



## Mood and Modality in Interpersonal Meaning of Joseph Robinette Biden Victory Speech

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### Abstrak

Pidato melibatkan artikulasi ide dan emosi seseorang. Politisi harus memiliki keterampilan untuk memanfaatkan bahasa secara efektif. Penelitian sebelumnya menggarisbawahi pentingnya mempelajari bahasa politik, karena hal ini memberdayakan individu untuk memahami bagaimana mereka yang ingin mencapai, memegang, dan mempertahankan otoritas menggunakan bahasa. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis bagaimana mood dan modalitas digunakan dalam pidato kemenangan. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain kualitatif. Transkrip pidato kemenangan Joe Biden menjadi subjek penyelidikan ini. Pak Biden menyampaikan komitmen dan tanggung jawab terkait dengan program yang akan dijalanannya, namun kita belum tahu apakah akan dijalankan atau tidak. Analisis yang digunakan adalah pengumpulan data, reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Berdasarkan temuan penelitian ini, ada tiga kategori berbeda: nilai, modalitas, dan suasana hati. Suasana hati deklaratif adalah jenis yang paling umum; Sebanyak 193 klausa atau sekitar 94% berada dalam mood imperatif, disusul tujuh klausa atau 3,4%, dan tiga klausa atau sekitar 1,5 persen dalam mood interogatif. Nilai modalitas yang dominan adalah median, terdapat delapan belas ketentuan atau sekitar 62,1%, kemudian disusul oleh delapan klausa atau sekitar 27,6% yang bernilai rendah dan yang terakhir adalah tiga syarat atau 10,3% yang bernilai tinggi. Jenis modalitas yang dominan adalah kewajiban. Sebelas klausul atau sekitar 37,9 persen tergolong kewajiban, sepuluh klausul atau sekitar 34,5% sebagai probabilitas, dan delapan klausul atau sekitar 26,7 persen sebagai kecenderungan.

**Kata kunci:** Mood, Modalitas, Pidato

### Abstract

Speech involves the articulation of one's ideas and emotions. Politicians must possess the skill to effectively utilize language. Prior research underscores the significance of studying the political language, as it empowers individuals to grasp how those aspiring to attain, wield, and retain authority employ language. The purpose of this study is to analyze how mood and modality were used in the victory speech. This research applies qualitative design. The transcription of Joe Biden's victory speech is the subject of this investigation. Mr. Biden convey commitments and responsibility connected with the program that he will run; however, we don't know whether it will be run or no. This research applied qualitative research. The analysis is using data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion. According to the findings of this study, there are three distinct categories: value, modality, and mood. Declarative mood is the most common type; 193 clauses, or about 94%, are in the imperative mood, followed by seven clauses, or 3.4%, and three clauses, or about 1.5 percent, in the interrogative mood. The dominant modality value is median, there are eighteen provisions or around 62.1%, then, at that point, trailed by eight clauses or around 27.6% as low worth and the latter is three conditions or 10.3% for high worth. The dominant type of modality is obligation. Eleven clauses, or approximately 37.9 percent, are classified as obligation, ten clauses, or approximately 34.5%, as probability, and eight clauses, or approximately 26.7 percent, as inclination.

**Keywords:** Mood, Modality, Speech

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Speech is the verbal expression of one's thoughts and feelings. People in a country prefer to express themselves through speech, particularly when they are in positions of authority and inspire others, such as the president or an inspirational figure, which is also known as political speech (Costantino & Bonati, 2014; Sholihah, 2020). Politicians need to know how to use a language. According to previous study studying the language of politics is important because it enables language users to comprehend how those who wish to gain power, exercise power, and maintain power use language (Heller, 2020). The capacity to

communicate with others, to influence people's attitudes or actions, to provide people with information they do not know, to explain one's attitudes or actions, or persuade people to take certain actions can all be accomplished through language, making it an important tool for politicians to use in their efforts to attract the attention of the public (Shanks et al., 2017; Vicheanpant & Ruenglerpanyakul, 2012).

This study is about an interpersonal meaning, that is meaning which comes up in relationship when speaker and listener create communication. People also use it to express their opinions and attitudes. By paying close attention to how people use interpersonal meaning, it is possible to learn well how people express their feelings, likes, and dislikes, among other things (Alfauzan et al., 2022; Sabanci et al., 2016). Relational capability should be visible from the expressions of somebody. How somebody cooperate with others by creating his/her assertions, for instance a moderator of television program, educator understudy study hall communication a political discourse. Even political speech's success depends on how it is structured to achieve the campaign's objective (Al-Bantany, 2013; Cummins et al., 2020).

Through modality, a speaker can express his/her commitment towards the truth of the propositions he/she contributes. In its simplest sense, modality refers to the unique way a speaker or writer conceptualizes a world view (Gregersen, 2020; Parina & De Leon, 2014). The types of modality used in a speech need to be revealed and to be convince. As a result, the information that is based on the speech was undoubtedly created by the speaker to persuade listeners to follow the information and accept the ideas presented in the speech (Dewaele, 2004; Gao. C, 2013).

Numerous scientists have been directed to look at how the legislator boost the utilizing of language in their talks. Previous study examines about a speculative relational analysis of Barack Obama's triumph discourse (Pakzadian, 2012). The focus of the study is victory speech. There are many different victory speeches to choose from, but the ones that have garnered the most popular support in elections against the incumbent since 1932 are the ones that have. The two up-and-comers got in excess of 74 million votes, outperforming Barack Obama's record of 69.5 million votes in 2008. This election also had the highest turnout rate since 1900. The most votes ever cast in a US presidential election went to Biden, with over 81 million cast.

With the development of human society, language has become an important means of describing interpersonal relationships, how to influence and make audiences comprehend what the speaker is going to say, and the purpose of their speech (Aytakin & Sutcu, 2013; Costantino & Bonati, 2014; Sholihah, 2020). It is essential to acquire the ability to properly comprehend the meaning of each word. Yes, interpersonal meaning can be used to study it, mood, and modality, which is one of the most important points to discuss. It will be interesting to see how Mr. Biden develops interpersonal relationships with his audience. Then, both spoken and written texts frequently employ modality (Gregersen, 2020; Parina & De Leon, 2014). Be that as it may, without doing explore, nobody knows the kinds of methodology and worth are utilized in the Joe Biden triumph discourse. To persuade people in general, Mr. Biden will convey his commitments and responsibility connected with the program that he will run, however we don't know whether the commitments and commitment that he is delivered will be run or no (Ningsih, 2019; Ntoumanis et al., 2017). As we have experienced so far, not all the promises and commitment delivered by the Presidents are conducted. By analyzing modality in Mr. Biden victory speech, we are able to know his commitment because modality deals with polarity between yes or no. The aim of this study is to analyze how mood and modality were used in the victory speech.

## 2. METHODS

This research applied qualitative research. Qualitative research describes what is happening and what the data show (Cooley, 2013; Williams, 2021). The information was gathered as words instead of numbers. This study tried to analyze the interpersonal meaning on Joe Biden victory speech. The speech of Joe Biden was downloaded from washingtonpost.com. The data of this research are the clauses found in Joe Biden victory speech. Specifically, the data in terms of the formulated research questions a bit different; that in answering the mood types, the data are the clauses. However to answer research question in terms of modality the data are modal auxiliary types found in the clauses. The analysis is using data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion (Miles et al., 2014). In this last process, the researcher displayed the information examination in tables and reached the determination from the examination by making composed outline of most dominant mood types, types and value of modality that was utilized in record of Joe Biden triumph discourse and the explanation utilized every one of them. Thus, it was depicted the sorts of mind-set, methodology types and esteem then portray the explanation utilizing of temperament and methodology. The research issues were presented in the form of a table and illustration. The description provides direction for confirming the conclusion. In this study, drawing a conclusion was accomplished by determining the significance of the data or finding after reading the display or table. The findings of this study were the mood types, modality values, and the manner in which mood and modality were realized in the transcription of Joe Biden's victory speech.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

#### *Mood Types in Transcription of Joe Biden's Victory Speech*

In the transcription of Joe Biden victory speech found that there are 3 types of mood that realized in speech function, they are Definitive acknowledged by proclamation, Inquisitive acknowledged by question and Basic acknowledged by order. Declarative appears in 193 clauses, or 95,1%, followed by imperative mood in 7 clauses, or 3,4%, and interrogative mood in 3 clauses, or about 1,5%. However there are two non-typical mood or metaphorical realization, they are declarative find the realization in speech function as command and imperative which was realized by offer. Here are the example as show in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The Mood Types

Speech Function	Appearance	Percentage	Mood Types	Appearance	Percentage
Statement	187	92.1%	Declarative	193	94.1%
Question	3	1.5%	Interrogative	3	1.5%
Command	12	5.9%	Imperative	7	3.4%
Offer	1	0.5%			
<b>Total Clause</b>				<b>103</b>	<b>100%</b>

Declarative mood is realized through a speech function statement. In this term, Mr. Biden gives or state data in his discourse which is called definitive in commonplace mind-set. In the transcription of Joe Biden's victory speech, these are some examples of declarative mood as show in Table 2.

**Table 2. Examples of Declarative Mood**

I see my buddy Tom, Senator Tom Carper Down there	Declarative statement	Realize	By
It surprised me tonight	Declarative statement	Realize	By
I pledge to be a president	Declarative statement	Realize	By
This is a great day for you all	Declarative statement	Realize	By
My heart goes out to each and every one of you	Declarative statement	Realize	By

Information is communicated or stated using the declarative. It has a subject-plus-finite structure. There are some considerations of involving definitive state of mind in a discourse. first, Mr. Biden is the information provider or the speaker and He needs to be able to clearly state his thoughts and opinions. Furthermore, from the definitive state of mind, the connection between Mr. Biden and people in general is stamped and his power status is deep rooted. Last but not least, declarative mood can advise, suggest, and encourage in addition to describing, explaining, and confirming. By using declarative mood, Mr. Biden sounds more convincing and confirming, this is in line with the purpose of a speech which are to express the speaker’s view point on things, to elicit or change the audience passion to share same goals of the speaker. That’s why statement is realized by declarative mood.

Mr. Biden uses imperative in this way to command the public to collaborate with him. Here are some illustration of basic temperament that show up in the record of Joe Biden triumph discourse is show in [Table 3](#).

**Table 3. Record of Joe Biden Triumph Discourse**

Don’t tell me	Imperative realized by command
Kamala, Doug like it or not	Imperative realized by command
Let this grim era of demonization in America begin to end and here and now	Imperative realized by command
No, Joy spread it	Imperative realized by command

Base on [Table 3](#), basic is utilized to request labor and products. It is likewise use to stir the crowds to take immediate action to help revive the nation, convince the public to trust their capability to make a change and encourgae the listener to live through difficulties. That’s why imperative are used. Mr. Biden utilize inquisitive to look for data by giving inquiry to the crowd. In the transcript of Joe Biden's victory speech, the interrogative tone can be seen is show in [Table 4](#).

**Table 4. Interrogative Tone**

Is that Ruth Ann?	Interrogative realized question	By
What is the will of the people?	Interrogative realized question	By
What is our mandate?	Interrogative realized question	By

This was done in order to grab the public’s attention and concentration. The first non-ordinary statement mind-set is decisive which was acknowledged by order.

The clauses had a structure that was similar to a declarative, which gave information. However, the clauses actually demand goods and services from the public. Demanding goods and services typially realized by imperative but non typucally, it can be realized by declarative. The second non typical mood is imperative realized by offer. The transcription of Joe Biden's victory speech contained only one clause is show in [Table 6](#).

**Table 5. Non-ordinary Statement Mind-set**

You're famil	Interrogative realized question	By
It's time to put away the harsh rhetoric	Interrogative realized question	By
We have to stop treating our opponents by command as our enemies	Interrogative realized question	By

**Table 6. The transcription Joe Biden's victory speech**

Let us be the nation	Imperative realized by offer
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Base on Table 6 show Mr. Biden did not use modulated interrogative but imperative to perform offer, because Mr. Biden wanted to invite the public to do and achieve something together. That's why the offer was realized by imperative. In the transcription of Joe Biden's victory speech, modal auxiliary is used for three different values and three different types of modality. Here are the circulation is show in Table 7.

**Table 7 The Modality Value**

Modal types	Appearance	Percentage	Value	Appearance	Percentage
Probability	8	29.6%	3	3	10.3%
Obligation	8	29.6%	18	18	66.8%
Inclination	11	40.8%	6	6	27.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100%</b>

Base on Table 7, there are 18 clauses with a median dominant modality value, or 62.1%, followed by 8 clauses with a low value, or 27.6%. The final clause has three clauses, or roughly 10% for high value. While the predominant methodology types is commitment, it is tracked down 11 statements or around 37.9%. Then followed by probability and inclination. Ten clauses, or approximately 34.5 %, were categorized as probability, and eight clauses, or approximately 27.6 %, were categorized as inclination

That it is found that there are modal auxiliary must 2 clauses, have to 1 clause, which are 3 of them categorized as high value. Here are the distribution show in Table 8.

**Table 8. Modal Auxiliary**

We must make the promise of the country real for everybody	High Value
We must restore the soul of America	High Value
We have to stop treating our opponents as our enemies	High Value

Base on Table 8 show the function of high value of modality here shows present obligation, strong dynamic necessity and habitual/characteristic activity in the future which has strong possibility. In this median value it indicates by the use of modal will 16 clauses, would 1 clause, should 1 clause. It shows that Mr. Biden tried to comment or predict events that takes place in the future which have not happened yet. Here are the example as show in Table 9.

**Table 9. Clause Modality**

I'll work	High Value
And I would not be here	High Value
We will lead	High Value

Base on [Table 9](#) can be seen that Mr. Biden used modal auxiliary will and would which is arranged as middle worth of methodology. It indicated that a lower degree of Mr. Biden’s commitment to the factuality of what he has said. His attitude tends to show uncertainty, he shows median possibility of what he has said. It can happen or it cannot happen. He has low commitment. For modal verb can 9 clauses, can’t 1 clause. It means there are 8 clauses categorized as low value. Here are the exampe as show in [Table 10](#).

**Table 10. Clauses low value**

We can do it	Low Value
We can define America in one word: possibilities	Low Value
We can	Low Value

Base on [Table 10](#), it can be seen that Mr. Biden use modal auxiliary *can*. It shows the lowest degree probability of what Mr. Biden has said. In other words, Mr. Biden is not sure about what he has said. The likelihood that the information being exchanged is accurate is referred to as probability. Here are the example of probability that found in Joe Biden's victory speech transcription is show in [Table 11](#).

**Table 11. Joe Biden's Victory Speech Transcription**

Our administration will be all about	Probability
That plan will be built on bedrock science	Probability
I will spare no effort	Probability

Base on [Table 11](#) shows the information that Mr. Biden going to executed in his planning. The willingness or readiness of a speaker to accept an offer is referred to as inclination. Here are the case of tendency that utilized by Mr. Biden as show in [Table 12](#).

**Table 12. Case of Tendency Utilized by Mr. Biden**

I’ll work	Inclination
But I will govern as an American president	Inclination
And I’ll call on Congress	Inclination

From [Table 12](#), it shows that Mr. Biden is ready to be the next presiden and he also shows his readiness and his ability as the new president. In this type, it involves the responsibility or pressure imposed on the public to meet Mr. Biden’s demand. Here are the example is show in [Table 13](#).

**Table 13. Responsibility or Pressure Imposed on the Public**

We have to stop treating our opponents as our enemies	Obligation
We must make the promises of the country real for everybody	Obligation
We must restore the soul of America	Obligation

Base on [Table 13](#), it can be seen that Mr. Biden engages public to work together with him. All of the responsibility is obligation.

## Discussion

After analyzing the data, a few key points were identified that should be discussed in this study. We can see that there are several speech functions found out in transcription of Joe

Biden victory speech, namely statement, question and command, where declarative statements that predominately occurred were realized.

This result is consistent with previous research theories that stated statements is most dominantly used in political speeches because the speaker wants to give as much as information to the audiences (Abudayeh & Dubbati, 2020; Ashman & Snow, 2019). By using statement, Mr. Biden tried to invite the audiences to receive the information, wanted to share the information, wanted to express his opinion explicitly and stated out his ideas and visions clearly to the listeners. As a result, he emphasized the use of declarative-style statements in his speech. This in line with previous study who asserts that declarative clauses, or clauses with a specific structure, are typically used to make statements (Carayannis et al., 2021; Sibarani & Marlina, 2018). The use of declarative mood that Mr. Biden as the speaker takes on role as information provider. In order to express his gratitude, Mr. Biden was successful in using declarative clauses, recalling on his struggle before finally voted as the president and affirming his sight and planning as the elected president. Mr. Biden use statement which realized in declarative also to give a hope as well inspire and motivate the audience and to explain his aims as a president (Aryani, 2017; Faruq et al., 2021).

Related to the context of situation in terms of tenor, the use of declarative mood can portray Mr. Biden's relation with the public. His authority and status well-established. As a president, Mr. Biden has an authority to state out his idea clearly. His statement are believed to be convincing and confirming (Aryani, 2017; Suwastini et al., 2020). The researcher interprets the clause that contains modal because mood is created by subject and finite, and the chosen finite is modality. The findings of the study also found that Mr. Biden tends to use modal 'will' or median value of modality. The aims of using median value that Mr. Biden tried to comment or predict events that takes place in the future which have not happened yet. So he was guessing about what would happen next but still pay attention to the existing fact that aims to persuade and convince the audience to deal with the speaker's concept (Al-Bantany, 2013; Ouafeu, 2006).

We pick various degrees or value of modality relying upon how we need to relate with the peruser, crowd or audience and how we need to depict our own degree of obligation to a thought or assessment. For instance, if we want to encourage interaction by being cautious and gentle, we could use low value, but we absolutely have to use high degree if we want to convey a high level of certainty (Dementyev, 2016; Erawati & Sulibra, 2017). In the Mood types found that dominant types is Obligation, it shows that Mr. Biden involves the responsibility. He engage the public to work together with him to achieve the goals (Aytekin & Sutcu, 2013; Costantino & Bonati, 2014). Then followed by probability and Inclination. Probability shows judgments of something taking place or being, or how likely it is that it is true. The willingness or readiness of a speaker to accept an offer is referred to as inclination. It shows that Mr. Biden is ready to be the next president and he also shows his capability from his own feeling.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

There are 3 types of mood used in transcription of Joe Biden victory speech, they are Declarative, Interrogative and Imperative. The temperament's what is important in acknowledging relational significance for it is the central matter in bearing the speaker's mentalities and decisions. As in the record of Joe Biden victory discourse observed that the predominant state of mind is explanatory temperament. This means that Mr. Biden gave as much as information to the audience, to express the gratitude to the public, to affirm Biden's planning as the elected president, to give hopes while inspiring while motivating the audience and to build up the relationship with the listener.

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