A Discourse Analysis of Rhetorical Style in Research Article Introduction in Law Studies Written by International Authors

Ejontomi Afrizon
English Education Study Program, Department of Language and Art
Universitas Bengkulu
ejontomiii@gmail.com

Safnil Arsyad
English Education Study Program, Department of Language and Art
Universitas Bengkulu
safnilarsyad@gmail.com

Zahrida
English Education Study Program, Department of Language and Art
Universitas Bengkulu
zahrida@yahoo.com

Abstract

This research is aimed at finding the most dominant move, step and the most common pattern of rhetorical style in Research Article Introduction in Law Studies Written by International Authors. The documentation technique and checklist were used in this research. Fifteen English RA introductions by International authors were analyzed by using discourse analysis technique, using quantitative as well as qualitative method and following Swales' CARS Model (1990). The results show that the authors dominantly use Move 1 (Establishing a territory) and Step 2 of Move 1 (Making Topic Generalization). The fifteen articles mostly have the same model in leading to understanding to the article introduction. In addition, International authors of English RAs in Law Study prefer describing the phenomena and found the problem based on it to describing the previous research. The most common pattern is Complete Pattern. The articles which belong to Complete Pattern have three moves. While the one which has two moves belong to Semi complete and the one which has one move only belong to incomplete pattern. In conclusion, the articles in the three journals are categorized into appropriate articles in term of discourse structure.

Keywords: Research article introduction, rhetorical style, international authors, law study.

Introduction

According to Hogne (2006), scientific paper is one of academic products and academic writing is the kind of writing that is required to do in college or university. Meanwhile, Balleste (2003) stated that the results of the research are published in the form of scientific paper. That means when someone conducts a research and then she or he wants to share the findings or results to others, she or he can explain them in scientific paper or research article.

The most important section in a research article (RA) is the introduction section because it is the first section to be read by readers after the abstract and if readers are not impressed in reading this section, they will unlikely continue reading the article (Swales & Najjar, 1987 ; Safnil, 2001). In other

words, introduction section of a RA functions to motivate readers in order to read the whole part of the article and therefore introduction must be written as interestingly and convincingly as possible so the readers will read the entire research article.

According to Belcher (2009: p. 209), the main purpose of introduction section of a RA is to 'provide enough information for the readers to be able to understand your argument and its stakes.' A similar comment has also been made by Swales and Feak (1994) in which they suggest that the main purpose of introduction section of a RA are two folds: these are to give a logical reason for the article and to provoke readers to read it. The ways writers rhetorically present the argument in their RA introduction will determine whether or not readers are impressed and convinced and whether or not they will continue reading the article.

The ways writers organize their ideas in RA introductions have become a focus interest of scientific discourse studies recently in the world. Adnan (2009) when he analysed the discourse style of RA introductions in the discipline of education written by Indonesian speakers by using Swales' CARS as a model, he found that out of twenty-one RA introductions in the corpus of his study, none of which fit the discourse style of English RA introduction as suggested by Swales (1990). The main difference, according to Adnan is on the occurrence of Move 1 (establishing a territory) in which the majority of Indonesian RA writers address the importance of their research topic by referring to practical problems experienced by common people or the government rather than by specific relevant discourse community. In addition, none of the Indonesian RA authors, as Adnan claims further, justifies their research projects reported in the RAs by pointing at the gap or 'niche' in the results or findings of previous relevant studies as in Swales' model of Move 2 (establishing a niche). Adnan proposes a modified model of ideal problem solution (IPS) to capture important discourse style of the Indonesian RA introduction sections especially in the discipline of education.

Of all the previous research mentioned above, there are not many rhetorical styles studies in the discipline of law area. In fact, the problems of law occur almost every time in the world. Moreover, many people do the research about law and they need to report the results or findings to other people in the form of research article so that means they have to make an introduction as well. While, the rhetorical style or move in that section of law research article is still rarely researched. Among medical, science, and engineer research articles, the law studies is the least research. This is the reason why this study is needed to be done; to see how the RAs published in international journals of law studies especially of their introduction sections are schematically structured.

In particular, this study is aimed at investigating the rhetorical style of research article introduction in law studies written by International author. The purpose of the study is to analyze and identify the moves and steps in introduction section.

Research Method

This research used checklist and documentation technique. The design of this research is descriptive, using quantitative as well as qualitative data. The quantitative data will be shown in order to show the percentage of occurrences, whereas qualitative data will be shown in order to describe, explain, and illustrate the findings in detail. The processes of identifying communicative units in the introduction section of RAs were done following the procedures suggested by Swales (1990). The data result will be mostly in descriptive explanation. The data will be collected, analyzed, identified and discussed. The researcher will focus on the rhetorical moves or structures in introduction part of law research article.

The corpus of this study is fifteen law research articles published in international journals of law studies. They are fifteen English RAs in law studies area in three international journals published (five RAs from International Journals of International Law coded as IJIL from volume 1, 2, 3 and issues 1 and 2; five RAs from International Journal of Law and Policy Review coded as IJLPR from volume 07 Number 1 January 2018; and five RAs from the International Journal of Law and Society coded as IJLS from volume 1 and 2 and issues 1 and 2 year 2018). Those articles will be compiled based on the criteria of accessibility, reputation, and peer review.

The instrument of this research is text analysis by using checklist of moves and steps in research articles introduction. In the checklist, the explanation of each moves and steps will be put in column and each article will have one checklist so that the data can be seen clearly.

Finding and Discussion

Finding

From the results of the 15 RAs in Law Studies, there are Move 1, Move 2, Move 3 based on suggested by Swales found in all RA introductions. In Move 1, all the three steps are found. In Move 2, all the steps are found except Step 1D. In Move 3, all the four steps are found. However, the dominant findings of the move and steps are at Step 2 of Move 1 that is Making Topic Generalizations and step 1B of Move 3 that is Announcing Present Research.

Move Analysis Result

Research question number 1 asked about what moves are dominantly used in English Research Articles of Law Study in introduction section.

Table 1. Frequency of Move in RA Introductions

Moves	Frequency	Percentage
Move 1	15	100%
Move 2	9	60%
Move 3	11	73%

N = 15		

Table 1 shows the frequency and percentage of moves found in the RAs in the corpus of the study. As can be seen from the table, Move 1 is found in 15 articles (100%), Move 2 is found in 9 articles (60%), and Move 3 is found in 11 articles (73%). This clearly proved that the 15 articles of the three journals in the discipline of Law study written by international author dominantly used Move 1 (Establishing a territory).

Steps Analysis Results

Research question number 2 asked about what steps are dominantly used in introduction section of English Research Articles of Law Study.

Steps in Move 1

Table 2. Frequency of Steps of Move 1 in RA Introductions

Step	Frequency	Percentage
Step 1	2	13%
Step 2	15	100%
Step 3	4	27%
N = 15		

Table 2 shows the frequency and percentage of steps in Move 1 found in the RAs. From the result, Step 1 is found in only 2 articles (13%), Step 2 is found in 15 articles (100%), Step 3 is found in 4 articles (27%). This clearly proved that the 15 articles of the three journals in the discipline of Law study written by international author dominantly used Step 2 in move 1 that is Making Topic Generalization.

Steps in Move 2

Table 3. Frequency of Steps of Move 2 in RA Introductions

Step	Frequency	Percentage
Step 1A	3	20%
Step 1B	2	13%
Step 1C	5	33%
Step 1D	-	-
N = 15		

Table 3 shows the frequency and percentage of steps in Move 2 found in the RAs. From the results, Step 1A is found in only 3 articles (20%), Step 1B is found in 2 articles (13%), Step 1C is found in 5 articles (33%) and Step 1D is not found in the articles. This clearly proved that the 15 articles of the three journals in the discipline of law study written by international author dominantly used Step 1C in Move 2 that is raising a Question.

Steps in Move 3

Table 4. Frequency of Steps of Move 3 in RA Introductions

Step	Frequency	Percentage
Step 1A	2	13%
Step 1B	9	60%
Step 2	1	7%
Step 3	5	33%
Step 4	-	-
N = 15		

Table 4 shows the frequency and percentage of steps in Move 2 found in the RAs. From the results, Step 1A is found in 2 articles (13%), Step 1B is found in 9 articles (60%), Step 2 is found in only 1 article (7%), Step 3 is found in 5 articles (33%) and there is no Step 4 found in the articles. This clearly proved that the 15 articles of the three journals in the discipline of Law study written by international author dominantly used Step 1B in Move 3 that is Announcing Present Research.

Pattern of Rhetorical Move and Step Analysis Result

Research question number 3 asked about what common pattern of rhetorical move and step are used in introduction section of English Research Articles of Law Study.

Table 5 : Frequency of Rhetorical Moves and Steps Pattern

Pattern	Frequency	Percentage
Complete	7	47%
Semi Complete	6	40%
Incomplete	2	13%
N = 15		

Table 5 shows the frequency and percentage of common moves. From the results, complete pattern was found in 7 articles (47%), Semi complete pattern was found in 6 articles (40%), and incomplete pattern was found in 2 articles (13%). This proved clearly that the most common pattern moves and steps in the law 15 articles was complete pattern.

Discussion

The first finding in this research was about what moves dominantly found in RAs introduction of Law Study written by international authors. The result showed that the dominant move found was Move 1 (Establishing a Territory). The authors tended to give much about the phenomena of Law regarding the research area in introduction section. From the phenomena, the authors then raised question that will be discussed. The results implied that in Law Study research article introduction, move 1 was obligatory while moves 2 and 3 were conventional.

The second finding in this research was about what steps are dominantly found in RAs introduction of Law Study written by international authors. The result showed that the dominant Step found was Step 2 of Move 1 (Making Topic Generalization). The result implied that in Move 1, Step 2 was obligatory while the other was optional. In Move 2, all steps are optional while in Move 3, Steps 1B was conventional and the others are optional. From this finding, we know that the authors mostly made topic generalization which means they provided a lot about the phenomena and then got the problem based on the phenomena itself not from the previous study. It implied that most of the authors focus on their own research.

The last finding in this research was about what are the common pattern of rhetorical move and step found in RAs introduction of law study written by international authors. Regarding the guidelines of each journals in which every articles have the same length, it is found that the most common pattern was complete pattern. From this finding, we know that the three journals almost have the same model. Swales' CARS (Create-a-Research Space) model, in 1990 seems to be applicable in majority of Introductions in the RAs. In respect to the pattern of move structure, the results indicate that there is an overwhelming deviation from the CARS model compared to other fields like Applied Linguistics English RA written by Non-Native Speaker. A research entitled 'Rhetorical Structure of Introduction in Applied Linguistics Research Articles' done by Rahman, dkk (2017).

Conclusion And Suggestion

Conclusions

From the research results and discussion, several conclusions can be drawn from this study. It is found that the dominant move in introduction section of English RAs in Law Study written by international authors is Move 1 (Establishing a territory) regarding it is dominantly found with the biggest percentage. It is found that the most dominant step in introduction section of English RAs Law study written by international authors is Step 2 of Move 1 (Making Topic Generalization) regarding it is dominantly found with the biggest percentage. It is found that the most common pattern of compulsory moves and steps in the law 15 articles is complete pattern regarding it is dominantly found with the biggest percentage.

Suggestions

Based on the conclusion above, it is suggested that first, It is suggested that students especially those whose major is law or anyone who wants to create research article of law study, should pay attention carefully to the acceptable pattern of rhetorical moves and steps in creating their research article especially the introduction section. It is because the introduction section will determine whether or not the readers are interested to read the whole article. So that the introduction section should be created

as interesting as possible. It is considered really important as lectures and students of law study have to write article journal every year in their time of teaching and studying and publish them internationally. So that the findings of this research will help their English research articles especially in law study can be more acceptable and readable by English readers.

The last but not least, It is suggested that the next researchers who want to conduct research in the same field to do the further research about the rhetorical style in the different object and context. They can use this study as their guidance to do further research. The next researchers are encouraged to do research especially about the language features used by the international authors. It is because English authors might use different language features in Law Study.

References

Aprianti, D. (2017). *The Citation Style in English Research Article Introductions Written By Indonesian Authors in Hard Sciences*. Universitas Bengkulu.

Arsyad, S. (2013). *A Genre-Based Analysis on the Introductions of Research Articles Written By Indonesian Academics*. Universitas Bengkulu.

———— (2013). *A genre-based analysis of Indonesian research articles in the social sciences and humanities written by Indonesian speakers.* Bengkulu University

———— (2013). *A Genre-Based Analysis on Discussion Section of Research Articles in Indonesian Written by Indonesian Speakers*. Bengkulu University.

Bisri, S. 14 Februari 2016). *Apa yang harus ditulis dalam sebuah latar belakang masalah.* (https://www.kompasiana.com/www.sugiantibisri.blogsot.com/apa-yang harus-ditulis-dalam-sebuah-latar-belakang masalah_56bfacc4ad7e610d0e446086) (diakses pada 15 Januari 2018)

Briones, RRY. (2012). *Move Analysis of Philosophy Research Article Introductions Published in the University of Santo Tomas*. University of Santo Tomas.

Chahal, Dana. (2014). *Research Article Introductions in Cultural Studies: A Genre Analysis Exploration of Rhetorical Structure*. Victoria University, Australia.

Ishara, ER. (2016). *Rethorical Structure Each Speaker Text in Grand Final WUDC 2009*. Universitas Bengkulu. (Unpublished Thesis)

Kamaruddin, dkk (2013). *Rhetorical Structure in Academic Research Writing by Non-Native Writers*. Universiti Malaysia Perlis.

Miller, T. (1993). *The discourse structure of research article introductions: Re-visited with evidence from Arabic*