CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1.   BACKGROUND OF RESEARCH

There is a term called Systemic Functional Grammar, as conceptualized by linguists like Halliday and Mathiessen (2004), which delves into how grammar is used to analyze social relation phenomena. At the center of it, it explains that language is not only just a tool for communication but also can be used whether as a means through which individuals express their life experiences and communicate their social realities through words or as a means to convey the interpersonal aspect of individuals.

Different from the traditional grammar that utilizes words into categories like nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, etc. Systemic Functional grammar practically classifies the more functional labels that can differ to different functions too, for example, ideational function, interpersonal function, and textual function, all of which have different functions too (Halliday & Matthiessen: 2004).

According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004:29), the ideational function of language enables the author to convey their lived experiences through the lexical and grammatical selections they make, which are important parts of the transitivity system. Similarly, Gerot and Wignell (1994:5) emphasize that transitivity embodies meaning through systematic linguistic choices and language usage. This suggests that users of both written and spoken language have the autonomy to select linguistic structures that best articulate their ideas, enabling them to construct and convey their thoughts uniquely. Therefore, among the metafunctions of language, the ideational metafunction is prioritized for analyzing the linguistic choices made by language users.

It is important to note that Hauser's work contains both spoken and written texts, with the spoken language often conveyed through other people's voices, such as interviewees or witnesses, which show unique features that differ significantly from the written language. These differences affect how meaning is constructed and conveyed, making the analysis of nominalization within the written texts especially important to understand how Hauser crafts his narrative to express Muhammad Ali's experiences and ideologies.

In the context of Thomas Hauser's biography "Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times," Hauser utilize nominalization to articulate the worldview of Muhammad Ali. Through his grammatical choices, Hauser not only narrates Ali's life story but also provides a unique interpretation of his experiences, beliefs, worldviews, and instance, Hauser's use of nominalization enables him to mplex events and characteristics of Ali's life into concise hlighting the significance and impact of Ali's actions and ideologies. pect of the ideational function is nominalization, where processes, tions are turned into nouns or noun phrases. Nominalization allows tion of complex processes into single entities, facilitating abstract

thinking and contributing to the creation and expression of worldviews. By transforming actions and events into nouns, speakers and writers can emphasize certain aspects of their experiences and ideologies, creating a specific portrayal of reality.

In terms of lexical density, the narrative style in Hauser's biography *Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times* exemplifies how high lexical density, through careful selection of content words, encapsulates complex events and ideologies. In Hauser's work, the content words are strategically chosen to condense and convey intricate aspects of Muhammad Ali's life and philosophy. This choice results in a text with a high lexical density, making it rich in meaning while emphasizing key aspects of Ali's worldview. The use of nominalization allows Hauser to express abstract ideas and emphasize the ideological significance of Ali's experiences, making his actions and beliefs more tangible and impactful to the reader.

As a result of this understanding, most writers or authors convey their worldview by carefully selecting their lexical and grammatical choices, which is the notion of the ideational function of a language. Thomas Hauser also conveys the world view of his interviewee, Muhammad Ali, in his book Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times wanted to show the world who Muhammad Ali really is and what he stands for during his entire life. He also wanted to make people realize he was more than what was shown on television.

Thomas also said that he believes that the story Muhammad Ali told is completely true and honest. Thus, the ideology and worldview of Muhammad Ali portrayed in this book are worth to be analyzed using one of the theories of Systemic Functional Grammar, ideational function, by Michael Halliday. As Matthiessen and Halliday (2004) explain, grammar is one of the branches of a language, more specifically, it is the system of wordings of a language, which aligns with the prior explanations that suggest that the way we use grammar can significantly influence how we interpret and understand experiences. In the case of Hauser's biography of Muhammad Ali, the author's grammatical choices not only narrate Ali's life story but also provide a unique interpretation of his experiences, beliefs, worldviews and ideologies.

One of the main reasons for writing this undergraduate thesis is the lack of existing studies that analyze Thomas Hauser's biography *Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times* through the approach of Systemic Functional Grammar, particularly focusing on the concept of nominalization. Despite the massive influence of Muhammad Ali as a cultural icon and the rich linguistic structure of Hauser's narrative, no research has yet explored how nominalization is employed to ideologies, experiences, and worldview. In addition to this, there le gap in the literature regarding the analysis of lexical density and nplexity within biographical texts, particularly within the context of While these features have been commonly examined in academic, olitical texts, their application in the study of biographical writing plored. One important aspect to note is that lexical density is often inalization, where verbs or adjectives are transformed into nouns.

This process increases the amount of information conveyed per clause, making the text more compact and abstract, and is especially significant in texts that aim to convey complex one's views or layered meanings. These gap in the literature provides an opportunity to contribute to linguistic studies by showcasing how nominalization, as part of the ideational metafunction, is utilized to convey complex meanings and articulate abstract ideas within a biographical context. The researcher aims to show how Hauser's use of language reflects his ideas, using grammar to highlight the complex identity and importance of Muhammad Ali.

1.2.   IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEM

There are several problems that identified after reading the book Muhammad Ali: His Time by Thomas Hauser, which are:

1.2.1.   The extent to which the written text in Hauser's biography contains high grammatical complexity and lexical density.

1.2.2.   The use of nominalization in each written text to convey Muhammad Ali's lived experiences, ideologies, and worldview through the ideational metafunction.

1.2.3.   Hauser's work contains both spoken and written texts, with spoken language showing unique features that differ from written language.

1.2.4.   The identification and analysis of transitivity processes like material process, mental process, and relational process in the written text to better understand how Muhammad Ali's experiences and ideologies are represented.

1.3.   SCOPE OF PROBLEM

There are three problems highlighted in the problem identification; however, the scope of the research is narrowed down to two of the problems. They are The extent to which the written text in Hauser's biography exhibits high grammatical complexity and lexical density and the use of nominalization in the written text to convey Muhammad Ali's lived experiences, ideologies, and worldview through the ideational metafunction. By concentrating on these two aspects, the research aims to provide a structured and detailed analysis of the grammatical and lexical features present in the biography, as well as how nominalization functions to communicate Ali's personal experiences and ideological perspectives. This focused approach is expected to offer deeper insights into the narrative techniques that shape readers' understanding of Muhammad Ali's life and beliefs.

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 down the problem that was initially identified in the problem
he scope of the problem, the researcher intends to answer these

 extent does the written text in Hauser's biography exhibit high
tical complexity and lexical density?

1.1.2.   How do these nominalizations function within the ideational metafunction to convey Ali's lived experiences and ideological perspectives?

1.5.   OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

To answer those questions that is provided in the research question, the researcher aims to follow these objectives:

1.5.1.   To analyze the extent to which the written text in Hauser's biography exhibits high grammatical complexity and lexical density.

1.5.2.   To reveal the function of nominalizations function within the ideational metafunction to convey Ali's lived experiences and ideological perspectives as a part of the ideational metaphor.

1.6.   SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

The study offers valuable insights into the representation of cultural icons like Muhammad Ali and the societal contexts in which their stories were unfolded which it can be classified into two different benefits, which is:

1.6.1.   Theoretical Benefit

Theoretically, the study contributes to the broader field of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) by providing a concrete application of the ideational metafunction in a biographical text. It enriches the academic discourse on how linguistic choices reflect and construct cultural ideologies, adding depth to our understanding of representation and identity in biographies. By focusing on the role of nominalization in conveying worldview, this research highlights the importance of grammatical structures in shaping our interpretation of texts, thus advancing discussions on the intersection of language, culture, and ideology. Additionally, the study underscores the relevance of SFG, reinforcing its utility as a tool for linguistic and cultural analysis.

1.6.2.   Practical Benefit

This study offers practical insights for authors, writers, and biographers by demonstrating how specific linguistic choices, like nominalizations, can effectively convey complex ideologies and perspectives. By examining how Thomas Hauser uses nominalization to convey Muhammad Ali's worldview and experiences, writers can learn to strategically use similar grammatical techniques to enhance the narrative and ideological depth of their own works. In addition, understanding and analyzing the grammatical complexity and lexical density of a written text can help authors assess how much information is conveyed in each sentence and how sentence structures influence the tone, clarity, and depth of their narratives. This

an help authors create more nuanced and impactful stories that
aders on a deeper level, offering a clearer portrayal of the subjects'
xperiences.

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that the researcher will be use are those that are taken similar
ansitivity system to analyze ideology. By doing so, the researcher

hopes that the differences will be unveiled and perhaps will be helping in discovering something new that can help enriched this field of linguistic research. Those studies are Political Speech Texts Of The Indonesian Presidents In The Reformation Era by Megah. S (2022), Ideology In Newspaper Reporting: A Cross-Cultural: Analysis Of Transitivity Choices by Liao. N. (2012), Ideological Points Of View And Transitivity Selections In A Nigerian Primary Election Memoir by Tella. A (2021), and Irwan Prayitno and the Mass Media: A Transitivity Analysis of News Reporting in Padang Ekspres by Triana, H. W. (2020), A contrastive study of nominalization in the systemic functional framework by Južnič, T.M (2012).

The first study, Political Speech Texts Of The Indonesian Presidents In The Reformation Era, explores the ideological stances in the political speeches of Indonesian Presidents Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (SBY) and Joko Widodo (Jokowi) during the reformation era, using van Leeuwen's socio-semiotic framework, Halliday and Matthiessen's Transitivity analysis, and Martin and White's appraisal theory. By analyzing ten speeches from official government websites, both presidents frequently represent the government as the most important is the finding of this study. Jokowi stresses the important of infrastructure while SBY portrays his administration efficiency to attain Indonesian support. The study highlights the centrality of government in their rhetoric and suggests future research compare Indonesian and Malaysian leaders' speeches to explore ideological similarities and differences.

The second study, Ideology In Newspaper Reporting: A Cross-Cultural: Analysis Of Transitivity Choices, analyzes newspaper reports from Australia, the United States, and Japan to explore how grammatical choices reveal different national perspectives. Using systemic functional linguistics and transitivity analysis, the study identifies how ideational meanings are shaped by language. Despite the assumption of neutrality in news reporting, the findings indicate that writers' interpretations influence public opinion. The study reveals that Australian reports often portray Japanese actors negatively to support an anti-whaling stance, while US reports emphasize anti-whaling groups, reflecting a similar stance. Conversely, Japanese reports highlight the government's pro-whaling position. These grammatical choices subtly convey the writers' perspectives and can shape readers' opinions if they rely on a single news source.

The third study, Ideological Points Of View And Transitivity Selections In A Nigerian Primary Election Memoir, examines the ideological perspectives of political actors in Nigerian primary elections through discourse analysis of the memoir "Love Does Not Win Elections." This study analyzes the narratives of political actors to ...gical viewpoints by using 127 samples and theoretical frameworks ...ocio-cognitive model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Stuart's ...f view, and aspects of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), the ...various ideological perspectives, including conflictual, patronage, ..., patriarchal, religious, and welfarist views. The viewpoints are ...stically through material, mental, relational, and verbal clauses.

The study result of this study finds and suggests a need for re-orienting political actors in Nigerian primary elections to foster a truly democratic culture.

The fourth study, Irwan Prayitno and the Mass Media: A Transitivity Analysis of News Reporting in Padang Ekspres, analyzes the transitivity patterns in media coverage of Irwan Prayitno in Padang Ekspres, employing a qualitative approach. Data were gathered through documentation and analyzed using Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics transitivity features. The findings indicate four types of processes in the reportage: material processes, behavioral processes, verbal processes, and mental processes. The prevalence of material processes suggests an effort to portray Irwan Prayitno as a political leader focused on tangible actions and achievements. This pattern highlights the mutualistic relationship between mass media and politics in electoral contexts and mass mobilization efforts.

The fifth study, A contrastive study of nominalization in the systemic functional framework, discusses a contrastive study of nominalization in Italian and Slovene within the systemic functional framework. It explores how processes are metaphorically represented by nouns in these languages and the challenges this poses for translation. The study analyzes a corpus of 20 source texts in Italian and their Slovene translations, divided into literary and non-literary sections. The paper highlights the influence of process types on translation equivalents and discusses instances where there is no loss or a loss in meaning in translated texts. Additionally, it emphasizes the impact of nominalization frequency on language interaction and translation quality.

The reviewed studies collectively highlighted the importance of transitivity analysis in uncovering the ideology of various media or person. In examining political speeches by Indonesian Presidents SBY and Jokowi, the research highlights their linguistic strategies to emphasize governmental efficiency and infrastructure development, respectively, to garner public support. Cross-cultural analysis of newspaper reports from Australia, the US, and Japan reveals how grammatical choices reflect national stances on whaling, shaping public opinion subtly. The analysis of a Nigerian election memoir uncovers diverse ideological perspectives, including conflictual and ethnic viewpoints, and emphasizes the need for re-orienting political actors towards a genuine democratic culture. Finally, the study of media coverage of Irwan Prayitno demonstrates how material processes dominate reportage to portray him as a leader focused on tangible achievements, highlighting the mutualistic relationship between media and politics. These findings suggest that language choices deeply influence ideological perspectives, and public

nining potential differences, the researcher hopes to uncover fresh in enrich our understanding of language and ideology. This lerscores the ongoing evolution of linguistic scholarship and its able contributions in the future.

1.8. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

1.8.1 Systemic Functional Grammar

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), developed by Michael Halliday, is a linguistic theory that emphasizes the functional aspects of language. Unlike traditional grammar, which focuses on the structural aspects of language such as syntax and morphology, SFG views language as a social semiotic system. It explains how language is used to convey meaning in various social contexts. SFG is particularly concerned with how language functions to represent the world (ideational function), to enact social relations (interpersonal function), and to create coherent texts (textual function) (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

The interpersonal function focuses on how language establishes and negotiates social relationships, expressing attitudes, emotions, and levels of engagement. In Hauser's portrayal of Muhammad Ali, this function plays a key role in constructing the connection between Ali, the narrative, and the reader. By using evocative and persuasive language, Hauser captures Ali's vibrant personality, his charm, and his ability to inspire. Modal expressions, rhetorical questions, and direct quotations help convey Ali's boldness and self-confidence, bringing his voice and ideologies to life. This function not only draws readers into Ali's world but also shapes how they perceive his character as a fighter, philosopher, and cultural icon.

The textual function of language pertains to how information is organized and presented within a text to achieve coherence and flow. This function ensures that ideas are logically connected, enabling readers to follow the narrative seamlessly. In Hauser's biography, the textual function is evident in the way the author weaves together interviews, historical accounts, and personal anecdotes about Muhammad Ali. Through thematic structuring, cohesive devices like conjunctions, and careful sentence arrangement, the text maintains a smooth and engaging progression. These choices help to guide the reader's understanding of Ali's life story while reinforcing the narrative's central themes, such as his resilience, activism, and unmatched charisma.

At the core of Hauser's biography lies the ideational function, which is concerned with how language represents reality and constructs meaning about the world. This function allows the text to depict Muhammad Ali's experiences, actions, and beliefs in a way that captures both the complexity of his life and the ideologies he holds. Hauser's use of nominalization is _____ rly significant in this regard. By transforming dynamic actions and _____ es into static concepts, the text elevates and abstracts key _____ s of Ali's worldview, such as "resistance," "victory," and "sacrifice." _____ nique not only highlights the magnitude of Ali's achievements but _____ es his ideological struggles against racism, war, and inequality as _____ l and timeless. The ideational function thus serves as the

foundation of the narrative, allowing Hauser to construct a vivid and layered portrait of Muhammad Ali's life and legacy.

Moreover, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) explain that grammar is one of the subsystems of a language, more specifically, it is the system of wordings of a language. This perspective emphasizes that the way we use grammar can significantly influence how we interpret and understand experiences. Therefore, systemic functional grammar, as Halliday and Matthiessen call it, provides a powerful tool for analyzing and understanding the linguistic choices made by language users. This approach to grammar has been widely used in the study of various languages, including Chinese, English, and Japanese.

Furthermore, Martin and Rose (2003) elaborate on SFG by emphasizing its applicability in educational contexts, particularly in literacy and discourse analysis. They highlight how SFG can be used to deconstruct texts, allowing students to understand how language constructs meaning and to develop critical literacy skills. This educational dimension underscores the practicality of SFG beyond purely theoretical applications (Martin & Rose, 2003).

1.8.2 Ideational Function

There are three metafunctions of a language, which is ideational function, interpersonal function, and textual function. One of them is the ideational function of language, as described by Halliday, is concerned with the expression of content and the representation of reality. This function allows speakers and writers to convey their experiences and construct meaning. Through the transitivity system, language users can select specific processes, participants, and circumstances to depict events and actions in a way that reflects their viewpoint and ideology. The ideational function is crucial for analyzing how authors convey their worldview and the experiences of their subjects (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

Additionally, Eggins (2004) supports the notion that the ideational function serves as a vital tool in discourse analysis by providing insights into how different texts construct reality. By examining how language encodes experience, researchers can uncover the ideological underpinnings of texts and the ways in which language reflects social and cultural contexts. This reinforces the significance of the ideational function in understanding not just the content of communication, but also its broader societal implications (Eggins, 2004).

The ideational function is especially important when analyzing ies and other narratives, as authors often use language to present jects in a particular way. By making careful linguistic choices, such nominalization and process types, writers narrates how readers events and ideas. These is intentionally done by allowing authors asize certain aspects of a subject's life.

This metafunction is closely linked to cultural and societal contexts. Language reflects the social, historical, and ideological background of both the writer and the subject. In biographies, for example, the use of transitivity shows how events are portrayed whether as active accomplishments, passive experiences, or states of being. This framing is key in presenting the subject's actions, motivations, and identity within their social context.

1.8.3 Transitivity System

Central to the ideational function in SFG is the transitivity system, which refers to the grammatical choices a speaker or writer makes to represent actions, events, and states of being. Transitivity analysis examines how different types of processes (material, mental, relational, behavioral, verbal, and existential) are constructed through language. This system includes the participants involved in these processes and the circumstances around them. The choices made within the transitivity system can reveal underlying ideologies and perspectives (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

Thompson. G (2003), explains that while transitivity is traditionally known for differentiating verbs based on whether they have an object, it is used here in a much broader context. Specifically, transitivity describes the entire clause rather than just the verb and its object. Despite this broader application, it retains a focus on the verbal group. The type of process involved determines the labels for the participants: for instance, the participant in a physical action like kicking is labeled differently from the participant in a mental action like wishing. Notably, even informally, the term "doer" seems less fitting for mental processes.

1.8.4 Metaphorical Expressions and Congruent Expresions

Metaphorical Expressions and Congruent Expression describes the occurence where an idea is conveyed indirectly or through a non-congruent form, often by changing its grammatical category. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) emphasize this as a core mechanism in Systemic Functional Grammar for generating abstract and technical meanings. For instance, the congruent form "People argue about climate change" can be expressed metaphorically as "The debate on climate change continues." In this case, the process (argue) is nominalized into a noun (debate), compacting and formalizing the clause.

Halliday and Mathiessen (2004) note that metaphorical expressions are widespread in academic and scientific discourse, where they enhance abstraction and precision. Exploring metaphorical and ...nt expressions enable researchers to explore how language ...power dynamics, ideological positions, and the prioritization of ...erspectives over others.

One of the central benefits of metaphorical expressions is their ...pack multiple layers of meaning into a single linguistic unit. By ...zing processes or qualities, metaphorical language fosters the

creation of compact structures that are ideal for technical and formal contexts. For example, instead of the congruent form "Scientists are measuring atmospheric levels of CO2," the metaphorical expression "Atmospheric CO2 measurements are ongoing" emphasizes the activity as an objectified phenomenon. This abstraction aligns with the communicative needs of academic discourse, where clarity and conciseness are prioritized.

1.8.5   Ideational Metaphor

Ideational metaphor are one of the concepts in Systemic Functional Grammar, referring to the use of grammatical metaphor to repackage meanings, particularly within the ideational metafunction of language. The ideational metafunction represents how language is used to encode experiences of the external world, including actions, processes, entities, and relationships. Halliday and Mathiessen (2004) emphasize that ideational metaphors enable language users to reframe processes, qualities, or relationships by altering their grammatical realization like nominalizing verbs or adjectives into nouns. This transformation often increases abstraction, conciseness, and formalization.

One common type of ideational metaphor involves nominalization, where a verb or an adjective is changed into a noun. For instance, the congruent form "People argue about climate change" can be restructured into the metaphorical form "The debate on climate change continues." Here, the process "argue" is nominalized as "debate," changing the grammatical structure from a clause to a noun phrase. Such transformations are widespread in academic and technical discourses, where they allow complex processes to be treated as discrete entities. This enables language to condense information and focus on abstract relationships rather than concrete actions.

Another type of ideational metaphor involves the recasting of participants and circumstances. For example, in the congruent form "Farmers irrigate their fields using canals," the agents (farmers) and the processes (irrigate) are explicitly presented. In the metaphorical form, "Field irrigation through canals is widespread," the focus shifts to the phenomenon of irrigation itself, omitting the agents (farmers) entirely. This reframing allows for a more impersonal and formal tone, which is often preferred in technical writing and bureaucratic communication.

While ideational metaphors are powerful tools for abstraction and ation, they also have significant implications for meaning and ation. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) emphasizes that these ors can obscure agency and responsibility by transforming dynamic es into static phenomena. For instance, the metaphorical form ce depletion is accelerating" removes any explicit reference to the sponsible for the depletion, potentially influencing how the issue is

perceived and addressed. This feature of ideational metaphor makes it a key area of focus in critical discourse analysis, where researchers examine how such choices encode power, ideology, and social priorities.

By reshaping how ideas are presented, ideational metaphors expand the expressive potential of language, enabling it to meet the demands of specialized and formal contexts. However, they also highlight the interplay between linguistic form and meaning, raising important questions about how language influences understanding and the communication of knowledge.

1.8.6   Nominalization

Nominalization is an important concept in Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). It refers to turning verbs and adjectives into nouns. This process helps create more abstract and condensed expressions, which are often useful in academic and scientific writing. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), nominalization has several key functions, such as forming technical terms, organizing complex ideas, and presenting information in a way that highlights certain elements over others.

Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) explain that nominalization is essential for creating specialized language, especially in writing. It allows writers to present information densely and organize ideas more clearly. For example, in academic writing, instead of saying "people are developing sustainable technologies," one might write "the development of sustainable technologies." This condensed form packs a lot of meaning into fewer words, making it easier to explore the topic in detail without repeating actions.

Nominalization also helps shift the focus from actions to ideas or concepts. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) show how this transformation makes language more abstract. For example, "policymakers are implementing emission-reduction strategies" can become "the implementation of emission-reduction strategies." This change puts the emphasis on the process itself while backgrounding the people responsible for it.

1.8.7   Lexical Density

Lexical density is an idea within Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) that calculates the amount of content words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs) to the total amount of words within a text. It serves as an indicator

dense a text is in terms of how much information is conveyed. g to Martin (1989), Lexical density refers to the ratio of lexical) words to the total number of clauses in a text. To calculate lexical function words such as pronouns, auxiliary verbs, prepositions, and ions are excluded, as they are considered part of the grammar an contributing to the core meaning. By dividing the number of ems by the number of clauses, one can obtain a measure of lexical

density. Texts with higher lexical density contain more content words per clause, indicating a more information-dense, written style, compared to texts with lower lexical density, which are more diffuse and typical of spoken language. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), higher lexical density tends to be characteristic of written language, particularly academic, technical, or formal genres, while spoken language tends to use lower lexical density due to its interactive and dynamic nature. According to Martin (1989) The complexity of speaking lies in its grammar. Speakers often produce very long sentences, especially when moving away from the quick exchanges typical of text conversations. While writing or in text contexts tends to be more structured with complete sentences and a clearer organization of ideas, allowing for greater precision and clarity. Lexical density is closely tied to the purpose and context of communication. In academic and professional settings, high lexical density enables the efficient presentation of complex ideas, whereas lower lexical density in conversational language supports accessibility of communication.

One of the key contributors to high lexical density in written texts is the frequent use of nominalization and ideational metaphor. These linguistic features allow writers to condense meaning into fewer words, transforming processes or qualities into abstract nouns or compact expressions. For example, the spoken phrase "People are arguing about climate change" may be written as "The debate on climate change continues." The latter example, while denser, conveys the same idea in a more formal and abstract manner, making it suitable for academic or technical contexts. Such transformations play a critical role in enhancing the efficiency and precision of written communication.

The lower lexical density of spoken language reflects its interactive and co-constructed nature. Spoken communication often includes pauses, fillers, and incomplete clauses, making it less compact but more dynamic and responsive to the immediate context. For instance, in a conversation, one might say, "Well, I think it's kind of hard to know what to do about the situation," which uses fewer content words and relies more on interpersonal signals and redundancy to convey meaning. This flexibility supports real-time interaction and helps maintain mutual understanding between speakers, emphasizing the role of context and shared knowledge over linguistic compactness.

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CHAPTER II
METHODOLOGY

2.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

This research utilized a qualitative-quantitative research approach focusing in finding out the nominalization and the density of a content words in the biography book and the ideational functions of the language. The goal was to analyze and understand how Thomas Hauser's lexical and grammatical choices in Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times conveyed Muhammad Ali's worldview and ideology.

2.2. SOURCE OF DATA

The main source of data for this research was the written language taken from the biography Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times by Thomas Hauser (1991), who dedicated this work to presenting Muhammad Ali's worldview. Through Hauser's narrative, readers gain insights into Ali's beliefs, ideologies, and life experiences, providing rich material for analysis in the field of systemic functional grammar.

2.3. DATA COLLECTION

The data collection for this study followed a systematic series of steps. First, the biography Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times by Thomas Hauser was thoroughly read to develop a comprehensive understanding of its content. Attention was then directed toward identifying sections of the book that addressed nominalization as well as Muhammad Ali's worldview and ideologies. A detailed reading of the selected chapters or passages was undertaken, with notes taken on significant events, actions, and beliefs associated with Muhammad Ali. To facilitate a more organized analysis, the text was divided into manageable segments such as paragraphs or thematic sections. Particular focus was placed on portions that elaborated on Ali's experiences, beliefs, and ideological perspectives. From these highlighted sections, instances of nominalization were identified by locating verbs and adjectives that had been transformed into nouns. Each instance was recorded along with its surrounding context to better understand its role and function within the text.

2.4. DATA ANALYSIS

The data analysis for this study was carried out through a structured and purposeful process. Initially, purposive sampling was used to select data from various segments of the text specifically from the early, middle, and late sections of the book focusing on passages that reflected Muhammad Ali's worldview and were suitable for grammatical analysis. Grammatical complexity was then measured by identifying the number and types of clauses, noting whether the ... e simple, compound, complex, or compound-complex in structure. ... was calculated by counting the number of lexical items such as ... adjectives, and adverbs in each clause to determine how much ... s conveyed in each sentence. The analysis also involved identifying ... s by examining sentences to find instances where verbs or ... been transformed into nouns. These sentences were then rewritten ... ent, non-nominalized forms to demonstrate how the same ideas

could be expressed using more direct verbal structures. The data were systematically tabulated by organizing each nominalized sentence alongside its congruent version, the nominalized words, their original word classes, the nominalized forms, and the types of grammatical shifts involved. Furthermore, ideational metaphors within each nominalization were analyzed to uncover how they conveyed Muhammad Ali's worldview and reflected recurring themes such as faith, discipline, identity, and resistance. Finally, conclusions were drawn by synthesizing the findings related to grammatical complexity, lexical density, and nominalization to explain how language was strategically employed in the text.