenced by the objective of the media. The media that contradict with neoliberal agenda produced green discourses which is a discourse or story that represent the existence of ecology and have a good influence on the wellbeing of ecology (Jaworska, 2018; Norton & Hulme, 2019; Runge, 2021; Zhdanova, 2021). In previous studies which discuss about international issue, climate change, shows media that contradicted with neoliberal agenda is progressive media in which support mainstream scientific viewed on climate change. Meanwhile the current study which discussed national issue, biodiversity loss, discovered media that

against government also contradicted with neoliberal agenda. This finding might be caused by the background of the media. Media that have a less political tendency which refer to the economic growth likely create brave criticisms article to the government (Gare, 2002).

Tempo which created a green discourse can be considered as a media with less political interest. It was shown in its history when Tempo was banned by the government in 1994 and 1982 (tempo.id, 2022). This was because their criticism of the government was too incisive. After that event, Tempo built Aliansi Jurnalis Indonesia (AJI) as a form of protest from government's control of information and journalist. Furthermore, Tempo's largest shareholder comes from several foundations, one of them is Jaya Raya Foundations, which allows Tempo to move more freely without being bound by any party to produce stories (Keller, 2009).

Meanwhile, media that supports neoliberal agendas (Jaworska, 2018; Fouad, 2019; Schmitt's, 2019; Torkington, 2020; Fernández-Vázquez.et,all, 2020; Fernández-Vázquez, 2021; Pratiwi, 2021; Alva, 2022) or political affiliations (Norton & Hulme, 2019; Runge, 2021) tend to produce stories that strengthen the value of economic or technology growth over the value of ecological vulnerability. Similarly, Voice of Indonesia (VOI) creates a potentially destructive story for the wellbeing of ecology. They appear to support the value of economic growth in their story, which may be reflective of the ideology embraced by the organization, possibly leaning towards the technology industry. According to Iskandar (2018), Media ideology is influenced by its founders, reporters, and staff. VOI is part of PT VOI Media Informatika, which is headed by Satria Pinandita as the CEO (VOI news,

2021) and Moho Setiya Putra as the Commissioner (linkedin profile). Both Pinandita and Putra have professional backgrounds in the technology industry and have graduated from technology-related majors. Therefore, VOI tends to embrace economic growth since it has an influence on the development of technology sector.

Technology has a close relationship with economic development, and as a developing country, Indonesia requires technology advancement to support its industries. Furthermore, the development of technology is heavily influenced by economic factors (Haque, 1995), as financial support is necessary to fund such advancements, and this support can be achieved through economic stability. In conclusion, the ideology of Voice of Indonesia (VOI) has a tendency to support economic growth. This tendency may be attributed to the influence of its founders and leaders who have backgrounds in the technology industry which has a close relation to economic growth.

From this analysis, the difference between previous and present studies is that the present study provided in-depth analysis on the ecological assessment to determine whether the story about gold mining project in Sangihe Island is beneficial or harmful for the ecology. For instance, the story of salience in Tempo gave a vivid image of the elements of ecology which then reminded the existence of them in the story. Then, the reader is potentially aware of their vulnerability. As Stibbe (2015) stated that different philosophies in assessing the story can produce different assessment results. Tempo's story is beneficial for the wellbeing of ecology because the story gives certainty to the description that mining causes ecological damage. Furthermore, this story manages to present the image of ecology

even though uses the general version of the term. In addition, Tempo's story still presents a certain prominent image of ecology. Meanwhile, VOI's story is potentially destructive story for the wellbeing of ecology because the story presents a new description that mining gives economic benefit instead of continuously supporting the first description. Moreover, this story does not present any prominence image of ecology.

All in all, the present study has already answered all the problems of the study about the linguistic pattern that was used to represent the story of conviction, erasure, and salience in Tempo and VOI article. Finally, there are two novelties in this study. First, it gives more complex analytical framework for each story by Martin and Mayr (2012), Van Leeuwen (2008), and Stibbe (2015). Second, this study gave an assessment of whether it is beneficial for the wellbeing of ecology using the ecological philosophy of Stibbe (2015). At the undergraduate level, this kind of interdisciplinary study gives in-depth understanding on how media can give benefit to the wellbeing of ecology.

## CHAPTER V

### CONSLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### A. Conclusion

This present study has already found that Tempo and VOI have similarities and differences in using linguistic patterns to present the story of conviction, erasure, and salience regarding the news of gold mining project in Sangihe island. In the story of conviction, Tempo uses modality and hedge to support the description that mining caused ecological damage. While VOI uses modality to support the description but then used hedge to undermine and give the alternative description that mining give economic benefit. In the story of erasure VOI and Tempo use generalization and impersonalization to background the element of ecology. Moreover, VOI uses passivation to suppress the element of ecology in the story. While in the story of salience, the prominence image of ecology only appears in Tempo. Tempo uses impersonalization to show the uniqueness and vivid image of the ecology.

Furthermore, this study already assesses the whole story using ecological philosophy by Stibbe (2015). It shows that the story from Tempo is beneficial for the wellbeing of ecology because it considers the existence of ecology and promotes the wellbeing of ecology. This story supports the description that mining causes ecological damage. Additionally, Tempo gives vivid picturization of the element of ecology. The strategy that was used by Tempo was influenced by its background that contradict with neoliberal agenda. Meanwhile, the story from VOI is potentially destructive to the wellbeing of ecology because the story represented the ecology exploitation and does not consider the existence of ecology. Instead of supporting the initial description VOI

provides a new description that mining gives economic benefits. Moreover, VOI does not give a clear image of ecology in the story. This strategy was influenced by the people that manage the media in which VOI was managed by CEO and Commissioner that has a technology industry background. This finding concludes media that contradict with neoliberal agendas tend to create stories which embrace ecological vulnerability. Meanwhile media that support neoliberal agenda potentially create stories that embrace economic development. This assessment gives a new contribution to the study in this interdisciplinary subject.

### **B. Suggestion**

This study would not come perfectly. First of all, the data was limited to the English article from Tempo and VOI Indonesia which give less support for the analysis since it was national issue which less being brought by the international media. Thus, the related issue about gold mining is less often discussed in the media. Therefore, linguistic analysis is not as much as global issues. Nonetheless, this research has reached as far as it was possible.

To improve and facilitate future study, here I propose several suggestions. First, the study on ecolinguistic is still new to be conducted in environmental issue especially national issue. Therefore, continuing to explore this field is very promising for research agenda. While a comprehensive analysis of the existence of eco-lexicon has mainly been conducted. I suggest the future study to enlarge the analysis on the other story proposed by Stibbe (2015). There are another five stories, namely ideology, framing, metaphor, identities, and evaluation, that can be explored to enlighten the representation of ecology. This would give a depth understanding of the whole context of the text,

especially by implementing ecosophy assessment. Second, environmental issues can be explored more widely in other media such as videos and books. The context of ecolinguistic is not limited to the global cases of environmental issue. It is because the environment is represented everywhere since humans initially have been growth with it. That is why movie, storybook and speech can also promote beneficial story for wellbeing of ecology.

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## CURRICULUM VITAE



Izzatun Nabila was born in Malang, 10 September 1999. She graduated from SMAN 1 Lawang in 2018. During her study at high school, she actively participated as student council and was ever nominated as the president of student council 2017. She started her higher education in 2019 at Department of English Literature of UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang and finished in 2023. During her study at university, she joined Advanced Debate Community (ADC) and being delegated in several competitions. She joined volunteers in several language-related communities alongside her freelancer jobs as a translator and teacher.

## APPENDIX

### Appendix 1:

Linguistic Patterns of The Story of Conviction In Tempo Article.

Data	Text	Non Modal/ Hedge	Modality	Hedge		
				Adverb	Comparative Form	Authoritative References
1.	Now the region is in danger of being damaged because it has become a part of a mining concession of Tambang Mas Sangihe	✓				
2.	Tambang Mas <b>will</b> carry out open mining, excavating four million tons of material containing approximately 900,000 tons of gold ore, which <b>will</b> be extracted using cyanide.		✓			
3.	That island is not suitable to become a mining area and is vulnerable to disasters.	✓				
4.	That law forbids mining activity on small islands.	✓				
5.	That there is an increased risk for disasters because Sangihe Island is located at the convergence of the Eurasian,	✓				
6.	This endangers the endemic animal population.	✓				
7.	Helmud was also concerned that Tambang Mas operations <b>would</b>		✓			

	damage the environment, whether on land, along the coast, or for marine life.					
8.	Mining activity <b>would only</b> benefit the holders of the working contract, but <b>would not</b> provide any public prosperity,		✓			
9.	Wahyu Muryadi, a spokesman for the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP), said that Tambang Mas <b>cannot</b> exploit Sangihe Island because they <b>do not have</b> a recommendation from their ministry. For that reason, such utilization <b>must</b> obtain a recommendation from the KKP.		✓			
10.	The thing is, if the mining operation continues, half of the island <b>will</b> be lost through excavation work.		✓			
11.	The mining endangers the small island ecosystem.	✓				
12.	Alfred <b>protested</b> the ministry of energy and mineral resources, which issued the production operation license for Tambang Mas last January 29. According to him, the environmental impact analysis			✓		

	(AMDAL) documents, which serve as the basis for the issuance of such licenses, were <b>never</b> discussed openly.					
13.	At that time, <b>Helmud</b> was the only one who was strongly opposed to the operational plans of TMS. Support came from some <b>members of the Sangihe Islands Regional Legislative Council (DPRD)</b> in a meeting forum, not long after the operational license was given to TMS. Appendix 2					✓
14.	As of Saturday, July 3, that <b>general treasurer of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P)</b> had not responded to the letter.					✓
15.	A request for confirmation made to <b>Chief of Communication and Informatics Office Christiano Talumepa</b> also did not provide any results. He did not reply to any messages sent to his WhatsApp number.					✓

## Appendix 2:

Linguistic Patterns of The Story of Conviction In VOI Article.

Data	Text	Non Modal/ Hedge	Modality	Hedge		
				Adverb	Comparative Form	Authoritative References
16.	So, the entire ecosystem in Sangihe <b>will</b> be in danger of being lost, even damaged.		✓			
17.	Because it <b>will</b> have big consequences for the environment,		✓			
18.	Human safety <b>must</b> be prioritized. <b>Don't</b> just look at it from an economic perspective.		✓			
19.	Whatever the system, the handling of tailings--whether the disposal of waste into the sea commonly known as Submarine Tailings Disposal (STD) or the disposal of waste into the deep sea, Deep Sea Tailings Placemet (DSTP)--both <b>have great risks</b> and <b>are harmful</b> to the environment.		✓			
20.	<b>Even</b> in mining in Sangihe, the government <b>is required</b> to maintain the safety of the people, especially the people of Sangihe. For this reason, mining permits <b>should</b> have been rejected. Because it <b>not only</b> affects the coastal ecosystem, <b>but also</b> affects the economic management ecosystem of the		✓			

	Sangihe residents who live from natural resources.					
21.	Mining activities <b>are prohibited</b> because they <b>can have</b> a negative impact on life on small islands.		✓			
22.	The project <b>not only</b> threatens the lives of the Sangihe residents, <b>but also</b> threatens the extinction of endemic birds.			✓		
23.	<b>Not only</b> for rare species of flora and fauna (one of which is Sariwang Sangihe), <b>but also</b> the people of Sangihe are threatened with their lives and livelihoods.			✓		
24.	The mining permit is contrary to <b>Law (UU) Number 1 of 2014</b> concerning amendments to <b>Law Number 27 of 2007</b> concerning the management of coastal areas and Small Islands					✓
25.	Environmental observer who is also the <b>Director of the Institute for Living Life (LOH)</b> , Yani Sagaroa agrees with this.					✓
26.	Yani emphasized that what he said was in line with what <b>President Joko Widodo</b> said. Jokowi said that the highest law is the safety of the people.					✓
27.	..., the destructive force of mining activities is much <b>more complex than</b>				✓	

	other environmental activities.					
28.	Because the <b>economic value</b> of the entire ecosystem in Sangihe is <b>much more</b> meaningful which is able to provide a sustainable life for the surrounding community				✓	
29.	If we look at it only from an economic perspective, in <b>our opinion</b> it is very narrow			✓		

### Appendix 3:

Linguistic Patterns of The Story of Erasure In Tempo Article.

Data	Text	Generalization	Impersonalization	Passivation	Overdetermination
30.	The mining endangers the small island <b>ecosystem</b> .				✓
31.	Now <b>the region</b> is in danger of being damaged.	✓			
32.	This company will likely manage a mining area on 42,000 hectares <b>of land</b> in Sangihe based on a working contract.	✓			
33.	That <b>island</b> is not suitable to become a mining area and is vulnerable to disasters.				✓
34.	... excavating four million tons <b>of material</b> containing approximately 900,000 tons of gold ore.	✓			

35.	It is located on the southern side of that island measuring <b>72,000 hectares</b> . In other words, nearly <b>57 percent</b> of the island is becoming a gold mining concession area.	✓			
36.	The thing is, if the mining operation continues, <b>half of the island</b> will be lost through excavation work.	✓			
37.	Helmud was also concerned that Tambang Mas operations would damage the environment, whether on <b>land, along the coast, or for marine life</b> .	✓			
38.	During the meeting, said Elbi, a representative of Tambang Mas management said that they were going to purchase all of the <b>villagers' land</b> .		✓		
39.	This endangers the <b>endemic animal</b> population.		✓		

**Appendix 4:**

Linguistic Patterns of The Story of Erasure In VOI Article.

Data	Text	Generalization	Impersonalization	Passivation	Overdetermination
40.	<i>The project not only</i> threatens the lives of the Sangihe residents, <i>but also</i> threatens the extinction of <i>endemic birds</i>		✓		
41.	Not only for rare species of <i>flora and fauna</i> (one of which is Sariwang Sangihe), ...				✓
42.	The project <b>not only threatens</b> the lives of the <b>Sangihe residents</b> , ...		✓		
43.	Even in mining in Sangihe, the <b>government is required</b> to maintain the safety of the people, especially the <b>people of Sangihe</b> .		✓		
44.	... but also affects the economic management ecosystem of the <b>Sangihe residents</b> who live from natural resources.		✓		
45.	The reality is that the <b>tailings</b> (waste) handling technology system in Indonesia is still <b>inadequate</b> . Whatever the system, the handling of <b>tailings</b> —whether the disposal of			✓	

	waste into the sea commonly known as Submarine Tailings Disposal (STD) or the disposal of waste into the deep-sea, Deep-Sea Tailings Placement (DSTP)—both have great risks and are harmful to the environment.				
46.	So, the entire <b>ecosystem</b> in Sangihe will be in danger of being lost, <b>even damaged</b>				✓
47.	Because it <b>not only</b> affects the coastal <b>ecosystem</b> , <b>but also</b> affects the economic management ecosystem of the Sangihe residents who live from natural <b>resources</b> .	✓			
48.	The <b>economic value of the entire ecosystem</b> in Sangihe is much <b>more meaningful</b> which is able to provide a <b>sustainable</b> life for the surrounding community			✓	

### Appendix 5:

Linguistic Patterns of The Story of Saliency In Tempo Article.

Data	Text	Personalization
49.	The <i>Sahendaruman Mountain</i> is located about 15 kilometers from government offices of the Sangihe Islands Regency, North Sulawesi.	✓
50.	Its <i>densely forested hills</i> act as the main water reservoir area for this island located north of the City of Manado.	✓
51.	<i>BOWONE village</i> in the Tabukan Selatan Tengah subdistrict of Sangihe Islands Regency covers 65 hectares.	✓
52.	<i>Residents of Bowone</i> learned that the land around their places of residence is to be cleared out when Tambang Mas invited all of them to a school building on March 22.	✓
53.	A 3.6-kilometer stretch <i>of mangrove forest</i> runs along the village coast.	✓
54.	There is an increased risk for disasters because Sangihe Island is located at the convergence of <i>the Eurasian, the Pacific and the Maluku-Sangihe plates</i> .	✓