

Analysis of Humor Making Techniques in the WIT Comedy Program (Waktu Indonesia Timur)

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Abstract: Verbal humor tends to exploit the linguistics aspects such as word, phrase, and sentences as the triggers of laugh. According to Berger there are eleven verbal humor techniques: *bombast*, *infantilism*, *irony*, *misunderstanding*, *pun*, *repartee*, *ridicule*, *sarcasm*, *satire*, *sexual allusion*, and *outwitting*. The aims of this research were to understand and to analyze humor as a part of linguistic phenomena. This research is descriptive qualitative research. The subject of the research was the record of WIT program. The data were collected through documentation technique. There was only one Berger' humor technique which was not used in WIT; sexual *allusion* technique. *Bombast* and *outwitting* techniques were used more, while *infantilism*, *irony*, and *pun* were less used in WIT comedy program.

Keywords: *Berger, Verbal Humor Technique , WIT (Waktu Indonesia Timur)*

INTRODUCTION

According to Krikmann (2006: 26) there are three general theories underlying the existence of humor. The first theory is *theories of incongruity*, which states that humor occurs when a person realizes that there is an irregularity between a concept that exists in a particular situation and reality related to the concept. According to this theory one can laugh at events, people, or things that are not in accordance with the principle of reasonableness in society. The second theory is *theories of superiority*, which states that humor occurs because of a self-perception that is more than an object of humor. This theory assumes that someone will laugh at misfortune and bad events experienced by others. The third theory is *theories of release*, which states that humor occurs when a person wants to escape from psychological distress experienced. By laughing freely, one can momentarily break away from stress. So someone can laugh because they see strange things, laugh at other people's troubles, or laugh at reading funny stories.

According to Attardo in Scarpetta and Spagnolli (2009: 3) humor is a result of an inferential process which is limited only by context. The process can be seen from the use of language in conversations that occur between the two presenters. Cuteness as a result of the humor made by the two presenters could be a double-edged sword. Humor can be regarded as praise or ridicule depending on the speaker's ability to convey his ideas in an acceptable manner to different listeners in different events (Scarpetta and Spagnolli, 2009: 2).

In general there are two types of humor, namely verbal and nonverbal humor. Verbal humor tends to exploit linguistic aspects such as words, phrases, and sentences as laughter makers. This is in contrast to non-verbal humor that puts forward gestures, mimic faces, and silly scenes to make the audience laugh. Both types of humor are the mainstay of TV stations to entertain the viewers. One television program that prioritizes the use of verbal humor is the WIT (Eastern Indonesia Time) program which airs on NET.TV. This humorous program relies on the humor of the comics from Eastern Indonesia. In the program funny comments and conversations became one way to shake the audience's stomach.

Verbal Humor

According to Hartanti in Fitriani and Hidayah (2012: 80) humor originates from the word *umor* namely *You-moor* which means liquid-flowing. Holmes in Attardo (2015: 183) defines humor as "*utterances that are identified by analysts, on the basis of paralinguistic, prosodic and discrete clues, as intended by the speakers (s) to be used and perceived to be amusing by at least some participants*". The term humor that emerged in the 18th century was used to distinguish laugh behavior caused by less positive things such as *ascomedy*, reproach (*sarcasm*), satire (*satire*), and mocking other people (*ridicule*). Humor is a study material for various scientific disciplines such as sociology, psychology, neurology, and linguistics. This is because until now it still cannot be found with certainty the cause of a cuteness.

In general humor can be divided into non verbal and verbal humor. Non-verbal humor usually exploits movement and behavior, physical appearance, and spontaneous events. Verbal humor usually exploits linguistic aspects such as words, phrases, and sentences. Verbal humor is basically a form of word play or language game. This can be studied linguistically as one branch of science that examines linguistic phenomena. Verbal humor that is mostly in the form of humor that is present in a conversation can be discussed through meaning arising from a sign of language through the context of use by speakers and speakers (Hempelmann and Samson, 2008: 618). So linguistically humor can be analyzed both phonologically, morphologically, semantically, and pragmatically.

Humor Creation Technique By Berger

According to Berger (in Anastasya, 2013: 5) linguistically, humor can be created through eleven techniques. The division of the technique is based on the use of language to create or create humor. Word modification, intonation, ways of speaking, word meaning and creating implicature are the ways commonly used in the world of humor. This division makes it easy to analyze the causes of humor from a humor that is raised. These techniques include:

- 1) **Bombast:** *Talking in a high-flown, grandiloquent, or rhetorical manner* humor that is made by grandiose talking or overstating something. Example: yesterday I hit the wall, but the wall was bumpy
- 2) **Infantilism:** *Playing with the sound of words* humormade with sounds and / or words. Example: nyimak is a type of staple item used for frying .
- 3) **Irony:** *Saying one thing and meaning something else* is made by saying something contrary to what is said and intended to insult. Example: *road asphalt is still whiter than the skin.*
- 4) **Misunderstanding:** *Misinterpreting situation* humor that occurs because of a misinterpretation of a situation. Example: a village person who is afraid to open a room with an open sign because he thinks the room is a room used for baking bread (oven).
- 5) **Pun:** *Playing with the meaning of word* humor that occurs because of the meaning of words or sentences that sound funny. Example: *if we pass out before civil servants, we can be appointed civil servants.*
- 6) **Repartee:** *Verbal, usually in a witty dialogue of* humor that is made by verbal mockery in intelligent dialogue and polite language arrangement Example: *the old one should give young people the opportunity to lead.*
- 7) **Ridicule:** *Making a fool of someone, verbally or nonverbally* humor made by making other people look stupid verbally or nonverbally. Example: *a face pot, face rhinos and others.*
- 8) **Sarcasm:** *Biting remark made with a hostile tone; sarcasm is always a verbal put-down* humor made with use rude mockery to insult and demean others. Example: *surely you don't come in when God divides the brain, so you're stupid.*

- 9) **Satire:** *Making fun of well-known things, situations, or public figures* humor made by insinuating or embarrassing things, situations, or community leaders / artists. Example: *the cebong are indeed different from the kampret* (referring to supporters of two RI presidential candidates)
- 10) **Sexual allusion:** *Making reference or sexual to naughty matters* humor made with reference use or innuendo that leads to sexual or pornographic things . Example: *if it's just the thigh and chest pingin, just buy it at the chicken restaurant.*
- 11) **Outwitting:** *Outsmarting someone who has been established by retort, response, or comeback* humor that is made by using intelligent questions or statements to make them look smarter. Example: *why is regret behind? Because if in front of the name registration.*

Previous Research

The 2013 Anastasya study of humor techniques used in comedy programs on national television also became the basis for this research. Anastasya's research aims to find out the humor techniques used in comedy programs in Indonesia. The data obtained from 12 comedy programs with *shares* above 10.0 indicate that Indonesian comedy programs are more likely to use verbal humor (54%). The study also found that even techniques (word meaning games) are the type of humor most widely used in comedy sketch comedy programs, comedy talk shows, and comedy situations with high share.

Riris Tiani (2017) in his article entitled Pragmatic Strategy in the Creation of Humor on Television found that in the humorous Indonesian Time program, comedians used the technique of creating humor through the medium of language or verbal *humor*. The comedians use techniques of misunderstanding, deceptive techniques, ridicule techniques, and sound-playing techniques to create decors.

METHODOLOGY

This study aims to understand and analyze humor as a language phenomenon. This research is a qualitative descriptive type. The researcher interprets and describes the data obtained by conducting exposure activities and descriptions of research objects. This research applies the content analysis method, by conducting linguistic analysis on descriptive speech or statement and pre-perception. The subject of this study is footage of WIT that aired in December 2018. Records of this show were obtained from www.youtube.com. To facilitate data retrieval, this study will only analyze humorous speeches of humorist presenters at WIT, especially in the segment of guessing. The type of data needed in this study is in the form of utterances or statements in the WIT episode on seduction with a tablecloth theme. Data is collected through documentation techniques. Documentation techniques were carried out by referring to the method, and then recorded and processed and analyzed based on the classification that was in accordance with the research objectives.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The WIT comedy program is a comedy program that makes the comics from eastern Indonesia the spearhead of the creation of humor. One segment that is liked by the audience is the seduction segment. In this segment the comics give seduction to guest stars using selected keywords. Based on the data obtained, it was found several techniques of humor creation according to Berger, which were applied in the WIT comedy program. The humor creation technique according to Berger which is applied in the WIT comedy program is as follows:

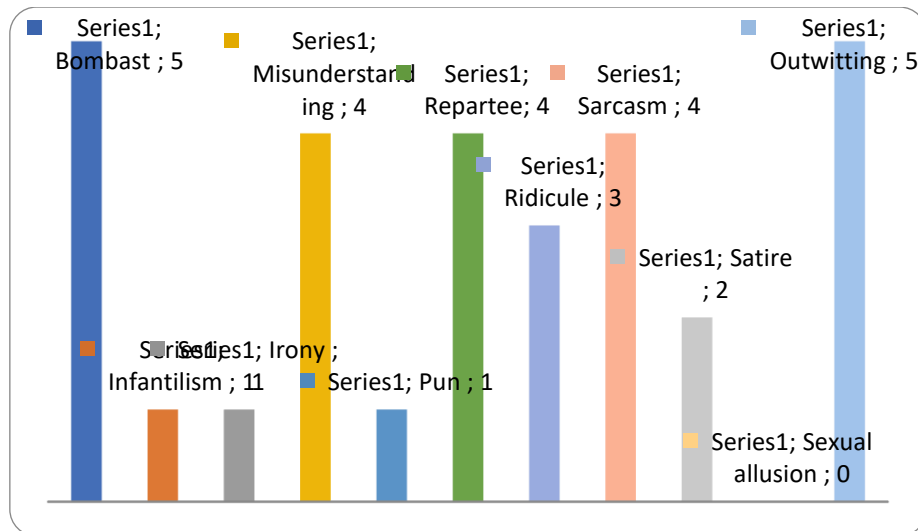


Chart 1. Humor Making Techniques based on Berger's theory in WIT Comedy Programs

Based on chart 1, it can be seen that bombast and outwitting techniques are the two most widely used verbal techniques of humor in segments guesses at the WIT comedy program. While allelual techniques are not used to create verbal humor in the WIT comedy program. The following is a discussion of each technique used to create humor in the WIT comedy program:

a. technique *Bombast/ exaggerating*

There are five data that use the technique *bombast/ overstating* in the WIT program. technique *Bombast/ exaggeration* is a way to make humor by grandiose talking or exaggerating something.

Data 1:

Abdur : Amanda again means ... Amanda excuse me ... Amanda, maybe there are a lot of men out there who will ... when a lot of men flock to a jewelry shop or to a flower shop to give you presents , then I'm the only man going to the market.

Amanda : Okey

Abdur : In the market I will buy a tablecloth, because on that covered table I will hold your father's hand and pledge the sacred to live with you.

Amanda: Wahhhh wooowww

In data 1, Abdur uses the phrase "there may be many men out there who will ... when many men flock to a jewelry store or to a flower shop to give you a gift, then I am the only man who will go to the market "and" In the market I will buy a tablecloth, because on that table I will hold your father's hand and make a vow to live as closely as you can "to exaggerate the actions he will take to prove the sincerity of his love for Amanda.

b. Mechanical *infantilism/ game sounds and / or words.*

There is one humor data that use techniques *infantilism/ sounds and / or words.*

Data2:

Rheinold: I can also take care of Miss because I'm also a tablecloth.

Arie : What tablecloth?

Amanda : What tablecloth?

Arie : What tablecloth?

Mamat : Are you a tablecloth?
 Rheinold : Yes, I am also taplak
 Arie : What tablecloth?
 Rheinold : Taplak 212 Wiro Sableng
 Arie : Δx
 Mamat : That's an ax ... If you're on Wiro Sableng, you're Sinto Gendeng.

In data 2, Rheinold uses the word tablecloth to replace the word ax supaya in accordance with the challenge of using the word taplak. In addition Rheinold uses the word tablecloth to emphasize that the tablecloth and ax have a function to guard. Cuteness is understood when Rheinold says that he is a tablecloth 212 Wiro Sableng (the name of a fictional warrior who has a mainstay weapon in the form of an ax reading 212).

c. Engineering Irony/irony

Mechanical *irony* /irony is humor techniques made by saying something that is the opposite of what was said and intended to insult. There is one data in the WIT comedy program that uses this technique.

Data 3:

Obie : So I can cover the lady with love.
 Arie : Wowwww
 Yewen : High Obie today, very high.

In data 3, the sentence Yewen said means that Obie uses words that are too excessive to seduce guest stars. He said the sentence High Obie today, is very high to tease Obie's seduction words, not to praise Obie.

d. Engineering Misunderstanding/misunderstanding

Mechanical *Misunderstanding*/misconceptions is a technique of creating humor by making people have wrong interpretations of a situation. There are four data about the use of this type of humor technique. one of the data can be described as follows.

Data 4:

Mamat : This is the palm that will always keep your cheek from tears
 Amanda's: oo so sweet
 Abdur : o you mean to slap him, but he doesn't cry
 Mamat : no ... take care of his cheek, so if he wants to cry I may wipe his tears , I make happy

In data 4, Abdur revealed his mistaken interpretation of the seduction given by Mamat to Amanda. According to Abdur, Mamat's seduction could have a rough meaning, that is, Mamat could slap Amanda, but he would not cry because of the slap. Even though Mamat intended to use his palm to keep Amanda's tears from falling by making her always happy.

e. Pun technique / game meaning of the

technique Technique *Pun* / word meaning game refers to humor that occurs because of the meaning of words or sentences. In the seduction segment in the WIT comedy program there is one data about the technique / word meaning game.

Data 5:

Yewen: The tablecloth has a unique function Yes
 Beby : He em

- Yewen : That gives comfort to the table, so the table is so bad but if it is covered with a tablecloth it won't be there
- Beby : hem
- Yewen : And if I am a table and Miss becomes a tablecloth, Miss has closed my ugliness, my imperfection, because our love is one another so that I want to say perfect ... perfect ... perfect

In data 5, Yewen gives another analogy to the function of the tablak, namely by comparing himself and Amanda as a table and tablecloth which cover each other's shortcomings.

f. Mechanical *repartee* /burlesque

technique *repartee* /burlesque refers to the humor that made the verbal banter in witty dialogue and arrangement of polite language There are four data demonstrating the use of this technique.

Data 6:

Mamat: You use feelings, I'm not clear between wife or child

Abdur: Sir, be patient if you use meaningful feelings in each guest star you use feelings?

Obie : Definitely dong

In data 6, Abdur made fun of Obie who was considered to always use feelings when he seduced your stars. In other words Abdur made fun of Obie as a man who played with women with his hearty seduction.

g.technique *Ridicule*/taunting

technique *ridicule*/ mocking is a technique that refers to humor made by making other people look stupid verbally or nonverbally. There are three data usage techniques.

Data 7:

Arie : Directly face the type of tablecloth ... Please

In data 7, Arie taunts Mamat by saying that the seduction segment will be started by someone who has a face like a tablak (Mamat).

h. Mechanical *Sarcasm* /sarcasm

this technique refers to the use of humor made rude mockery to insult and demean others. There are four usage data in this data.

Data 8:

Obie : You can ask permission to hold your hand ... Amuhhh ...

Amanda: Yeah right

Yewen : In every episode, all guest stars get the same thing

Rheinold: He is indeed Parkinson

In data 8, Rheinold states that the cause of the tremor Obie's hand when holding the guest star's hand was because she had Parkinson's disease. People who have Parkinson's are always shaking their limbs. So Obie didn't tremble because he never flirted but because he had Parkinson's disease.

i. technique *Satire*

This technique refers to the humor that made the quip or embarrassing for a thing, situation, or community leader / artist. There are two data usage techniques in the seducing segment of the WIT comedy program.

Data 9:

Mamat : Are you a tablecloth?

Rheinold: Yes, I am also taplak

Arie : What tablecloth?

Rheinold: Taplak 212 Wiro Sableng

Arie : Ax

Mamat : That's an ax ... If you are on Wiro Sableng, you are Sinto Gendeng

In data 9, Mamat made a satirical statement that Rheinold should be Sinto Gendeng (a powerful but mental disorder warrior) if he becomes one of the characters in Wiro Sableng's story.

k. Techniques *Outwitting*/ intelligent questions or statements

This technique *refers to* humor made by using intelligent questions or statements to make them look smarter. There are five *data* usage techniques for *outwitting* / questioning or intelligent statements.

Data 10:

Mamat : Then how is my wife, my children. Suddenly ...

Obie : That's because I use feeling

Mamat's : You use feelings, I'm not clear between wife or child

Abdur : Sir, be patient if you use meaningful feelings in each guest star you use feelings?

Obie : Sure ...

In data 10, Mamat and Abdur both cornered Obie with sentences and questions that doubted the sincerity of the seduction made on each guest star. Even though according to them, sincere seduction should only be given to Obie's children and wife.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Only one type of humor technique from Berger is not applied in the WIT comedy program, namely techniques *sexual allusion*. Most likely this technique is not used because this humor technique involves problems that are quite sensitive. Mechanical *bombast* and *outwitting* is the kind of humor technique most widely used, while the combination of *infantilism*, irony, and *also* is the least used technique in comedy program CDT. These results have similarities with the research of Anastasya (2013) and Tiani (2017) namely the WIT comedy program also uses verbal humor creation techniques but the type of verbal humor creation technique *is* not a widely used humor technique. In other words the WIT comedy program uses a different technique to give a characteristic to this comedy program.

The comedy program is a television program that has many audiences consisting of various social layers. A comedy program can create its trademark by applying various verbal creation techniques.

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