Text Analysis of Plane Crash News in the Jakarta PostArticle: A Study of Critical Discourse Analysis

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Abstract

This study investigates the text analysis of representation, relation, and identity elements from a plane crash news article published in The Jakarta Post. Using a qualitative descriptive method, this study uses Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model (1995) to analyze the data. The text analysis model is categorized into representation, relation, and identity. The data are taken from the Jakarta Post news article dated November 4, 2022, entitled "Sriwijaya Air 2021 crashes due to mechanical problems, the final probe report says". The data retrieved consist of 26 comprising 20 representations, 3 relations, and 4 identities. This study found representation is in the use of complex clauses and compound-complex clauses and vocabulary level using some aviation terms to refer to pilot's committing task errors. In the representation of a combination of clauses, it is found that there are more extension forms in the form of contrast. In the representation of the intensity of the series, it was found that the news series focused on pilot and mechanical errors. The result of the research in regards to relation and identity reveal that the chief investigator is the source person, and the author places himself more as a reporter or writer of the news.

Keywords: Critical Discourse Analysis; Identity; Relation; Representation; Text Analysis

INTRODUCTION

News is a vital part of the media. "News is all reports regarding events, incidents, ideas, facts, which attract attention and are important to be conveyed or published in the mass media so that they are known or become public awareness" (Barus, 2010:25). Before being circulated and consumed by the public, the writing on the news has gone through processing. News becomes interesting and has quality if it is written based on facts from life events that occurred. Moreover, the nature of the news itself provides information quickly accepted by the public. Therefore, along with the development of technology, the collection of news is no longer only through print and electronic media. The media increases the spread of its news through digitization so that it innovates into online news.

The factor of widespread use of devices with the internet makes online news the most flexible

source of information to access. Online news that is available on websites and the internet is now loved by all generations. Kencana et al. (2022) state, "online news presents the news not only with websites and applications but also using social media platforms" (p.137). This online news is disseminated faster than print and electronic media news. News from print media, especially newspapers, is now also disseminated through online news websites with presentations that are not much different. There are many websites or media that deal with online newspapers, one of which is The Jakarta Post.

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is an interdisciplinary approach to analyzing language use that aims to uncover the power relations and ideologies that are embedded in discourse. Darma (2009) argues that critical discourse analysis does not only understand as the study of language that examines language not only from linguistic aspects but also relates it to context. Discourse discusses that language is not neutral. It is formed by factors such as social, cultural, and history. CDA has objections to explaining the power relations and ideologies in a discourse. CDA can be used to analyze a wide range of texts, including political speeches, news articles, advertisements, and academic papers.

According to Fairclough (1995) that critical discourse analysis (CDA) is an approach to discourse analysis that views language as a social form and power and pays attention to the relationship between language, power, and ideology in production, reproduction, and social transformation. CDA does not only pay attention to the literal meaning of the text but also looks at how the text influences social, cultural, and political relations in society. As such, CDA can be used to analyze discourses used in mass media, politics, and popular culture, and show how these discourses affect society.

Fairclough (1995) also introduces three main dimensions of CDA, namely text analysis, discourse analysis, and social practice. These dimensions are interrelated and influence each other in conducting critical discourse analysis. Through CDA, Fairclough (1995) hopes to show how language and discourse play a role in influencing social, political, and cultural relations in society.

According to Fairclough & Wodak (1997), critical discourse analysis sees discourse as a form of social practice. Discourse is described as a social practice causing a dialectical relationship between certain discursive events and ideological situations, institutions, and social structures: it can produce and reproduce unequal power relations between social classes, men and women, and majority and minority groups through which the difference is represented in the social position shown. Through discourse, for example, situations that are racist, sexist, or inequality in social life are seen as a common sense and that is how it is in reality.

Fairclough's theory is based on the big question, of how to link a small text to a large community environment context. Fairclough tries to build a discourse analysis model that contributes to social and cultural analysis; therefore, he can incorporate the larger social context with the tradition of textual analysis, which always views language in a limited arena. Fairclough's big concern is seeing language as an exercise of power. Language is socially and historically a form of action, in a dialectical relationship with social structure. Therefore, the analysis must be formed from social relations and certain social

contexts. Fairclough (1995) sees the text at various levels. A text not only shows how an object is described but also how the relationship between objects is defined. Every text basically, according to Fairclough, can be described and analyzed from the three elements of representation, relation, and identity.

Table 1. Table of three elements of text level by Fairclough

Element	Description
Representation	How events, people, groups, situations, circumstances, or whatever is shown and described in the text.
Relation Identity	How is the relationship between journalists, audiences, and news participants displayed and described in the text.
	How are the identities of journalists, audiences, and news participants displayed and described in the text.

Representation in clauses relates to how a group, person, event, or activity is shown in the text. The language used in the text has a strong connection to this stage. The language in question at this point has two levels, namely vocabulary and grammar. At the vocabulary level, it is to focus on what vocabulary is used to show or describe something that appears in the text. Therefore, the choice of vocabulary can be related to how certain events, people, groups, or activities are described and related to reality. In addition to the selection of vocabulary in general, it can also be seen by using metaphors in sentences. This is because metaphors can reveal how reality is displayed, whether positive or negative. At the grammar level, two grammatical forms appear, the first is the process or participant form.

The form of the process is how a person, group, or activity is presented and described. It focuses on if there is a change in the grammatical structure, then the sentence can have a different meaning. Depictions that are displayed in the form of processes have special forms, such as being displayed as actions, events, states, or mental processes. For example, the usual form of action has a transitive structure, describing how an actor performs a certain action on someone who causes something. The event form generally uses an intransitive clause structure, and usually only includes one, only the subject or only the object in the sentence. The form of the situation refers to a situation or event that has occurred without having to mention or even to hide the subject of the action. The form of a mental process, presenting something as a phenomenon, a general symptom, which forms the awareness of the audience, without specifying the subject or perpetrator, and the victim specifically.

The form of participants who see how the actors are displayed in the text. Is the actor shown as a subject or object in the text? As a subject, it is generally displayed in the active voice form, in which an actor is described as carrying out an action that causes something to an object or someone. As an object, it displays something that is caused by other people, and the most used form is the passive form because in the passive form, it only displays objects, and the subject can be hidden or omitted from the text. In addition to the passive form, there is also a form of nominalization, which means only bringing up activity without bringing up participants or involved parties.

The representation part in this combination of clauses has a focus on the coherence or entirety of a text. By connecting the facts that appear in clauses, which can ultimately establish a specific meaning to bring up new facts, coherence can be seen.

Coherence in this stage also raises the ideology of the writer with the language used. Coherence in this stage takes several forms. First, elaboration, one clause becomes an explanation of the previous clause. Second, extension, one clause functions as a continuation of another clause. This extension may take the form of a supplementary, contrasting, or equivalent option. Third, heighten, means that one clause has a greater or higher position than the other clause. For example, is a clause that explains the cause and effect of the previous clause.

If the previous aspect relates to how the relationship between two clauses is connected, the representation in the series between these sentences relates to how two or more sentences are arranged. This aspect focuses on which part is highlighted in the sentence compared to other parts, for example, how the information in the text is placed, whether as the main topic or only as a background.

One important aspect is whether the participant is perceived as independent or is shown reacting in the text. According to Fairclough (in Eriyanto, 2001) there are three forms of displaying statements in text. First, directly quoting what the actor said. Second, summarizing what was conveyed by the actor. Third, through evaluation, which means evaluating beforehand what the actor conveyed before being included in the text.

If representation relates to how something is shown in the text, the relation is how the relationship between participants in the media relates and is displayed in the text. The media is seen as a social arena, where all groups, groups, and audiences in society are interconnected and convey their versions of opinions and ideas. Fairclough (in Eriyanto, 2001) revealed that there are at least three categories of main participants in the media: journalists (reporters, editors, and newsreaders for television and radio), media audiences, and public participation. The main center of this analysis is how the pattern of participant relationships appears in the text, not how the participants are represented, and all of that is observed from the text.

Relation in this analysis is important in two aspects. First, if it is said that the media is a social space where each group in society proposes ideas and opinions to each other and competes for influence to be accepted by the public, then the relationship analysis will provide valuable information on how these social forces are displayed in the text.

The second is an analysis of the relationship of how the audience is to be placed in the news. How the text builds relationships between the audience and the social participants that are built. Because it is identified differently, this identification determines how the text wants to be displayed to the audience. The aspect of identity is how the identity of an author is displayed and reconstructed in a text. In this aspect, it is seen how the writer puts himself with the problems raised in his writing, whether as an independent person or as a member of a certain group. Identity is not only attached to journalists and

audiences but also how public participants and audiences are identified. Interviews about AIDS, for example, between journalists and doctors and sufferers are clearly different. Journalists who identify themselves as doctors will explain about AIDS from a doctor's point of view. Meanwhile, journalists who identify themselves as patients will explain their suffering from AIDS. Therefore, this part of identity is influential in making texts. This part of identity will also determine how the discourse will be presented to the public.

There are some previous studies that are similar to this study. This study explains the meaning and mode contained in local vocabulary, grammar, and coherence as a form of representation in the world of journalism conducted by Busri and Badrih (2022). The research uses the phenomenological method to find out the events behind phenomena or texts written by journalists. The data were analyzed using descriptive discourse analysis and critical discourse analysis. The findings in this research are: (1) Vocabulary representation, including associations and metaphors. Associations are used by journalists to create an atmosphere in news texts so that they can be precarious, soft, serious, and tasteless. Metaphors are used by journalists to show journalists' attitudes and judgments towards an object in the text; (2) Grammatical representation, including (a) the form of the process: action process, event process, state process, and mental process; (b) participants include perpetrators, participants as victims, and participants as nominal; and (c) Representation of a combination of clauses or local coherence, including elaboration, additional extension, contrast extension, choice extension, and augmentation extension.

The second research is conducted by Tambunan (2020). This study used Critical discourse analysis by Fairclough to analyze the Mata Najwa talk show episode of *"Kontroversi Mas Menteri"*. This study used qualitative research. The analysis focused on text analysis and practicing discourse by looking at the speeches of Najwa Shihab, Erick Thohir, and Nadiem Makarim. The text analysis section found representation, relation, and identity in talk shows. This research also focused on the discourse practice section that displays interpretation in the Mata Najwa talk show. Interpretation related to the views that will be displayed. The views presented in the Mata Najwa talk show were divided into three, namely the pro-community perspective and neutral spectacle presented by Najwa Shihab, while the government's perspective was presented by the government itself.

The next study that is also similar is a journal article with the title *"A critical discourse analysis of Bintang Emon's humor discourse entitled 'Ga Sengaja'"* (Rahman et al., 2021). This research used a qualitative descriptive method. The data was analyzed using Critical Discourse Analysis by Norman Fairclough's theory. The study observed the text, discourse practice, and sociocultural practice. In the text analysis, the data findings revealed that Bintang Emon applied more rhetorical figures in his discourse. He expressed his criticism with appropriate wording and analogies, causing the audience to agree with him. His protest of Novel Baswedan's acid attack case was expressed subtly, thus audiences cannot infer his motive just based on his caption. He successfully represented most of the citizens' disapproval of the case at the level of discourse practice. Furthermore, at the sociocultural level, he used his right to free

speech to express himself in a hilarious manner.

In the previous study, the first research only analyzed the elements of the text in the representation section. The representations found only extend to the discussion of representations in clauses and representations in combination with clauses. The second study discussed all the dimensions that exist in Fairclough's theory, including text analysis, discourse practice, and sociocultural practice. In the third study, all dimensions are discussed, namely text analysis, discourse practice, and sociocultural practice. Whereas in the research, it discusses the area of analysis of text elements which includes representation, relations, and identity. Therefore, the research is to investigate the elements of the text analysis in the article on plane crash in The Jakarta Post.

METHOD

This study uses a qualitative method. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is an approach to exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. The research process includes developing questions and procedures, data collection in the participant's environment, data analysis inductively building from particulars to general themes, and the researcher providing interpretations of the data's meaning. This research focuses on Fairclough's theory of critical discourse analysis. The data in this study are news containing plane crashes originating from The Jakarta Post website. This study collects all parts of text elements in Fairclough's theory such as representation, relation, and identity. The data are taken from a news article in The Jakarta Post about a plane crash in Indonesia. The article was titled "Sriwijaya Air 2021 crash due to mechanical problems, final probe report says" on November 4th, 2022. The main data of this study is a news text about plane accidents that occurred in Indonesia. The news is written in English. The author takes several steps to collect data. The steps are to search the news from The Jakarta Post, choose news related to plane accidents that occurred in Indonesia, read selected news that may contain other meanings and collect data by copying and pasting the selected news link into the data document. After collecting data at The Jakarta Post, the data are then analyzed using Fairclough's theory (1995) to classify it into a critical discourse analysis of the Text dimension (Representation, Relation, and Identity). Using a descriptive qualitative approach, this analysis focuses on the intent of the writing on the news. The data are analyzed by explaining the context of the event. Then, the data are described into the categories of representation (representation in clauses, the combination of clauses, and inter-sentence series), relation, and identity.

RESULT

Representation

In a news report, it was written that there had been an accident on the Sriwijaya Air flight from Jakarta to Pontianak on January 10, 2021. The plane crashed around Lancang Island and killed all aboard. The incident was caused by a mechanical problem in which the pilot did not double-check the machine.

The news also found a representation of vocabulary level clauses as below:

"It caused asymmetry between the right and left engines," he said, adding that as the **asymmetry** was getting bigger, the plane yawed and rolled to the left, beginning to nosedive to the sea.

This datum displays the state of the aircraft after an error occurred in the engine lever, which is indicated by the word "asymmetry". One of the plane's engine levers jammed, resulting in an imbalance between the right and left engines. The word "asymmetry" according to the Oxford Dictionary means the quality of having two sides or parts that are not the same in size or shape; something that creates this quality. Thus, in the context of the sentence in data 3, this asymmetry refers to the difference in the speed of the right and left engines. Nurcahyo uses the word "asymmetry" to explain that before a larger imbalance occurs, the aircraft shows the initial impact of the left and right engine imbalances. However, due to handling delays, the right engine remained at a higher speed than the left engine, causing the plane to become more asymmetrical and crash.

During the **probe**, the chief investigator said, some previous flights of the plane reported problems with the auto-throttle system, and some components had been replaced.

In this datum, the word "probe" describes an event that occurred, namely the crash of the Sriwijaya Airplane flying from Jakarta to Pontianak, but the plane crashed on Lancang Island. The KNKT (National Transportation Safety Committee), which has a role in investigating the accident, also disclosed the results of its investigation. According to the Oxford Dictionary, probe means a complete and careful investigation of something. Usually, this word often appears in newspapers, articles, and writings similar to investigative reports. The use of the word "probe" represents the KNKT carrying out its responsibility for the incident through many investigations. The results of the investigation found one of them was a problem with the auto-throttle system. Apparently, the plane had also been reported several times by previous flights.

Representation in clauses at the grammatical level. The language displayed in the text acts as the subject or object subject to action. The following data are found in the news:

Indonesian accident investigators on Thursday **submitted** their final report to parliament on last year's deadly crash of a Sriwijaya Air jet, citing mechanical problems, the pilot's complacency, and confirmation bias as factors behind the tragedy.

This datum displays the form of the process which is described by the form of action. It was reported that factors such as mechanical problems, the pilot's tendency to underestimate the situation, and confirmation bias were to blame for the tragedy. This datum uses complex sentence forms. There are independent clauses and dependent clauses. The independent clause is "Indonesian accident investigators on Thursday submitted their final report to parliament on last year's deadly crash of a Sriwijaya Air jet" and the dependent clause is "citing mechanical problems, the pilot's complacency and confirmation bias as factors behind the tragedy. The subject is "Indonesian accident investigators" as an actor who performs an action, the predicate is "submitted", and the object is "their final report to parliament on last year's deadly crash of a Sriwijaya Air jet" which caused the actor to take action. The use of a complex sentence in this

sentence intends to summarize the main information points to be conveyed. Therefore, the word "submitted" is used as a handling measure from the KNKT to report the results of the investigation to parliament.

The report by the National Transportation Safety Committee (KNKT) **will be issued** to the public soon, according to chief investigator Nurcahyo Utomo.

This datum displays the form of the process which is described by the form of action. This paragraph describes the role of the KNKT, represented by Nurcahyo Utomo, as the actor carrying out the investigative report on the plane crash. This sentence uses simple sentences. The subject is "The report by the National Transportation Safety Committee (KNKT)" as the actor, the predicate is "will be issued", and the object is "to the public soon" as the acceptor of the action. The use of simple sentences in this sentence is intended to make the statement conveyed easy to understand. Because this incident claimed many victims, the information conveyed must be made as transparent as possible. Therefore, the phrase "will be issued" is used as an act of being aware on the part of the KNKT before releasing the final report to the public".

This section explains how to combine the use of clauses written in a text. The representation in this combination of clauses has a focus on coherence. The coherence used has several forms such as elaboration, extension, and heightening. The following data is contained in the selected news text:

"Normally, the auto-throttle will move both thrust levers backward to reduce engine power," he said, **but** when the plane was climbing to a high altitude after takeoff, the right throttle lever did not move at all, forcing the left one to continuously move backward to reduce engine power to compensate for the power cut needed.

This datum shows the situation that happened to the engine lever. The two engine levers should have lowered the engine lever push to reduce speed, but there was a problem with the right engine lever. This is what causes the accident. The representation in a combination of clauses in the sentence above uses the extension form. The extension is in the form of a contrast which can be identified by the conjunction "but". The conjunction "but" connects the first sentence with the second sentence. The coordinating sentence is "Normally, the auto-throttle will move both thrust levers backward to reduce engine power," he said, and the subordinating sentence is "but when the plane was climbing to a high altitude after taking off, the right throttle lever did not move at all, forcing the left one to continuously move backward to reduce engine power to compensate for the power cut needed." The use of the word "but" refers to how the contrast occurs in the second sentence which explains the damage to the engine lever which should work normally as described in the first sentence.

During the probe, the chief investigator said, some previous flights of the plane reported problems with the auto-throttle system, and some components had been replaced.

This datum illustrates that the chief investigator gave one of the statements about the investigation he knew, namely repairs to components that were reported to be problematic had been handled. The representation in the sentence above uses the extension form. The form of extension that applies is to add the extension of the first sentence. Additional extensions can be identified by the

conjunction "and". The conjunction "and" connects the coordinative sentence, namely "During the probe, the chief investigator said, some previous flights of the plane reported problems with the auto- throttle system," with the subordinate sentence, namely "and some components had been replaced.". The use of the word "and" refers to the occurrence of additional sentences related to the first sentence. The first sentence explains that there are several reports of damage to the auto-throttle system. Then another fact was added in the second sentence about the damage being repaired. This aspect relates to how combined sentences are arranged and can affect the meaning that will be displayed to the reader.

Indonesian accident investigators on Thursday submitted their final report to parliament on last year's deadly crash of a Sriwijaya Air jet, citing mechanical problems, the pilot's complacency, and confirmation bias as factors behind the tragedy.

This paragraph shows how a series of sentences is positioned as the initial background of the summarized news. The summary obtained is that there was a fatal accident on a Sriwijaya Air plane due to a mechanical error and the pilot's complacency.

Sriwijaya Air Flight 182, with 62 passengers and crew on board, plunged into the Java Sea on Jan 9 last year when it departed Jakarta bound for the West Kalimantan provincial capital of Pontianak. All on board were killed.

Then, this paragraph shows how a series of sentences is written as the end of the whole event summarized in the news. In this news, the incident ended with the failure of the plane's flight and killed all the people on the flight. In the next paragraph, it reveals how the placement is written in assembling sentences in the news. Looking back at this accident it was caused by a mechanical technical error and the pilot's complacency.

During the probe, the chief investigator said, some previous flights of the plane reported problems with the auto-throttle system, and some components had been replaced.

This paragraph shows that it is true that there are some problems with the engine, more precisely the auto-throttle system. All problematic components have been fixed.

"Following Boeing's procedures, the components were replaced one by one to check which component had problems, but the procedures had not reached its mechanical system," Nurcahyo said.

However, Nurcahyo, as the chief investigator, said that repair procedures had been followed but not to the mechanical system level. Additionally, it shows that the reason other than a mechanical problem in the crash was pilot negligence. This text illustrates that the pilot is "unaware" of what is happening during the flight.

According to the investigation, the pilot was also apparently "unaware" of what was happening during the flight, including the position of the thrust lever and the plane, as well as other indicators in the cockpit. "We don't know what happened, but we assumed that the pilot trusted the automatization system of the plane, or what we frequently say complacency," Nurcahyo said, adding that the pilot might not use his headset as his voice was not heard on the cockpit voice recorder.

Relation

This paragraph shows how Nurcahyo describes the things that happened to the attitude of the pilot. The investigation showed that there was an allegation of the pilot's carelessness by not recording the

pilot's voice on the cockpit voice recorder. Thus, it can be seen that in the series of sentences when writing thecauses of mechanical errors, they are contradictory. And the series of sentences when writing the pilot's complacency support each other. Nurcahyo, who is legitimate, his statement through direct quotations is more trusted by readers. This aspect displays the participants who relate to the accident event in the news. This news contains several participants, namely the pilot, the chief investigator of the KNKT, passengers, and crew on board. There is a pronoun "he" which refers to a male pronoun. In this text, it refers to the chief investigator of KNKT or the pilot. A passenger is a person who is traveling in a car,bus, train, plane, or ship and who is not driving it or working on it. The crew is all the people working on a ship, plane, etc. Passengers and crew on a board written in the text are described as victims who will take a flight to Pontianak. None of the victims in that incident survived. This information is shownin the following text:

Sriwijaya Air Flight 182, with 62 passengers and crew on board, plunged into the Java Sea on Jan. 9 last yearwhen it departed Jakarta bound for the West Kalimantan provincial capital of Pontianak. All on board were killed.

The identity element shows how the identity of the text is determined from the point of view. The newswriter places himself as someone who works in the field of journalism, namely as a journalist and reporter, who receives information based on press reports, and then writes news according to the information he gets. The following data is an identity as a reporter indicated by the sentence "he said"or "Nurcahyo said":

"We don't know what happened, but we assumed that the pilot trusted the automatization system of the plane, or what we frequently say complacency," Nurcahyo said, adding that the pilot might not use his headset as his voice was not heard on the cockpit voice recorder.

Identity

Then, the identity that the author places as a journalist was identified by the sentence "according to" iscontained in the following data:

The report by the National Transportation Safety Committee (KNKT) will be issued to the public soon, **accordingto** chief investigator Nurcahyo Utomo.

In this datum, the author can position himself as two points of view at once, namely as a reader and a asa representation of the plane victim.

Sriwijaya Air Flight 182, with 62 passengers and crew on board, plunged into the Java Sea on Jan. 9 last yearwhen it departed Jakarta bound for the West Kalimantan provincial capital of Pontianak. All on board were killed.

The first identity shown by the author is as a reader. The author acts as a reader who only receives information by knowing the contents of the news. This can be seen from how the author summarizes the incident to provide context for accident news. Thus, the news is easy to understand. Then, the second identity is as a victim. The author puts himself as a victim who was harmed in the incident. This illustrates how the author mentions the condition of the passengers who should have arrived at their destination, but the plane crashed and was declared dead.

DISCUSSION

The text analysis as one of the components of CDA consists of representation, relation, and identity elements found in the data. The representation is represented by the language used by the author which is shown by the use of complex sentences and compound complex sentences. The relation is shown by the people mentioned in the news article: the chief investigator, the passengers, the cabin crew, and the pilot. However, the chief investigator, dominantly, shares the information compared to the others since he is the source person. Additionally, the identity is to inform the roles of the journalist in which in this text he places himself more on the reporter who reports the data from the field.

CONCLUSION

At the representation level, there are three parts: representation in clauses, representation in a combination of clauses, and representation in a combination of a series of clauses. Then, in the representation in clauses the data discussed is also divided into two parts including the vocabulary level and grammar level. Then, in the relation element, it was found that four people were involved: the pilot, the chief investigator of the KNKT, passengers, and crew on board. The relations section was found to bring up more of the chief investigator because the news written was lifted from a press statement by the chief investigator about the cause of the accident that had been investigated. In the identity element, there are four identities in the text: someone who works in the field of journalism, an expert in the aviation field, a reader, and a victim. In this identity of the text, the author places himself more as someone who works in the field of journalism, namely as a reporter and journalist.

SUGGESTION

In the end, the writer would like to suggest that the process of text analysis in news is needed by news writers. The choice of words, phrases, and sentences must be accompanied by an understanding of the context of the news to be written. If not, the information written will be difficult for readers to digest. For further research, text analysis can be used to analyze news articles, which can be cultural news, crime, and many more. Therefore, the results of the analysis can be more varied.

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