

LEXICAL DENSITY AND GRAMMATICAL INTRICACY IN SURAH AL-MULK

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ABSTRAK

Kajian ini berfokus pada analisis kepadatan leksikal dan kerumitan gramatikal dalam surah Al-Mulk melalui teori yang dicetuskan oleh Ure dan Halliday untuk mengidentifikasi tingkat kepadatan leksikal dan kerumitan gramatikal yang dianalisis melalui metode deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data penelitian adalah Surat Al-Mulk yang diambil dari Quran Kemenag (KEMENTERIAN AGAMA RI, 2557). Surah Al-Mulk adalah surah ke-67 dari Al-Qur'an yang memiliki 30 ayat. Semua ayat surat al-Mulk dikatakan termasuk dalam kelompok ayat Makkiyah (surat yang dirilis di Mekkah). Data dalam penelitian ini berupa item leksikal untuk menganalisis kepadatan leksikal dan klausa untuk menganalisis kerumitan gramatikal. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Lexical Density yang ditemukan melebihi 63%. Ini menunjukkan bahwa Surah Al-Mulk menyumbang kepadatan leksikal yang lebih tinggi. Ini menunjukkan jumlah informasi tentang keberadaan Allah dan Pengetahuan dan Kekuasaan-Nya yang Sempurna dengan mengajak orang untuk merenungkan keajaiban yang terjadi di alam semesta ini. Jumlah Kerumitan Tata Bahasa Surah Al-Mulk adalah 4,03. Hal ini disebabkan tingginya jumlah klausa terhadap kalimat. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa semakin rumit gramatikal pada surat Al-Mulk, bahasa yang digunakan semakin kompleks.

Kata kunci: *Kepadatan Leksikal, Kerumitan Tata Bahasa, Surat Al-Mulk.*

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on analyzing lexical density and grammatical intricacy in surah Al-Mulk theorized by Ur and Halliday to identify the level of lexical density and grammatical intricacy involed by means of descriptive qualitative method. The data source of the research are Surah Al-Mulk taken from Quran Kemenag (KEMENTERIAN AGAMA RI, 2557). Surah Al-Mulk is the 67th surah of Holy Qur'an that has 30 verses. All verses of the letter al-Mulk are said to belong to the group of Makkiyah verses (surah which was released in Mecca). The data in this research are lexical item for analyzing lexical density and clauses for analyzing grammatical intricacy. The results of the research show that Lexical

Density found surpasses 63%. It indicates that Surah Al-Mulk accounts for higher lexical density. It demonstrates the amount of information of existence of Allah and His Perfect Knowledge and Power by inviting people to reflect on the marvels of this universe. The number of Grammatical Intricacy of Surah Al-Mulk is 4.03. It is due to the high number of clauses towards the sentences. The analysis shows that the more grammatical Intricacy of Surah Al-Mulk, the language that is used is more complex.

Keywords: *Lexical Density, Grammatical Intricacy, Surah Al-Mulk.*

INTRODUCTION

The Al-Quran is Muslims' holy book. It contains a number of significant roles that serve as life's guidelines. In addition, the Quran serves as a means of communication between God and His followers. Because communication is the act of passing messages between people through spoken or written language, everyone should be able to understand it. The Al-Quran is a written medium of communication. Al-Qur'an has been made easier to learn by Allah. Reading, comprehending, memorizing, and practicing the Al-Quran are all necessary steps in the learning process. The Qur'an's surah Al-Qamar is easier to learn because Allah has revealed that verse four times.

The Al-Qur'an is the greatest work of literature that cannot be compared to any other. It was conveyed to Muhammad shallallahu 'alaihi wasallam" in the form of a large collection of poems, a sermon, and religious instruction that no human being could produce such work. Al-Qur'an differs from other books primarily due to the miracle. The miracle demonstrates that Muhammad, shallallahu 'alaihi wasallam, is Allah's

servant and the last Messenger.

Some examples of Al-Qur'an miracles are listed below:

- a. Every verse in the Al-Qur'an is constructed flawlessly, and some verses cannot be translated due to a lack of human knowledge in comparison to Allah's knowledge. Here are a few examples of verses that have no English translation: Surah Al-Baqarah verse one:) Alif Lām Mīm), Surah Al-A'raf) Alif Lām Mīm Sād), Surah Maryam verse one (كهيعص) Kāf Hā Yā „Aīn Sād) These three verses above have no translation in any languages. Even Muslim scholars are unable to decipher the meaning of the three verses above because none of them have been translated into any languages. This phenomenon can be found in other Surahs of the Qur'an, such as the first verse of Surah Ali Imran, the first verse of Surah An-Nisa, the first verse of Surah Yunus, the first verse of Surah Hud, the first verse of Surah Ar-Rad, etc. (Ramadhani, 2018)
- b. In Habib 2008:20, Usman mentioned the mysterious news, which Al-Qur'an explained by citing the story of Firaun in Surah Yunus verse 92, which states: Means: We will save thee in body this day so that you can serve as a warning to

those who follow you! However, it is true that many people ignore our signs! An archaeologist by the name of Loret discovered the entire body of Firaun's mummy at the beginning of the 19th century, in 1896. He revealed the truth about an event that took place 1200 years prior to the modern era—also prior to the verse that was transmitted to the Prophet Muhammad. One illustration of the Al-Qur'an's enigmatic news is this one. (Ramadhani, 2018)

- c. Scientific science. The Qur'an contains numerous scientific and scientific signs, such as Allah's words in verse 3 of Surah Ar-Rad: Means: "And it is He Who spread out the earth, and placed therein firm mountains and rivers and of every kind of fruit He made (two in pairs). He brings the night as a cover over the day. Verily, in these things, there are Ayat (signs) for people who reflect." (Q.S. Ar-Rad verse 3).

These aspects were a miracle that were revealed to humanity 14 centuries ago, particularly to the Arab community at the time, and these messages have finally reached the entire world up until the present day. From a linguistic point of view, the Al-Qur'an's original text differs from other Arabic-language books in its

structure, harmony of suffixes in some Surah, and unity of sentence from other texts.

Al-Mulk is the sixty seventh surah in Al-Qur'an after surah At-Tahrim. Surah Al-Mulk was revealed in Mecca on different occasions. There are 30 verses, and there are two sections. Like other verses, it is a very important Surah in the Holy Quran. The greatness of God and the universe that he created are discussed in Surah Al-Mulk. In a similar vein, this verse exhorts mankind to act impartially on the earth and observe the natural laws. They would do this to help Allah's dominion get stronger. As a result, it conveys the message that He is controller of the entire universe.

Ahmad bin Hanbal recorded that the Prophet of Allah, Abu Hurayrah, stated that there is a chapter with thirty verses in this holy Book of Allah. Therefore, this chapter will safeguard and intercede for the recite until his repentance is granted. On the other hand, Anas told the Tabarani that the Prophet of Allah said that there is a chapter that will support the recite until he is taken to paradise.

Surah Al-Mulk is Sunnah to be read every day as revealed in hadits "Imam Ahmad (ra) narrated

from Abu Hurayrah (RA) that Allah's Messenger (SAW) said: "*Verily, there is a chapter in the Quran which contains thirty verses that will intercede on behalf of its reciter until he is forgiven.* (It

is): "*Tabaarakalladhi biyadihil mulk ...*" This Hadith was recorded by Tirmidhi and other four Sunan Compilers". On the other hand, Khalid bin Madan advised you to recite Surah Mulk because it is the verse that will challenge the person who recited it when they are dead. This surah declares, "O God, if I am a part of your holy book, then let me save him." Take me out of this book if I am not a part of your sacred book. Therefore, allow me to rescue him from the grave danger.

When reading Al-Qur'an, readers may occasionally discover the relevant information. When reading the Al-Quran, the manner in which Allah constructs each sentence, selects the appropriate words for it, and employs a variety of language complexity is evident. Consequently, comprehension of the meaning is hampered by language's complexity. Complexity of language in Al-Quran can be seen through selected lexical items and types of clauses

used. The complexity of language is proposed by (Halliday, 1989) in a theory of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). Based on the theory, "complexity of language typically deals with grammatical intricacy, lexical density, nominalization, grammatical metaphor and thematic structure." It is a concept in computational linguistics that measures the structure and complexity of communication in a language. Lexical density uses functional words (grammatical units) and content words (lexical units, lexemes) to estimate the linguistic complexity of a written or spoken composition. Calculating the ratio of lexical items to the total number of words is one way to determine the lexical density. Calculating the ratio of lexical items to higher structural items in a composition, such as the total number of clauses in a sentence, is another approach.

In addition, (Johansson, 2008) defines "Lexical Density (LD) deals with the total number of lexical items or content words (i.e. nouns, verbs, adjectives and some adverbs) in the text." (Halliday, 1989) also argue that "the lexical density refers to the complexity of language that results from

the development of words". Grammatical intricacy describes about the frequency with which complex clauses appear in a text compared to simple clauses. It is generally acknowledged that every text possesses varying degrees of complexity. All of this is related to the amount of information introduced in a clause complex, which may contain multiple simple clauses. The grammatical complexity (intricacy) of a text can be assessed using the classification of clauses (sentences). It is possible to say that a text is more complicated in the sense that it presents more information in a condensed manner if there are more clause complexes than simple clauses. On the other hand, Grammatical Intricacy (GI) is an important concept for describing language complexity. It refers to the frequency with which complex clauses are used in a text as opposed to simple clauses. Based on the explanation above, it can be said that lexical density and grammatical intricacy are important to be analyzed as they both represent the amount of information.

There have been some related studies discuss about Surah Al-Mulk in linguistics notions. Ramadhani in 2018 analyze

the linguistics elements in Translation of Surah Al-Mulk. She found three kinds of ambiguity found in Surah Al-Mulk Translation by Yusuf Ali, lexical ambiguity, methaphorical ambiguity, and grammatical ambiguity. These three kinds of ambiguity are spread across four verses, one for each type. Besides, there are eight kinds of inversion: inversion of a fronted predicate adjective, negative inversion, inversion of a preposed adverb, counterfactual inversion, inversion of a subject-verb conjunction with a question word, inversion of a subject-verb conjunction with a helping verb, and full verb inversion. In addition, archaic words also found in 14 verses of the Surah (Ramadhani, 2018).

Another researchers emanate from Muharrami et al. evaluate the Deixis in Translation of Surah Al-Mulk. The study reveals the various deixis found in Surah Al-Mulk, they are involved person deixis, location deixis, time deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis are all examples of these (Muharrami et al., 2022). Mustaka J.P. tackles an analysis focus on Speech Act in Surah Al-Mulk. According to the findings of this research, there are eight distinct directive speech acts in

Surah al-Mulk. The direct orders, which are orders to act or not to act something, and the indirect orders, which are orders given by Allah to His servants through the Prophet Muhammad SAW, are two examples of these (Mustaka J.P., 2022).

Pujiati and Pramudyawardhani evaluate an analysis on Lexical density and grammatical intricacy. The analysis of the data produced twelve genre-specific texts for the reading section and three genre-specific texts for the listening section. According to the authors' reading section analysis, the number of content words typically exceeds the number of grammatical complexity per clause complex, and the number of lexical density typically exceeds the number of grammatical complexity across all texts. This indicates that they frequently appear in written text. Written language can be found in the reading section of the national exam. The authors' calculations of grammatical complexity and lexical density in the listening section yield different results for each text, but the reading section yields the same results. The number of content words typically

exceeds the number of grammatical complexity per clause complex, and the number of lexical density typically exceeds the number of grammatical complexity across all texts. They are typically incorporated into written text. Written language is also present in the national examination's listening texts. In conclusion, the reading portion is ideal because it contains written texts; however, the listening portion is not ideal because it ought to primarily contain spoken texts (Pujiati & Pramudyawardhani, 2020).

The SFL method has recently gained popularity worldwide, particularly in language education, and it is utilized for a variety of purposes, such as discourse analysis. According to (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014), SFL is a linguistic theory that views language as a resource for making meaning and as part of the social system. Language perceives how people use language to establish and produce meaning in order to fulfill their communicative purpose in social contexts, as stated in this statement.

In addition, "Systemic Functional Linguistics, with regard to data, does not deal with the manner in which the human brain processes or represents

language; rather, it tries to view discourses produced in written or oral language and what is contained are the texts that are produced." According to (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014), "since the use of language becomes the concern of Systemic Functional Linguistics, much importance is placed on the function of language, such as what language is used for rather than what language structure is all about and how it is composed." As a result, Systemic Functional Linguistics uses four approaches to analyze the text: context, semantics, lexicogrammar, and phonology. The mode of action or reflection is the channel of communication, whether written or spoken.

(Egins, 2004) summarizes "the linguistic difference that corresponds to our two polar extremes of a spoken and a written language situation" (Egins, 2004). However, he argues that "there are two main linguistics features that are highly sensitive to mode variation, the degree of grammatical intricacy and the lexical density of the language chosen" (Egins, 2004). These features are responsible for perhaps the most striking differences between spoken and written language. (Halliday, 1989)

in his book "Spoken and Written Language also explains the significant distinction between written and spoken language. The first one is Density, the density with which the information is presented. Relative to each other, spoken language is sparse, and written language is dense. The second is Intricacy, the intricacy with which the information is organized. Spoken language is more intricate than written language." In addition to that, (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014) affirm that "written language is normally complex when it has high lexical density. It stores a large number of lexical items into each clause. In another words, spoken language becomes complex by being grammatically intricate."

Lexical density is the most common term for describing the ratio of content words—nouns, verbs, adjectives, and frequently adverbs—to the total number of words. Density is a term that describes a type of complexity brought about by word development. "(Halliday, 1989) reveals that lexical density relates to the notion of the lexicogrammar in terms of the level of wording in language. It is a measure of the density of information in

any passage of a text, according to how tightly the lexical items (content words) have been packed into the grammatical structure (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).” He defines “lexical density” as the proportion of the number of running words to the number of lexical items. By distinguishing between lexical and grammatical items, lexical density can be measured.” (Halliday, 1989) states that grammatical items or function words come in a closed system that includes determiners like articles, pronouns, the majority of prepositions, conjunctions, certain classes of adverbs, and finite verbs. In conclusion, lexical items—also known as content words—act in lexical sets demonstrates that they are a part of an open system rather than a closed set.

“Grammatical intricacy relates to the ratio of the number of clauses to the number of sentences in a text. It talks about how logico-semantic types at the clausal level connect simple clauses in a clause complex. Therefore, grammatical intricacy contributes to the understanding of language's logical meta function (Halliday, 2007). In comparison to simple clauses, the frequency with

which complex clauses appear in the text is all that is meant by GI. It is accepted that every text has varying degrees of complexity. All of this has to do with how much information is added to a clause complex, which can have multiple simple clauses. Despite the fact that, as Halliday argues, grammatical intricacy is typically used to analyze the complexity of spoken language, it should be included in the measurement of written text complexity because it can demonstrate the complexity not only at the level of words but also at the level of clauses.

Because a text is said to be difficult due to the complexity of the information it contains, grammatical intricacy must be discovered. Because there is less information presented in a simple clause than in a complex clause, it is easier to understand. To put it another way, a functional grammar-described clause complex contains more information than a simple clause. The ratio of ranking clauses to the total number of clause complexes can be used to measure grammatical complexity. (Halliday, 2007). The high and low levels of grammatical intricacy

(complexity) in a text are used to determine the level of grammatical complexity in this instance. A text's GI is high if the number of clause complexes is higher than the number of simple sentences, while a text's GI is low if the number of clause complexes is lower than the number of simple sentences.

In real analysis, the ratio of simple clauses to clause complexes can be used to determine the level of complexity, and a simple clause can be thought of as consisting of subject and predicate. The difficulty of each type of clause is different. Due to their relative greater complexity, clause complexes, according to a number of studies, are more challenging to process than simple clauses. By that point, Halliday argues that "written language tends to use few clauses per sentence" due to the feature of grammatical simplicity (Halliday, 2007).

Grammatical intricacy is the ratio of the number of complex clauses to simple clauses in a text. It is accepted that every text has varying degrees of complexity. All of this has to do with how much information is included in a clause complex, which can have multiple simple clauses. The classification

of clauses (sentences) can be used to determine a text's grammatical intricacy (complexity). It is possible to say that a text is more complex in the sense that it presents more information in a condensed manner if there are more clause complexes than simple clauses. As a result, learners run the risk of running into difficulties. Because a text is deemed difficult due to its complexity, grammatical complexity must be discovered. Because there is less information presented in a simple clause than in a complex clause, it is easier to understand. In other words, functional grammar indicates that a clause complex contains more information than a simple clause. The readers need to be familiar with the various clause types in order to comprehend the entire meaning of a text (Syarif, 2019).

The Qur'an, is the main holy book in Islam, which Muslims believe that this book was sent down by God, (Arabic, الله) to the Prophet محمد. This book is broken up into a number of chapters, and each chapter has a number of verses. his surah has 30 verses and is categorized as a Makkiyah letter. The name, Al Mulk, comes from the word

"Kingdom," which appears in the first verse of this letter. Another name for this letter is At Tabaarak, which means Most Holy.

Many Muslims around the world have memorized it because it is one of the most well-known surahs. This surah contains some beneficial meanings as well as some additional lessons for Muslims. Allah focuses on a few key points in this surah. He explains to us that He is the Supreme Being and the Creator of everything in the Heavens and on Earth, and he also helps people understand what their purpose in life is. Additionally, He gives the likeness of previous nations that He destroyed and warns those who do not believe of severe punishment.

Possibly the most central aspect of this surah is Allah's call to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Muslims to warn the disbelievers. He explains us how He can destroy the world and everything in it as He pleases. However, He also informs us that the only thing we can do is spread the word, not persuade anyone to accept it. The message of Islam will never be accepted by some disbelievers.

Mulk emphasizes that no one can compel another to do something; He can

only lead by example and direction (67:26). The very first sentence of Surah Mulk is the source of the title. As a sign for the majesty and power of the all-Compassionate, Surah Mulk draws attention to the vastness and subtlety of creation.

Reciting this surah frequently will make it one of our intercessors in the afterlife, which is one of its benefits. The surah will petition Allah to forgive us on the Day of Judgment. Additionally, reciting this surah before going to sleep on a regular basis can protect us from the punishment of the grave.

By these elaborations, the researchers are eager to begin the research on surah Al-Mulk through analyzing the level of Lexical Density and Grammatical Intricacy in its words.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative data analysis proposed by (Miles et al., 2014) to seek lexical density and grammatical intricacy of Surah Al-Mulk as the source of the data. They are analyzed based on the steps of theory of LD and GI by Halliday (1987) and Ure (1971). The data of this study are the clause complex from Indonesian Translation of Surah Al-Mulk. This analysis

concentrates on measuring grammatical intricacy of texts as well as on studying the construction of the clauses complex. Descriptive technique is used to seek lexical density (content words) and grammatical intricacy (complexity) of the Indonesian Translation of Surah Al-Mulk. There are 30 verses of Surah Al-Mulk as document for analysis. Analyzing the lexical density is by using the Ure's theory and grammatical intricacy by using Halliday's theory. After the verification of the data is done, the data for Lexical Density and Grammatical Intricacy are concluded into the tables. Measuring Lexical Density (Ure, 1971 in (Johansson, 2008)):

$$L. \text{ Density} = \frac{\text{Number of Lexical Item}}{\text{The Total Words}} \times 100\%$$

Measuring Grammatical Intricacy (Halliday, 1989):

$$G. \text{ Intricacy} = \frac{\text{Number of Ranking Clauses}}{\text{Total Number of Clause Complex}}$$

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The term lexical density refers to proportion of lexical items (verb, noun, adjective, and adverb) to the total amount of running

words in a text. On the other hand, grammatical intricacy deals with the total amount of ranking clause in clause complex. Based on the analysis of data, it is found that Surah Al-Mulk has 385 lexical items among 615 words and has 30 clause complexes that consist of 121 ranking clauses.

$$L. \text{ Density} = \frac{\text{Number of Lexical Item}}{\text{The Total Words}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{385}{615} \times 100\% = 63\%$$

The results of lexical density are classified into several categories based on the classification proposed by the experts (Ure, 1971 in (Johansson, 2008)). The classifications are:

Table 1. Lexical Density Level

Range of Lexical Density	Categories
>70%	Very dense
61-70%	Dense
51-60%	Less dense
41-50%	Not dense

Based on the results above, the number of lexical density found in Indonesian Translation of Surah Al-Mulk

is 63%. In accordance with Ure's statement, a text is considered dense if the lexical density is greater than 60%. According to the findings of the analysis, the Indonesian Translation of Surah Al-Mulk has a lexical density that is greater than 63 percent. It suggests that the lexical density in the Surah Al-Mulk is higher. Additionally, it demonstrates that the amount of information provided by Surah Al-Mulk is represented by the lexical density itself. The basic theme of this Surah to encourage people to consider the wonders of the universe in order to demonstrate Allah's existence and His perfect knowledge and power. As a result, the primary theme is Allah's Greatness and Glorification. However, some additional facts, such as the reward for believers and the punishment for unbelievers, are also mentioned as subsidiary subjects. Additionally, it serves as a warning, which includes both forms of punishment: the punishments that people who reject a Messenger of Allah receive both in this world and in the afterlife. Meanwhile, Surah Al-Mulk has a grammatical intricacy of 4.03 when comparing the total number of clauses to the total number of

sentences. The score is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{G.Intricacy} &= \frac{\text{Number of Ranking Clauses}}{\text{Total Number of Clause Complex}} \\ &= \frac{121}{30} \\ &= 4.03 \end{aligned}$$

The number of Grammatical Intricacy of Surah Al-Mulk is 4.03. Regarding Eggin's assertion that written language has a high level of grammatical intricacy, the analysis revealed that texts typically have a high level of grammatical complexity due to the large number of clauses in sentences. The analysis reveals that the language used is more complex the more grammatical intricacy of a text. In addition, traditional grammarians have a propensity to believe that language is not only a fundamental component of spoken language but also that literature's written language is "purer" and more "true" than any other language; and that it is his responsibility as a linguistic system to prevent language continuity from being damaged.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the lexical density and grammatical intricacy of Surah Al-Mulk, the researchers conclude that Lexical Density found surpasses 63%. It indicates that Surah Al-Mulk accounts for higher lexical density. Additionally, it demonstrates that lexical density itself is a representation of the amount of information provided by Surah Al-Mulk in order to encourage people to consider the wonders of the universe and demonstrate Allah's existence as well as His perfect knowledge and power. Surah Al-Mulk has a grammatical complexity of 4.03. It is because there are a lot of clauses in the sentences. The analysis reveals that the language used in Surah Al-Mulk is the more Grammatical Intricacy of that Surah, the language that used is more complex.

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