

Recommitting to Marriage on Kate Chopin's 'A Respectable Woman': A Systemic Functional Linguistics Analysis

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Abstract

A story implies meaning because it is delivered by language. The plot is told by language and the characters in the story are also described by language. The language expresses clauses that can be interpreted. Kate Chopin's 'A Respectable Woman' is a story about a married couple that ends unclear. This story has carried unclear meaning through its ideology. Since this story is not an easy story, Systemic Functional Linguistics approach (SFL) was applied to help the writer exploring the linguistic features. SFL could analyse evidences of linguistics features. Therefore, this study is aimed at identifying the use of experiential in transitivity analysis, interpersonal, and textual metafunction to realize the ideology of the story and concluding the ending of the story. Through qualitative and quantitative methods, the writer presented the description of the Systemic Functional Linguistics and discovered that the ideology of the story is recommitting to marriage.

Keywords: SFG, A Respectable Woman, linguistic features

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is the basic medium of human communication. It surrounds people's daily activities. People talk, write, and think through language. "Language is a pervasive and essential part both of your own life and of who we are as a humankind" (Mithun & Genetti, 2014). Language works as a signature of a human's identity. It appears in every part of this world. It is spoken by different people with different communities and traditions. Therefore, language represents somebody's character and origin.

A story is presented by language. The description of the characters, events, and plot are presented in written form. The language shapes an ideology that brings meaning. 'A language is a material form of ideology, and language is invested by ideology' (Fairclough & Fairclough, 1995). Both ideology and language have an integrated correlation since they influence each other. The language which is written in a text will perform an ideology. On the other hand, an ideology that has been prepared by the author will be revealed through the language. Wetherell (2001) on (Haryatmoko, 2017) concludes that ideology sees language as the base construction. It means language is examined through subject ideology.

Thomson (1990) states that the study of ideology is the study to examine how symbolic forms can construct and convey meaning. Ideology is the standpoint of the story that reveals its meaning. The construction consists of aspects in the form of language that should be sorted coherently. This is aimed to gain the correct interpretation of ideology. Linguistic is the part of ideology material (Bakhtin). Thus, linguistic features can be implemented to prove the ideology construction.

The story that is going to be analyzed is entitled, 'A Respectable Woman' written by Kate Chopin. She wrote the story in January 1894 and was published in Vogue in February 1894. The story is printed in one of Chopin's second collections of short stories. The collection's name is A Night in Acadie and was published in 1897. This story tells about a

couple of a husband and a wife who live in a plantation. Mrs. Baroda as a wife feels uncomfortable with Gouvernail's arrival, a friend of her husband. However, she is impressed with him for the first time and she likes him. Feeling confused with her feeling, she decides to leave her plantation. Some days before the year ends, Mrs. Baroda proposes her husband to have Gouvernail back during the summer. The self-conflict faced by Mrs. Baroda unintentionally threat her marriage. The conflict challenges the marriage because of her self-doubts and dilemma. The internal conflict describes the marital crisis that must be overcome. However, the title implies the main character who is Mrs. Baroda as a respectable woman. How the ideology of the story is integrated to the title are presented in linguistic features and analysis.

To identify the story ideology, the writer employs Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) analysis approach that refers to Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) theory by Halliday (2014). The approach can analyze the lexicogrammatical elements to interpret the meaning. Additionally, (Eggins, 2004) defines SFL to explore language and meaning-making resource. It describes and interprets the meaning since in every single phrase is constituted by several layers of linguistic features. Therefore, they must be classified into three important units based of Halliday's SFG. The use of processes, actor, subject, verb, tense, and clause will define the meaning. The analysis will cover three important units. The analysis of transitivity analysis, interpersonal and textual metafunction will help the writer to find the ideology of the text since the story is considered challenging.

The main focus of transitivity analysis is actor + process (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013). Halliday explains that the actor has a role to bring a goal. The action of the actor has intention because by doing something the actor wants to achieve something. The goal is performed through the action and it is called process. There are six processes; material, relational, verbal, mental, behavioral, and existential.

Material processes refer to the process of doing and happening. Relational processes refer to the attributive elements to the actor. Verbal processes are related to something that is produced by the mouth. Mental processes have a relation with senses and the mind. Behavioral processes will see how the actor behaves towards a certain condition. Existential belongs to the situation of availability. The clauses must be classified into these processes to know what the actors' goals of doing.

Interpersonal metafunction evaluates the experience of the subject. Thus the identification of clause mood in this metafunction is needed. It will support the process of interpretation of the ideology. Subject and finite are constituted to shape the mood. The tense also supports the analysis because finite is related to grammar. Halliday (2014) states the agreement between subject and finite is presented in mood and it contains modal elements (can, might, should, will, must, have to). They have meaning to show ability, probability, obligation, and necessity.

Textual metafunction will evaluate the important clauses that encourage ideology formation. Clauses bring meaning. They will be classified into a theme and a rheme. The clauses will show how they have revealed the ideology. 'The theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message' (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013). The message of the clause begins from the theme because it has an element that is represented in just one unit. It can be one nominal group, adverbial group, or prepositional phrase. Other elements that do not belong to the theme are called rheme. The development of the theme is the rheme.

'A Respectable Woman' becomes a tricky story to interpret. As described as a respectable and sensible woman, Mrs. Baroda can't have a love affair, while her desire for

Gouvernail is clearly stated in the story. The interpretation of the story ideology is significant because it discloses what matters in the story. According to that, this paper will provide an analysis of 'A Respectable Woman' on Systemic Functional Linguistics. The analysis will be presented in quantitative and qualitative description. Generally the analysis of discourse is explored descriptively because the hypothesis couldn't be tested empirically. (Newmeyer, 2005) argues that SFL is not quantitative study at all because it has no proof. (Horinza et al., 2020) also elaborates when the data analysis contains social interactions in which texts or transcripts become the medium, qualitative research must be implemented. Similarly, (Firth, 1930) uses qualitative research to uncover formal meaning and contextual meaning of language. It seems that there is nothing to do with quantitative analysis. However, (He, 2018) believes that SFL is the combination of qualitative and quantitative research. The linguistic features give the numbers of items that specifically construct the condition of the discourse, 'it should be counted especially in the corpus to decide which item best fits the particular context and the frequency of occurrence of each item'. The writer provides two methods of data analysis; quantitative and qualitative, in order to strengthen the findings and interpretation. By analyzing the clauses, the writer will interpret the ideology of A Respectable Woman and provide linguistic features to support the analysis. The paper aims to identify the use of experiential in transitivity analysis, interpersonal, and textual metafunction to realize the ideology of the story. Furthermore, the result will also help to conclude the ending of the story.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This paper was classified as a Systemic Functional Linguistics study. It analyzes the language use in text and context that elaborates meaning. According to (Ebbelind, 2015) SFL is an appropriate device of methodology for presenting data orderly and interpreting findings deeply. (Noor, 2016) agree that SFL is an effective approach to describe meaning based on choice of words. It classifies words according to its principles and functions. The analysis captures the intentions of the words and analyzes the language. The elaboration focuses on the concurrency and linguistic features that play specific roles in certain context. This methodology refers to Systemic Functional Grammar by (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013).

The writer took the data from 'A Respectable Woman' story written by Kate Chopin. Then, the writer selected related clauses to be analyzed. To organize the data, the writer coded the clauses into a table. The focus of the story will generally be on the major character who is Mrs. Baroda. The focus will be in the form of evaluating her action, her clauses, and her description. Other characters will only support the idea of analyzing the processes. The writer presented the analyses of the story before concluding the result.

This study applied qualitative and quantitative analysis. These mixed methods were applied to strengthen the findings. The quantitative method proposed the occurrence of the clauses in related processes. The qualitative method elaborated the amount into the descriptive analysis. (Angouri, n.d.) believes that the mixed methods give strong data and interpretation. The numbers in data represent the amount of frequency and the qualitative analysis interprets the frequency. In addition, (He, 2018) combines qualitative and quantitative methods in SFL. Quantitative analysis completes the elaboration and gives accuracy to the interpretation. This combination carries strong revealing. A better interpretation was presented by using these two methods.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The analysis will elaborate how the understanding of theory can examine the language in the story. The transitivity analysis will provide the major processes occur in the story. The interpersonal metafunction will discuss the use of subject in the clauses and how the finite verbs form the mood of the clause. Last, the textual metafunction will presents the clauses that bring the messages related to the story ideology. The analysis will also present the result.

3.1 Transitivity Analysis

In transitivity analysis, the writer examined 185 clauses. 'A Respectable Woman' was classified into 6 processes. The major processes occurs in the story are material processes and relational processes. The distribution of processes is presented di the following table.

Table 1: Transitivity Process Distribution

No.	Transitivity Process	Frequency	Percentage
1	Material	113	61.08
2	Relational	27	9.72
3	Verbal	18	14.59
4	Mental	15	8.1
5	Behavioral	7	3.78
6	Existential	5	2.7
Total		185	100

The table describes that material and relational processes are the dominant processes in the story. The verbal and mental processes only occur 9.72% and 8.1%. Other minor processes are behavioral and existential processes. They only occur 3.78% and 2.7%. This part of analysis will only present the discussion of dominant processes which are material and relational processes.

3.1.1 Material Processes

Material processes consist of action or doing clauses conducted by the agents. The clauses show what activities that he subjects as the agents of doing have. Mostly, these processes are related to Mrs. Baroda as the first character of the story. Then, they are also related to how Mrs. Baroda interacts with other two characters, who are her husband and her husband's friend, Gouvernail. The processes show how every character execute their action towards something they face. The distribution of the material processes in relation to the agents and goal is presented in table 2.

No.	Material Processes	Frequency	Percentage
1	Mrs. Baroda	54	47.78
2	Gouvernail	32	28.31
3	Her husband/ Gaston	17	15.04

4	Mrs. Baroda's possession	4	3.53
5	Gouvernail's possession	3	2.65
6	Nature and objects	3	2.65
Total		113	99.96

The material processes show Mrs. Baroda's actions when Gouvernail comes to her plantation. She has her own thought and she shows particular attitude towards him and her feeling. The following clauses are showing how Mrs. Baroda behaves to the situation she faces especially related to Gouvernail's arrival. She reflects some changes here. Her dislike becomes her acceptance to Gouvernail. However, she realizes that she is a respectable woman. She should not behave badly by betraying her husband. Thus, she decides to leave the plantation and go to the city. Her leaving is interpreted to fix her confusion and rethinking about her desire. Then when she successfully figures out her problem she is going to welcome Gouvernail and let him to have the second visit.

- (1) and she did not like him. (7B)
- (2) but she liked him. (17B)
- (3) In this mood she left her husband and her guest, for the most part, alone together. (20)
- (4) I shall be at my Aunt Octavie's." (44C)
- (5) She made no reply to this apostrophe to the night, (54F)
- (6) She wanted to draw close to him, (65A)
- (7) if she had not been a respectable woman. (65E)
- (8) the further, in fact, did she draw away from him. (66B)
- (9) she proposed, wholly from herself, (74B)

Other clauses to support the previous part are shown as the Mrs. Baroda's possessions. They expose the feeling and desire she has. She is a married woman but she likes another man. She has conflict with herself. This internal conflict disturbs her mind. Her feeling to Gouvernail distracts her attention to her husband. She is really confused to her feeling but she cannot erase it easily. In other hands, she knows that she is a respectable woman that must have good attitude.

- (10) her thoughts or her intentions to be so confused. (46B)
- (11) Her mind only vaguely grasped (61A)

The material processes consist of objects and nature. They may relate the situation faced my Mrs. Baroda from the beginning of the story until Gouvernail has gone. Her acceptance to Gouvernail is expressed by Mrs. Baroda in the end of the story. She wants him to come next summer. This becomes the end of the story that shows Mrs. Baroda already overcome her problem. She does not worry to her desire anymore because she believes that being respectable woman should be faithful to husband.

- (12) much of the time had also been passed in New Orleans in various forms of mild dissipation. (2B)
- (13) as the air that swept across the sugar field (15D)
- (14) The stronger the impulse grew to bring herself near him (66A)
- (15) the summer that followed. (72D)

The material processes also include Gouvernail's action since he lives in the Mrs. Baroda's house. He interacts with Mrs. Baroda and her husband. His action also shows how his attitude towards Mrs. Baroda. The clauses of material processes tell about Gouvernail's arrival to the plantation and what happens during his visiting. It seems that he shows his respond to Mrs. Baroda.

- (16) Gouvernail was coming up to stay a week or two. (34 C)
- (17) but he made no direct appeal to her approval or even esteem. (13c)
- (18) He did not care to fish, (16C)
- (19) He made some commonplace observation upon the baneful effect of the night air at that season. (53)
- (20) Gouvernail was gone from under her roof. (72B)

To support Gouvernail's action in the processes, there are some clauses that show his possessions. These possessions describe the situation he has and support his interaction with Mrs. Baroda. At first, it is not clearly seen how Gouvernail interacts to Mrs. Baroda. But, before he leaves the plantation he shows his will to have close relationship to Mrs. Baroda.

- (21) His manner was as courteous toward her (13A)
- (22) Then as his gaze reached out into the darkness, (54A)
- (23) Sitting there beside Mrs. Baroda, his silence melted for the time. (57)

The last part of material processes includes Gaston as the agent of clauses. He is the friend of Gouvernail and Mrs. Baroda's husband. He and his wife have good relation. He is also the best friend of Gouvernail who he is really happy to have Gouvernail in his plantation. The clauses tell about how he helps his wife fixing her problem. As stated in the story, that actually Mrs. Baroda tells to his wife that she dislikes Gouvernail.

- (24) her husband expected his friend, (1B)
- (25) Gaston took his wife's pretty face between his hands (27A)
- (26) When Gaston arose in the morning, (71A)
- (27) Her husband was surprised (75A)
- (28) and delighted with the suggestion coming from her. (75B)

The analysis of material processes are used to help the writer identify the situation occurs in the story. Thus, the processes should classify the actors, the action, and things around the actors. The processes convey the major characters and the minor characters of the story. The order of the characters is Mrs. Baroda, Gouvernail and Gaston. This is made based on the frequency of agent used as the

actor of clauses. Besides, these processes also present what the characters of the story do to their self or to others. The processes also reflect how they behave and show their attitude. It can be seen that Mrs. Baroda puts a deep interest to Gouvernail because she likes him. She wants Gouvernail. However, Gouvernail does not show obvious attraction to Mrs. Baroda. Meanwhile, he implicitly expresses his feeling. On the other hand, Gaston who does not know anything about her wife's feeling to Gaston only wants her wife to welcome Gouvernail and he still shows his tender love to her wife. According to internal problem faced by Mrs. Baroda, she decides to not follow her desire but to stop it. She goes to her aunt's house to calm down her mind. By the time, she changes her mind to welcome Gouvernail's presence. It does not mean that she loves him but she wants to show her respect and honor to him since Mrs. Gouvernail is a Respectable woman. She knows that she has wrong feeling, thus she needs time to fix it.

3.1.2 Relational Processes

These processes are categorized into three parts; intensive, circumstantial and possessive. It aims to differentiate the relationship between the characters and to show their identity. The data shows that relational processes are the second dominant processes occur in the story with 9.72% frequency. The distribution of the process is presented in the following table.

Table 3: Relational Processes

No	Relational Processes	Freuquency	Percentage
1	Intensive	15	55.55
2	Circumstantial	11	40.74
3	Possessive	1	3.7
Total		27	100

According to the table, there are 15 intensive clauses in relational process. It means that the story mostly describes the characters. It describes about physical appearance and also the personality belongs to the characters of the story. The most described character in the story is Gouvernail as stated as follows:

- (29) This was a man (4A)
- (30) Gouvernail was slim enough, (8A)
- (31) Indeed, he was a lovable, inoffensive fellow. (18)
- (32) he was a man of ideas," (41B)
- (33) it was Gouvernail, (48B)
- (34) for he was not a self-conscious one. (55B)

The circumstantial relational processes discuss the situation related to the story, especially in this case the relation between Mrs. Baroda and Gouvernail. The circumstantial also mostly discusses about Gouvernail to show his identity. It tells his manner, his attitude and what he does to reveal his character.

- (35) His manner was as courteous toward her (13A)
- (36) if he were more like others (26C)

- (37) His periods of reserve were not constitutional, but the result of moods.
(56)
(38) that was not unpleasant to hear. (58B)

Unfortunately, the possessive relational processes only have one clause. It is also related to Gouvernail. The clause describes Gouvernail is as brilliant and promising traits as same as what Gaston has.

- (39) He possessed (11C)

The all relational processes present the description of the characters in the story. The most described character is Gouvernail. The clauses tell about his appearance and personal character. This shows that Gouvernail also has big portion in the story, means he is the second character of the story. Additionally, he is described as an attractive and smart person. However, he once showed his bad to talk something unpleasant.

3.2 Interpersonal Metafunction

In interpersonal metafunction, the paper elaborates the use of sentence subject and finite. It is aimed to decide the clause mood. Those two elements are considered prominent to form the ideology. The end of the story is able to confuse the readers to define its ideology. However, this paper will provide data and analysis that shows the ideology of the story which is 'Recommitting to Marriage'.

3.2.1 Sentence Subject

Ideology of story brings meaning of the story. The analysis might produce various interpretations and face some processes of interpretation. 'A Respectable Woman' becomes one of challenging story to be analyzed. It is not easy to interpret the story since the story does not end with conclusion remark. Besides, the story also puzzles the readers about what Mrs. Baroda's feeling and her decision to be very nice to Gouvernail.

Table 4: Choice of Subject

No	Subject	Frequent	Percentage
1.	Mrs. Baroda	73	63.47
2.	Gouvernail	50	33.11
3.	Gaston	28	18.54
Total		151	100

There are three subjects in the story. They are Mrs. Baroda, Gouvernail and Gaston. Table 4 indicates that Mrs. Baroda is dominant subject. Most of the clauses tell about her action, her feeling, and her behavior towards Gouvernail. It begins when she knows that Gouvernail will come to her plantation. She does not like

Gouvernail at first because his arrival will disturb her time with her husband. While, unconsciously she imagine how Gouvernail looks like.

- (40) Mrs. Baroda was a little provoked to learn (1A)
- (41) She was looking forward to a period of unbroken rest, now, and undisturbed tête-a-tête with her husband, (3A)
- (42) she had heard much of but never seen. (4B)
- (43) But she had unconsciously formed an image of him in her mind. (6)

After guessing Gouvernail's appearance, Mrs. Baroda finally meets him. She was surprised and feels interested in him. She represents her desire for Gouvernail. This might be tricky to all the readers because Mrs. Baroda's attitudes show that she really wants to have intimate relationship with Gouvernail.

- (44) she gave over being puzzled (19B)
- (45) (she wanted to) and touch him with the sensitive tips of her fingers upon the face or the lips (64B)

Referring to the title of this story, the character of Mrs. Baroda really wants to show her right decision. She is a respectable woman who means her manner and attitude must be acceptable and appropriate. Hence she is addressed as a Mrs. Falling in love with another man is not correct action because she already has a husband. Thus, she decided to fix her problem by herself by leaving her house. She takes time to solve everything that is not correct. She has realized that she is doing wrong. She will not be a respectable woman anymore if she cheats on her husband. Furthermore, she is described as a very sensible one which means, she will have reasonable decision. She will not only follow her emotion but will carefully mind her choice. Thus, she takes time to think and decides to refuse her feeling towards Gouvernail because she knows it is not correct.

- (46) (she) and left him there alone. (67C)
- (47) Mrs. Baroda was greatly tempted that night to tell her husband (69A)
- (48) Beside being a respectable woman she was a very sensible one; (70B)

3.2.2 *Clause Mood*

This part is going to identify the mood of the clauses that support the ideology of the story. The use of past perfect tense indicates a flashback event that the subject does. The paragraph shows that the use of past perfect refers to how Mrs. Baroda has no idea about Gouvernail because she knows that she never meets him. While, she knows that he is her husband's friend. This is also the beginning of the story when Mrs. Gouvernail starts to think about how Gouvernail looks like. After meeting him, she begins to like him.

This was a man she had heard much of but never seen. He had been her husband's college friend; was now a journalist, and in no sense a society man or "a man about town," which were, perhaps, some of the reasons she

had never met him. But she had unconsciously formed an image of him in her mind. She pictured him tall, slim, cynical; with eye-glasses, and his hands in his pockets; and she did not like him. Gouvernail was slim enough, but he wasn't very tall nor very cynical; neither did he wear eye-glasses nor carry his hands in his pockets. And she rather liked him when he first presented himself.

The story uses past verbs. It means the events in the story have been occurred. The story delivers the chronological events from the beginning until the end of the story. The use of past tense refers to what the characters have done, see, or know. As what this paragraph tells, Mrs. Baroda and Gouvernail showed their actions of doing something. Besides, she also expresses mental verbs such as knew and hoped. In this paragraph, the story tells about Gouvernail who comes to Mrs. Baroda and also shows Mrs. Baroda's desire for Gouvernail.

Mrs. Baroda heard footsteps crunching the gravel; but could discern in the darkness only the approaching red point of a lighted cigar. She knew it was Gouvernail, for her husband did not smoke. She hoped to remain unnoticed, but her white gown revealed her to him. He threw away his cigar and seated himself upon the bench beside her; without a suspicion that she might object to his presence.

Her mind only vaguely grasped what he was saying. Her physical being was for the moment predominant. She was not thinking of his words, only drinking in the tones of his voice. She wanted to reach out her hand in the darkness and touch him with the sensitive tips of her fingers upon the face or the lips. She wanted to draw close to him and whisper against his cheek—she did not care what—as she might have done if she had not been a respectable woman.

The last aspect of clause mood is the use of verb auxiliary. It functions to know Mrs. Baroda's judgment and view about her problem. There are eight clauses using auxiliary verbs. The auxiliary verbs are *could*, *shall*, and *might*. The use of *could* belong to probability especially the ability. *Might* refers to the degree of certainty and *shall* belongs to obligation.

- (49) she could not explain satisfactorily to herself (10B)
- (50) She could discover in him none of those brilliant and promising traits which Gaston, (11A)
- (51) She could gather nothing from them but the feeling of a distinct necessity to quit her home in the morning. (47A)
- (52) As soon as she could do so without an appearance of too great rudeness, (67A)

The five clauses above describe the ability and inability of Mrs. Baroda

about doing something. Clause (49) reveals that she does not know why she likes Gouvernail. She has no reason and cannot explain it. Clause (50) tells the way she compares her husband and Gouvernail. In (47A) Mrs. Baroda thinks that she should leave her house. This act is to separate herself with Gouvernail so she has time to critically think about her feeling. The last ability mood Mrs. Baroda shows is her intention to ignore Gouvernail. It becomes her big decision to refuse Gouvernail. Moreover, Mrs. Baroda considers about her status as a respectable married woman. This scene shows how great her desire for Gouvernail. She knows that she eventually can respond her own desire by touching or kissing him. However, her awareness is higher than her desire so that she decides to leave Gouvernail alone beneath a live oak tree.

(53) I shall be at my Aunt Octavie's." (44C)

The use of shall here tends to show Mrs. Baroda's willingness to go to her Aunt's house. She decides to leave the house after she is sure that she should not welcome Gouvernail to her heart. She should make choice, thus she goes to be able to think peacefully.

(54) without a suspicion that she might object to his presence. (50C)

(55) as she might have done (65E)

The use of might deals with how Mrs. Baroda's certainty about what she is doing. *Might* refers to the less uncertainty especially in (65E). This clause indicates she probably has done something which is to love and accept Gouvernail, but then she realizes her position as a respectable woman.

The clause mood analysis reveals the process how Mrs. Baroda meets Gouvernail and what she thinks. The use of the tenses and modals show her actions towards him including her feeling and desire. It can be interpreted that Mrs. Baroda is interested in Gouvernail and she really likes him. However, the modality aspects are able to neglect that interpretation. The ideology of this story does not stop in that interpretation. It presents how Mrs. Baroda faces her love desire for a man who is not her husband and she is able to overcome it.

3.3 Textual Metafunction

The discussion in this part will include some focal clauses that not only reveal the ideology but how the story ends. The clauses are divided into a theme and a rheme. There are only few selected clauses, while they sustain the ideology. Explicitly, this story is about love affair between Mrs. Baroda and Gouvernail. However, there are some little aspects that are not recognized by the readers. Those slight aspects must be discussed in this part to realize the readers.

(56) Gouvernail's personality
Theme

puzzled Mrs. Baroda, (17A)
Rheme

The feeling of attraction possessed by Mrs. Baroda begins in this clause. Gouvernail's personality is difficult to define and it makes him attractive. It makes Mrs. Gouvernail likes him. However, she could not explain the reason.

(57) He talked freely and intimately in a low, hesitating drawl (58A)
Theme Rheme

Mrs. Baroda's desire is actually responded positively by Gouvernail. He welcomes her feeling. It is shown in this clause when they are together in the night beneath the live oak tree. He brings scarf to her and they have little conversation. Gouvernail shows his feedback of Mrs. Baroda's feeling by talking in intimate way and even he reads a poem to her.

(58) And touch him with the sensitive tips of her fingers upon the face
or the lips.
(64B)
Theme Rheme

This clause is still in the same scene like the previous clause. Mrs. Baroda's desire begins to overwhelm. Her desire to touch Gouvernail appears. She wants to make a contact with him. It seems she cannot hold her will and it is really show how she likes him. On the other hands, she knows that she must hold her action to touch him.

(59) if she had not been a respectable woman. (65E)
Theme Rheme

Mrs. Baroda is aware who she is. This clause noticeable informs the readers that actually she really wants to have a contact with Gouvernail. This strengthens the evidence that she is attracted by Gouvernail. However, she remembers her status. She has been married and her high status as a respectable woman in the society. Thus she is not supposed to like another man.

(60) Beside being a respectable woman she was a very sensible one; (70B)
Theme Rheme

This clause describes Mrs. Gouvernail personality. She is not only respectable but also sensible woman. This implies how Mrs. Baroda will solve her own problem. She will not rush her decision to cheat on her husband. Her sensibility makes her aware that a wrong decision might bring a wrong result. Besides, this characteristic is able to make her behave appropriately with her common sense.

(61) there are some battles in life (70D)
Theme Rheme

The situation described in this clause reveals the real personality of Mrs. Gouvernail. She is not a girl anymore. She is a mature woman with sensible and respectable status. The way she thinks cannot break the moral value in the society.

(62) which a human being must fight alone. (70E)

Theme

Rheme

Perhaps, Mrs. Gouvernail cannot tell her husband about the battle she has with herself. Thus, she will solve it by herself. With her maturity and sensibility, she knows what she must do. She should omit her desire and attraction to Gouvernail. She should control herself and her feeling. If she does that, it will threaten her marriage. According to that, she forgets her feeling to Gouvernail in order to recommit her marriage because she realizes that she has a great husband she loves.

(63) "I have overcome everything!" (77B)

Theme

Rheme

This clause becomes the closing statement of the story. Mrs. Baroda tends to tell her husband that now she is fine and she does not hate Gouvernail anymore even though it is not a real hatred. What she means by 'overcome' here is she has successfully erased her desire and feeling to Gouvernail. She wants to keep her marriage commitment.

It is obviously seen that Mrs. Gouvernail has a strong desire for Gouvernail but she realizes that she should not have that feeling. Meanwhile, she decides to forget her desire and feeling and continue to love her husband. Hence, the story ideology is 'recommitting to marriage' because Mrs. Baroda has ever liked another man but she can disappear that feeling to love her husband again.

4. CONCLUSION

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) becomes a favorable device to analyze the meaning of ideology. In this paper, this approach helps the writer to define which ideology that is brought by language use about Mrs. Baroda. Besides, there are linguistic features that support the ideology. 'A Respectable Woman' is considered challenging to identify because it may have various ideologies. These papers propose one meaning which is 'Recommitting to Marriage'.

According to the analysis of three units in SFG; transitivity, interpersonal and textual metafunction, the result can encourage each other. They show that Mrs. Baroda likes Gouvernail. She has desire to make a contact with him. She faces internal conflict and dilemmas about why he likes her husband's friend and she is confused with herself. Since she already has a husband, she realizes that what she feels towards another man is not acceptable. What Mrs. Baroda feels might be not appropriate as a respectable married woman. However, her status leads her to make a choice, which is to forget her feeling to Gouvernail and recommit to her marriage.

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