



**International Journal of Education, Social Studies,  
And Management (IJESSM)**

e-ISSN : 2775-4154

**Volume 3, Issue 1, February 2023**

The International Journal of Education, Social Studies, and Management (IJESSM) is published 3 times a year (**February, Juny, November**).

**Focus** : Education, Social, Economy, Management, And Culture.

**LINK** : <http://lppipublishing.com/index.php/ijessm>

**Potential Topics as Discourse Shapers Argumentation The Forum  
Holds a Talk With the Theme of the Covid-19 Pandemic:  
Pragma-dialectical Studies**

**Kamariah<sup>1</sup>, Kisyani Laksono<sup>2</sup>, Agusniar Dian Savitri<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Indonesia

<sup>2</sup> Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup> Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Indonesia

**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of writing this article is to find potential topics with dialectical objectives and potential topics with rhetorical objectives as argumentation makers at each stage of critical discussion at the COVID-19-themed talk forum. The method used is descriptive qualitative with data analysis techniques emphasizing pragma-dialectical studies focusing on argumentative discourse. Data analysis techniques emphasize pragma-dialectical studies focusing on argumentative discourse. The results showed that potential topics with dialectical and rhetorical functions were found at each stage of the argumentation. Each function found has a different role as an argumentative. Potential topics with an analytic function in the confrontation stage are used to explain the issues discussed. The opening stage ensures that disputes exist and are unambiguous. At the argumentation stage, it is used to test the acceptance of a descriptive, evaluative, or prescriptive point of view. The closing stage ensures that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence. At the same time, the potential topics with a rhetorical function in the confrontation stage are used to ensure that the issues in the discussion degree are helpful. In the opening stage, it is used to select arguments that do not involve the burden of proof. At the argumentation stage, it is used to apply persuasion tools that will make someone win the argument. The closing stage is used to ensure the argument ends.

*Covid-19, Topic Potential, Argumentative Discourse, Speech Title, Pragma-Dialectical*

**ARTICLE INFO**

*Article history:*

Received

10 January 2023

Revised

20 January 2023


Accepted

04 February 2023

**Keywords**

**Doi**

**Corresponding**

**Author** 

[10.52121/ijessm.v3i1.131](https://doi.org/10.52121/ijessm.v3i1.131)

[kisyani@unesa.ac.id](mailto:kisyani@unesa.ac.id)

**INTRODUCTION**

Discourse is characterized by emergent, recently introduced information that speakers use to evaluate previous information and old knowledge that speakers rely on for meaning interpretation (Lee, 2021). Discourse Arguments

in a critical discussion can emerge from potential topics of conversation (van Eemeren, 2016). The topic potential comes from two nouns, potential, and topic. Potential is defined as an ability that can or can be developed; an ability; and power. While the topic comes from the Greek *topoi*, which means "place." In general, the topic is also referred to as the subject of discussion (Mulyana, 2005, p.39). A topic is a subject that can be used as material for discussion and is usually an exciting thing that gets the attention of many people. In discourse, the topic becomes a measure in determining speech clarity. The topic is a subject that can be used as material for discussion and is usually an exciting thing that gets the attention of many people. In discourse, the topic becomes a measure in determining the clarity of discourse. The topic is an element used to become the focus of conversation in a word or phrase (Setiaji, 2019, p.232). Rigotti (2007) states that traditionally topics show a systematic method for finding arguments. The topic is a component of argumentation theory which ideally contains arguments for or against each point of view generated by determining the inference structure through a locus system. Based on this understanding, it can be concluded that topic potential is the ability of a subject, idea, or idea to provoke arguments from debate participants in discussion forums.

The talk show usually presents a variety of exciting themes or topics so that people are interested in watching it. The varied topics discussed social issues, law, and other matters related to the life of society and the state (Syarifah, 2021). One of the exciting topics currently being reported by various media, ranging from print and electronic media, whether in oral or written form, is the topic of Covid-19 or Corona Virus (Sandeep et al., 2022). Covid-19 not only threatens human life but also significantly affects the social fabric of society (Dezhkameh et al., 2021) and even government policies around the world (Sayginer & Kurtsan, 2022). The case became a topic of discussion in various circles, and even the public began to question the government's steps to overcome it. In addition, the public has also begun to disobey the established lockdown regulations and make many reports in various media (Cantarutti & Rosina, 2022). Various assumptions also emerged and gave rise to confusing and disturbing news for the public. In response to this, much journalistic media have brought discussions about Covid-19 into speeches and have consistently presented this topic since the beginning of the virus's entry into Indonesia, from 2020 until now.

Potential topics are usually not always clearly defined. The repertoire determined at the beginning allows the debate participants to make arguments according to the potential of the existing topic (Pilgram & Henkemans, 2018). In the reconstructed part of the discourse, as in the argumentation stage, there are

usually many possible arguments that the speaker can choose to defend his point of view, i.e., selecting the boundary of the defense most suitable for him (Svačinová, 2020). The argument for defending a point of view gives rise to public debate. According to Dalmaijer Dalmaijer (2019), the public debate is a confrontation of different opinions accessible to many people. About issues related to issues that affect many people. According to Grice's view (Bihari, 2012, p.123) four principles are expected to be possessed by debate participants so that the speaker seems wise in the eyes of his discussion partners in speaking, namely, clarity, sincerity, efficiency, and relevance. Based on the Pragma-dialectical theory, in each particular case, the arguer can choose from various subtypes and variants of the argumentation, such as causal argumentation, "symptomatic" argumentation, and "comparative" argumentation, which according to him, is suitable (van Eemeren & Houtlosser (2002).

Potential topics in Pragma-dialectics have a role at every stage of critical discussion (van Eemeren, 2008). The topic potential is an interaction of dialectical and rhetorical elements. This interaction is most evident in rhetoric, as Aristotle (van Eemeren, 2010) points out that there is a topical relationship, such as a causal relationship or a close relationship between points of view and arguments put forward explicitly while defending a point of view. The potential of the topic can influence the stages in the argumentative discourse. The stages in question are the confrontation stage, the opening stage, the argument stage, and the closing stage (van Eemeren et al. 2007).

The confrontation stage is the initial stage in critical discussion or the initial situation. In the confrontation stage, the dialectical goal is to clarify the discussed issues (van Eemeren, 2015a). The discussion is by the position between the arguing parties, namely the protagonist and the antagonist (van Eemeren & Grootendorst, 2006). Visser (2016) concludes that Pragma-dialectics involves all stages of critical discussion relevant to resolving differences of opinion, and the model can be used in informal error evaluation. Furthermore, the conventional validity model (the degree to which language users agree with the applied norms) has been tested empirically (van Eemeren et al., 2009). Integrating the interactional approach in discourse becomes a reference for argumentation theory with pragma-dialectical studies (van Eemeren, 2018). Rhetorical Purpose is to ensure that the issues benefit all parties. For debate participants who act as protagonists, this means that at every step they make in the confrontation stage, efforts will be made to make their opponents agree with the arguments put forward. However, for participants who become antagonists, it means that at every step in the confrontation stage, they will

raise critical doubts in the most appropriate way (van Eemeren & Houtlosser, 2002).

The opening stage, or the starting point, relates to the participant's commitment to the discussion rules (Betti & Ghadhab, 2020). In the opening stage, according to van Eemeren (2010) the dialectical goal is to ensure that the disputes exist and are clear and unambiguous. The starting point of the opening stage is the initial procedure on the initial points of the discussion material. While Rhetorical Purpose is to choose an argument that does not involve the burden of proof, the goal is to effectively exchange arguments in the discussion (van Eemeren, 2015b).

The argumentation stage (means and criticism of argumentation) is related to the development of critical discussion (Betti & Ghadhab (2020, p.32). In the argumentation stage, according to van Eemeren (2010), the purpose of the dialectical is to test the acceptance of viewpoints, descriptive, evaluative, or prescriptive, that have formed differences of opinion, starting from the starting point set in the opening stage. Participants who play the protagonist must argue first. The protagonist responds to critical doubts expressed by the antagonist until there are no further questions to discuss (Drid, 2016). Participants who play the antagonist role must express critical doubts about the point of view, and each part of the argument must be presented clearly and consistently (Alaghbary, 2020). In comparison, Rhetorical Purpose is to apply persuasive tools that will make someone win the argument. The protagonist tries to give the most potent possible attack in his argument. Sean, This is done until the protagonist cannot give any more arguments. Attacks are carried out by issuing many arguments, coordinating and subordinating, and using the argument scheme that is considered the most effective in the situation at hand (Zhmakina, 2019) .

The closing stage (the result of the exchange) is the end of a critical discussion which is the conclusion or final result of the discussion. In the closing stage, van Eemeren (2010) explains that the purpose of the dialectical is to ensure that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence. In the closing stage, the final result of the discussion is seen from the protagonist and antagonist's ability to defend their argument and position. Meanwhile, judging from Rhetorical Purposes, each party will come out to claim that its position is the most correct with the strategic maneuvers that have been designed (Wagemans, 2020). The protagonist will make the best of his argument by clarifying the point of view he is trying to defend. The antagonist will try to establish that this point of view is untenable because the protagonist feels that what the protagonist conveys fails to dispel all critical doubts. As in

all other stages of discussion, in this stage, both parties must ensure that Rhetorical Purposes pursued will be effective and amicable by adhering to the dialectical requirements of critical fairness inherent in the concluding stage. This stage aims to ensure that someone ultimately wins the argument. Based on this explanation, the purpose of writing this article is to find potential topics with dialectical purposes and potential topics with rhetorical purposes as argumentation makers at each stage of critical discussion in speech-level forums using Pragma-dialectic studies.

## **RESEARCH METHODE**

This research is a qualitative descriptive type that emphasizes the quality of a social phenomenon or phenomenon (Satori & Komariah, 2017). Qualitative research is a research method that produces descriptive data. In this method, the data obtained are analyzed inductively, from specific themes to general themes, focusing on individual meanings and explaining complex issues according to the research focus. According to Mahsun (2012, p.3) descriptive research comes from the actual facts spoken by the users. So the purpose of the qualitative descriptive method is to seek, understand, and find the meaning of a social phenomenon and phenomenon in the form of a series of words and sentences whose result is a theory. The data in this study were the oral speeches of the talk show guides and the speakers who attended the event. The argumentative discourse that became the research data source was taken from the speeches of Mata Najwa and Rosi, with a total sample of ten discussion topics. Topics used as research data sources with the theme of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This study's data collection technique used observation/observation, listening, notes, and documentation. This technique is usually used to explore research data from various events (Sutopo, 2002, p.28). According to Sutrisno & Wiendijarti (2014) observations must be made repeatedly to maintain reliability. In addition, note-taking techniques were also used to classify the data found (Muhammad, 2011). The data analysis technique in this study uses a pragma-dialectical analysis study with a critical discussion model (van Eemeren, 2010, 2012). Pragma-dialectical theory is one of the main approaches in argumentation studies (van Eemeren et al., 2013). This concept is an ideal model of a theory from critical discussion (Kamariah et al., 2021). Critical discussion in pragma-dialectical studies consists of four stages of argumentation, namely the confrontation stage, the opening stage, the argumentation stage, and the closing stage (Svačinová, 2017). Based on the standard pragma-dialectical theory, various kinds of "reconstructive transformation" can be carried out in the

reconstruction process. Reconstruction will produce an "analytic overview" that highlights that, and only that, element in the discourse that is concerned with a good balance of critical evaluation. The analysis was conducted to find potential topics in the speech degree.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The topic potential is the ability of a subject, idea, or idea to provoke the debate participants' arguments in a speech. The topic's potential is present as the basis for forming argumentative discourse. The following is an explanation of the findings of potential topics with rhetorical and dialectical objectives in four argumentation stages: the confrontation stage, the opening stage, the argumentation stage, and the closing stage.

### Potential Topics of Dialectical Purpose

Potential topics with rhetorical purposes found in each stage of the argument have different purposes. In the confrontation stage, the dialectical goal is to clarify the issues discussed in the opening stage to ensure that disputes exist and are unambiguous (Rigotti and Greco, 2006). The argumentation stage tests the acceptance of viewpoints, descriptive, evaluative, or prescriptive, that have formed differences of opinion, starting from the starting point set at the opening stage. While at the closing stage, ensure that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence (van Eemeren, 2010). The following is an analysis and discussion of the findings of potential topics with dialectical purposes.

Table 1.

Potential Topics of Dialectical Purpose			
Potential Topics of Dialectical Purpose			
Confrontation Stage	Opening Stage	Argument Stage	Closing Stage
Clarify the Issues discussed	Ensure that disputes exist and are unambiguous.	Test the acceptance of descriptive, evaluative, and prescriptive viewpoints	Making sure everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence

### Potential Topics of Dialectical Goals at the Confrontation Stage

The confrontation stage is the initial stage in critical discussion or the initial situation (van Eemeren, 2018). Based on the investigation of data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19, it found potential

topics with dialectical purposes that were used to clarify the issues being discussed. The following is a presentation of the findings and a discussion. The potential dialectical purpose of the topic at the confrontation stage is to clarify the issues under discussion. The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion.

**Rosi:** "Good evening, President Jokowi stressed that the Indonesian nation will immediately step into the recovery phase of the Covid-19 pandemic, because the Covid-19 vaccine will arrive in the country in early December. What kind of vaccine and from which country will arrive first. This is Rosi, Pursuing the Corona Vaccine Target."  
(R.KTVC)

Pursuing the Corona Vaccine Target is the topic of a talk show that airs on the Rosi program. Through this topic, Rosi invited her resource persons to discuss the arrival of the Covid-19 vaccine, which will arrive sometime. In her speech, Rosi said that the vaccination program is a government target that has been discoursed by President Jokowi. At the talk show, there will also be a joint discussion about the type of vaccine and the origin of the vaccine that will arrive first and be used soon. This dialogue about vaccines is an exciting thing to discuss together because vaccines are a big hope that the country of Indonesia can quickly recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, the use of the program's title, Pursuit of the Corona Vaccine Target, indicates that the administration of the vaccine must be carried out immediately according to the predetermined target.

Based on the analysis of the potential topics found at the confrontation stage, the dominant topic discussed is the spread of the coronavirus and the various problems accompanying the spread of the virus. The Coronavirus was initially thought to be like an ordinary virus. However, it turned out to have a significant impact on many people and even countries in the world. Coronavirus causes changes in lifestyle in society, and even Corona also affects the government system, one of which is efforts to handle Corona (Afdholy et al., 2022). In addition to the potential topics that discuss the spread of the Coronavirus with various accompanying issues, at the confrontation stage, it can be seen that the host carried out the same speech pattern at the beginning of the speech. The show's host will greet the audience with the greeting of the broadcast time, namely *Good Night*. After saying the opening greetings, the host will explain the topics to be discussed using an inductive pattern, namely by first explaining the issues that occur and then mentioning the name of the speech title he is hosting, then only mentioning the topic of the event being

discussed. The topics presented are issues that are happening and become problems in life. In addition, the topics are also a form of protest against the government's performance and aim to monitor this performance. Based on these issues, it is hoped that it will open up understanding to the public and serve as a warning to the government so that it can pay attention to its people through dialogue and sitting together to solve various problems that must be resolved immediately for the benefit of the nation and state.

### **Potential Topics of Dialectical Goals in the Opening Stage**

The opening stage, or the starting point, relates to the participant's commitment to the discussion rules (Eemeren & Grootendorst, 2004). The potential topics at the opening stage are the starting point for the initial procedure regarding the initial points of the discussion material (Zarefsky, 2020). This must be done for the exchange of arguments in the discussion to run effectively. Based on the investigation of data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19, potential topics were found in the form of dialectical to ensure that disputes exist and are unambiguous. The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion. The potential dialectical purpose of the topic at the opening stage is to ensure that disagreements exist and are unambiguous. The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion.

**Rosi:** "Corona Contributing Voice Should Be Imprisoned, some time ago apart from Jerinx, YouTube content was also filled with YouTube content about the discovery of Corona virus herbal medicine. In the aftermath of the upload, the YouTube account owner, musician Anji and his source Hadipranoto were reported to the police. They are suspected of spreading fake news. Again, Article 28 of the ITE Law becomes ammunition for the reporters. I returned with my speakers, Bung Septiaji Eko Nugroho, Chairman of Mafindo. Bung Arif Zulkifli Director of Tempo Group News and Ms. Uni Lubis Chief Editor of IDN Times. I gave Mbak Uni Lubis the first chance, I know for sure that Mbak Uni's principles should not be punished. Again using the ITE Law. But what is the explanation to the public that people, for example, who are inconsiderate like this provoke the public to disobey health protocols are left alone. Why should people like this not be punished?"  
(R.S2C)



The potential topic with a dialectical purpose found in the data above is the issue of the arrest of public figures who are suspected of spreading false news about Corona. The arrest was based on Article 28 of the ITE Law. The issue is unambiguous and occurred through reporting and arresting Jerinx, Anji and Hadipranoto to the police. To discuss this issue, Rosi invited news leaders to comment on freedom of expression in the public sphere. Should people who create content that conflicts with the pandemic conditions be punished under the ITE Law, or is it free and can be done by anyone in expressing their appreciation? It was an issue discovered and became a topic of dialogue in Rosi's event with the theme Voice Contributing Corona, Should Be in Prison. Potential topics with rhetorical purposes are still related to the big theme of the title of the speech. The issues discussed in these speeches are events that have occurred in society due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Various issues were discussed, ranging from the dangers of Covid-19 on health to the impact of Covid-19 on various aspects of life.

#### **Potential Topics of Dialectical Goals at the Argumentation Stage**

Potential topics at the argumentation stage (means and criticism of arguments) are related to the development of critical discussion (van Eemeren & Peng, 2017). Based on the investigation of the data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19, it was found that potential topics in the form of dialectical objectives to test the acceptance of points of view, descriptive, evaluative, or prescriptive which have formed differences of opinion, starting from the starting point set at the opening stage. The following presents the findings and analysis.

**Najwa:** "I will ask for a response from the government supervisor Bang Fadlizon after the advertisement. Is this concern really justified? The two existing regional heads or indeed we leave it to the central government to then take steps, local governments follow or how we should deal with this. After the Advertising remains in the Eye of Najwa." (N.G2C)

The dialectical goal found in the potential topic of Mata Najwa's talk title with the topic of Corona-Gara in the argumentation stage is the difference of opinion on the government's steps in preventing Corona. For the discussion at the argumentation stage, the host of the event mentioned the starting point of the discussion at the end of the closing stage, namely the government's steps in handling Corona. From this starting point, Najwa wanted his sources to

criticize the government's steps in dealing with Corona. At the argumentation stage with the topic, Fadli Zon, in his speech, stated that the government wasted too much time and that the efforts made were only to emphasize to the public that Indonesia could not get Corona. From this statement, Fadli Zon has criticized the government's efforts in handling Corona, which he considered slow and inappropriate.

Potential topics with dialectical objectives at the argumentation stage have patterns of explanation and clarification regarding information known by the informants based on their capacities (van Eemeren, 2010). Discussion participants have different views in responding to the topics presented, provide strong arguments, and use the data they know to defend their arguments. In addition, the speakers also continued to work on the arguments they spoke according to the topics presented in the talk show.

### **Potential Topics of Dialectical Goals in the Closing Stage**

The closing stage (the results of the exchange) is the end of a critical discussion: the conclusion or final result (Dalmaijer, 2019). Based on the investigation of data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19, it was found that potential topics in the form of dialectical objectives in the form of arguments used to ensure that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence. The following presents the findings and analysis.

**Yurianto:** "So tressing is the task of the area that we give the person tressing to trace contacts. So as long as we can follow this tressing and we still believe that we can track it, there will be no problem. But the problem is when the stressing is gone. This is our problem. Our vigilance in the memenets, therefore as long as we can still find tressing we are not too worried. Because our friends in the regions are part of a larger system that we are building, so it's not just from the center."

**Fadjroel:** "Besides this the Central Government, then also the local government, the most important thing is the active nature of the community. Why case 1 and case 2 are interesting and we consider these two people to be heroes of humanity because they reported case one. So we hope that every one of these 250 Million gets active. So don't just leave it to the local government, take an active part, you are a hero of humanity for anyone who is now in our republic." (N.G2C)

The data above is an argument from the central government regarding the cooperation between the central and local governments. Yuriyanto and Fadjoel's speech has a dialectical goal: to provide a conclusion statement with sufficient evidence regarding the role of regional and central governments in handling Corona. Yuriyanto emphasized the region's significant role in tracing Corona patients' contacts. Without the role of the regions, tracking will be difficult, and they feared losing contact. Therefore Yuriyanto concluded that controlling the Coronavirus is not only from the central government, but the regions must also participate. In addition to Yuriyanto's argument, Fadjoel also added the conclusion that handling the Coronavirus is not only the task of the regional government and the central government, but the community must play an active role in helping to report their condition or people they know so that the tracking of infected patients is faster and easier. In his speech, Fadjoel stated that the evidence regarding case 1 and case 2 was revealed because the patient had an active role in reporting his condition.

The two data that have been analyzed show that the potential topic of the Corona-Gara with dialectical objectives at the closing stage refers to a common conclusion, namely an agreement on the role of the regional government and the central government in handling Corona. The discussion participants finally agreed on the statement that cooperation from all parties, including the community, was needed to deal with Corona quickly. The purpose of mentioning the community as a form of cooperation in dealing with Corona in the talk show is so that the people who witness can take an active role in reporting what they know about the pandemic. Therefore, Fadjoel's speech, saying that people willing to report are heroes, expresses motivation to synergize efforts to overcome Corona immediately.

Based on the data analyzed on each topic in the speech at the closing stage, the potential topics found with a dialectical purpose discuss each stage's conclusions in the speech title. The informants explained their closing arguments by linking them to their arguments in the previous stage. In addition, at the closing stage, the speakers tried to provide conclusions as the final statement to ensure that the arguments they spoke followed the facts and data they could show adequately.

#### **Potential Topic of Rhetorical Purpose**

Potential topics with rhetorical purposes found in each stage of the argument have different purposes (Betti & Ghadhab, 2020, p.32). At the confrontation stage, Rhetorical Purpose is to ensure that the issues benefit all parties in the opening stage to choose an argument that does not involve the burden of proof. At the argumentation stage, apply persuasive tools that will

make someone win the argument. While at the closing stage, ensure that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence. The following is an analysis and discussion of the findings of potential topics with dialectical purposes.

**Table 2.**

<b>Potential Topics of Rhetorical Purpose</b>			
<b>Potential Topics of Rhetorical Purpose</b>			
<b>Confrontation Stage</b>	Opening Stage	Argument Stage	Closing Stage
<b>Ensuring that the issues are useful</b>	Choose an argument that does not involve the burden of proof	Applying persuasion tools that will make someone win an argument	Make sure the argument ends

**Potential Topics of Rhetorical Purpose at the Confrontation Stage**

Based on the investigation of the data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19. Found potential topics with rhetorical purposes to ensure that these issues are beneficial to all parties. The following is a presentation of the findings and a discussion.

**Najwa:** "Happy new year friends, Mata Najwa received a lot of public questions that were entrusted to the Minister of Health and today, the new Minister, was present at Mata Najwa's studio to directly answer these questions. I invite the Minister of Health Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Mr. Budi good evening...." (N.B2KM)

The data above is taken in Mata Najwa's talk show on the topic of Fixing the Chair of the Minister of Health. About this topic, Najwa directly invited Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin to listen to his speech regarding the work program he would undertake as the new Minister of Health, especially regarding handling the pandemic. In addition, Najwa also received many questions from the public specifically aimed at the Minister of Health. In his speech, Najwa wished him a happy new year. Besides congratulating everyone for entering the new year, it also meant that it had been a year since the pandemic had given up Indonesia, and even in the government structure, the role of the Minister of Health had to shift to the new Minister. This shows that the government is overwhelmed in handling Corona. To ensure that the new

Minister of Health can play a good role and resolve the pandemic quickly, Najwa invited him to explain his work program to the public directly. Through the candid discussion, Najwa hopes to provide correct information to the public so that people can again rely on the new Minister of Health to hope to be free from the pandemic.

A potential topic with a lofty goal found at the confrontation stage is ensuring that the issues benefit all parties. To ensure that the argument can take place, the presenter at the beginning of the speech mentions the topic of conversation, then introduces the present speakers and the professions that are their expertise. Each speaker presented people considered to have a good understanding of the discussed issues. This was also conveyed directly by the event's host so that the audience felt confident with the speakers presented. After hearing the arguments from the speakers, it is hoped that the people who witness the event can receive helpful information about government policies and performance in dealing with various problems that occur in the community.

#### **Potential topics of rhetorical goals in the opening stage**

The potential topics at the opening stage are the starting point for the initial procedure regarding the initial points of the discussion material (Visser, 2015). The starting point is made so that the exchange of arguments in the discussion can run effectively. Based on the investigation of data on the transcripts of ten speech titles with the theme of Covid-19, it was found that potential topics in the form of rhetorical goals were used to select arguments that did not involve the burden of proof. The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion.

**Najwa:** "Consideration of comfort, discomfort, or some other consideration? because if it was just because of discomfort?"

**Achmad Yuri:** "It's not a matter of discomfort, but we also have to be careful to check if there are no indications for what we do? Because once again, this infectious disease is based on the community, not on the results of the examination."  
(N.G2C)

The data above is an excerpt taken from the opening stage of the Mata Najwa talk show with the theme Gara-Gara Corona. From this theme, the potential topics with rhetorical purposes found are arguments from sources that do not involve the burden of proof. This description can be seen from the

narrative of Achmad Yuri when asked by Najwa about the reasons for the inconvenience of checking someone's pandemic status. To respond to Najwa's question, Achmad Yuri tried to answer briefly and use question sentences to emphasize that the examination must be careful and not based on discomfort. After using a question sentence, Ahmad Yuri answered with a different reason why the examination results were not one of the bases for determining the Corona status because the basis of the disease is a community, which means that it is complicated to track. After all, the increase in spread occurs due to contact with fellow humans.

The rhetorical purpose in the opening stage refers to the speaker's speech to answer the host's questions without involving much of the burden of proof. To reduce the evidence, the arguments put forward by the informants are in the form of patterns that aim to reinforce the reasons, answer questions briefly, firmly, straightforwardly, and directly to the point to be conveyed, as well as arguments according to the portion of knowledge they have. The resource person also stated that he did not know for sure because someone knew better and could explain in detail. This method can also make a statement that does not require a deep burden.

#### **Potential topics of rhetorical purpose at the argumentation stage**

Potential topics at the argumentation stage (means and criticism of arguments) are related to the development of critical discussion. The rhetorical goal of a potential topic at the argumentation stage is to apply a persuasive device that will get someone to win the argument (Pilgram & Henkemans, 2018). The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion. The lofty goal of a potential topic at the argumentation stage is to apply a persuasive device that will get someone to win the argument. The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion.

**Najwa:** "But the paradigm is indeed the Minister. The paradigm is, do you really want to say now that no one should only provide numbers that can make you comfortable. People really need to know the real numbers, so no one wants to be in the paradigm anymore. You agree, right, Minister?"

**Budi GS:** "The data must be correct, because of the strategy that we make. So it is wrong if the data is not correct, whatever the data must be true. Second, we can't do this on our own without the social capital. Trust if the data is not true, how can people believe it?" (N.B2KM)

The potential topics with rhetorical objectives found in the data above refer to the tools of persuasion spoken by Budi GS in the form of his ability to carry out the work program he has compiled. Budi GS emphasized that data regarding Corona cases must be correct. The untruth of the data will make people not believe it. Then in his speech, Budi GS explained that the strategy to get the correct data would not work without social capital. This social capital is a form of persuasion from Budi GS' statement. Social capital is a work program that he will carry out as Minister of Health. So based on this statement, Budi GS wants to emphasize that he, as the new Minister of Health, can carry out his duties to free the Indonesian people from the Covid-19 pandemic. Based on this, it can be concluded that the persuasion tool used is argumentation with confidence.

#### **Potential Topic of Rhetorical Purpose in the Closing Stage**

The potential rhetorical goal of the topic at the concluding stage, as in all other stages of discussion, in this stage, both parties must ensure that Rhetorical Purposes pursued will be effective and amicable by adhering to the dialectical requirements of critical fairness inherent in the concluding stage (Lumer, 2010). The following is a presentation of the findings and discussion.

**Dr. Aman:** "The first thing we have to realize is that we are in an emergency. So I think this emergency should be raised, we are all aware of this. So there are four things for this, if we don't do these four things we will fail to learn from other countries. The first is testing screening as much as possible, maybe we should do this. Our population is 270,000,000, save this nation testing as much as possible. The second is stressing, the third is quarantine and social at this booth 4. This is if we do only one thing we fail, number 2 is failed, 3 is also failed and this according to the director general of WHO is also the same and we should never feel or think that this is a problem in the world. other countries. This is with us now, so at this point we must say, I beg the chairman of the task force or even the President, please do these 4 things, if we want to save this nation, right?" (N.SC)

The data above is taken from the closing stage of the Mata Najwa talk show with the theme Stop Corona. Based on these data, potential topics with rhetorical purposes were found. Rhetorical Purpose is an argument about wise

steps the government must take to stop Corona. According to Doctor Aman, the government must be able to implement four things in order to stop Corona from entering Indonesia. The first is to carry out as many screening tests as possible, and the second is to do stressing, the third is quarantine, and the fourth is social booths. By doing these four things, Indonesia will be able to stop the spread of Corona.

**Najwa:** "Okay, Mbak Anis from the Civil Society Coalition, what steps are waiting for the Coalition to look forward. What measures can be used as a benchmark that he, indeed the country will take different steps seriously to prevent this spread from getting wider. What will be the benchmark for Mbak Anis' Coalition?"

**Anis Hidayat:** "Yes, from the Civil Society Coalition, we urge the government to... I don't think the president and his staff need to wait any longer to postpone massive tests of all people. As suggested by the doctor earlier, and in my opinion, if necessary, the Minister of Health will become another figure. If indeed this will support how the quality of handling the Corona virus is better, I think this is also a decision that does not need to be postponed. The second thing, I think, to strengthen the handling so that the number does not continue to increase is how to immediately increase the number of hospitals for this treatment to improve the quality of service. What Fahri said actually shocked all of us that in fact people who are safe can quickly become positive because hospital services are not ready for both positive and positive Corona patients. The last one, Mbak Nana, is about data transparency which must be accounted for, so for example, there were gift data, national data, and also DKI data, not to mention other regions. In my opinion, this task force will synchronize and consolidate all data as soon as possible on how many are actually positive, how many have died, and how many have recovered. So that our society is in the same position, that we are restless. We are all in an emergency situation." (N.SC)



The potential topics of Najwa's talk show with the theme Stop Corona at the closing stage with a lofty goal in the form of argumentative claims can be seen in the data above. From this data, it is observed that there is an argument from Anis as a representative of the Civil Society Coalition, to urge the government to conduct massive tests so that Corona can be stopped immediately. Anis Hidayat's closing argument refers to the potential topic of Stop Corona, and the government that can stop the spread of Corona is the government. Because only the government can issue orders for massive tests, increase hospital capacity and improve services. The government must also provide data transparency so that the public knows the truth.

From the two data presented above, the potential topics with rhetorical objectives found at the closing stage of the Najwa talk show with the theme Stop Corona refers to an appeal to the government to immediately move and act to stop the spread of Corona in Indonesia. The two speeches show criticism of the government for improving its handling of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. Based on this, it was concluded that the discussion with the theme of Stop Corona had a message to the government to be able to focus, move quickly in handling Corona, and improve policies so that people could follow all government directives properly. Based on this, the arguments at the closing stage contain messages or advice regarding steps that must be taken for improvement.

## CONCLUSION

Potential topics in Pragma-dialectical have a role at every stage of critical discussion. Potential topics are an interaction of dialectical and rhetorical elements. One of the potential interesting topics for discussion is the Covid-19 pandemic. The topic of this pandemic is not only about how the pandemic affects public health but also becomes an economic, social and even governmental problem. The potential of the topic can influence the stages in the argumentative discourse. The stages in question are the confrontation stage, the opening stage, the argument stage, and the closing stage. The results showed that potential topics with dialectical and rhetorical functions were found at each stage of the argumentation. Each function found has a different role as an argumentative. Potential topics with a rational function in the confrontation stage are used to explain the issues discussed. The opening stage ensures that disputes exist and are unambiguous. At the argumentation stage, it is used to test the acceptance of a descriptive, evaluative, or prescriptive point of view. The closing stage ensures that everything that has been said is concluded with sufficient evidence. In comparison, the potential topics with a rhetorical

function in the confrontation stage are used to ensure that the issues in the discussion degree are helpful. In the opening stage, it is used to select arguments that do not involve the burden of proof. At the argumentation stage, it is used to apply persuasion tools that will make someone win the argument. The closing stage is used to ensure the argument ends.

## REFERENCES

- Afdholy N., Yuana., S. S., & Indarti, T. (2022). Revealing the ideology of Omicron discourse in CNN Indonesia news. *RESEARCH RESULT. THEORETICAL AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS*, 8(2), 84-95. <https://doi.org/10.18413/2313>
- Alaghbary, G. S. (2020). Looting Leads to Shooting: A Pragma-dialectical Analysis of President Trump's Argumentative Discourse on Floyd's Death. *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 16(4), 1854-1868. <https://doi.org/10.17263/JLLS.851011>
- Betti, M. J., & Ghadhab, A. O. (2020). A Pragma-Dialectical Study of The Argumentative Indicators in American Electoral Campaign Debates. *International Journal of Advancement in Social Science and Humanity*, 9, 1-2. [https://www.ijassh.in/admin1/upload/05 Mohammed Jasim Betti 48533.pdf](https://www.ijassh.in/admin1/upload/05_Mohammed_Jasim_Betti_48533.pdf)
- Bihari, J. (2012). Grundlagen der Pragma-Dialektik \*. *Sprachtheorie Und Germanistische Linguistik*, 22(2), 123-135. <http://real.mtak.hu/id/eprint/8535>
- Cantarutti, M. N., & Rosina, M. (2022). "What have you done ?" Accounting for Covid-19 lockdown breaches on talk radio. *Discourse , Context & Media*, 49(July). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcm.2022.100639>
- Dalmajer, E. (2019). *Debating Online Over Less Meat and Other Matters of Public Concern: A pragma-dialectical Characterisation and Analysis of Online Large-Scale Complex Public Debates* [Leiden University]. <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/80809>
- Dezhkameh, A., Layegh, N., & Hadidi, Y. (2021). A critical discourse analysis of covid-19 in iranian and american newspapers. *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies*, 21(3), 231-244. <https://doi.org/10.17576/GEMA-2021-2103-13>
- Drid, T. (2016). A Pragma-Dialectical Approach to Argumentative Discourse. *Khazar Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 19(4), 20-35. <https://doi.org/10.5782/2223-2621.2016.19.4.20>
- Kamariah, K., Laksono, K., Savitri, A. D., Suhartono, S., Darni, D., & Pairin, U. (2021). *Argumentative Indicators in Mata Najwa Talk Show Pragmadiialectical*

- Study*. 618(Ijcah), 183–189.
- Lee, W. H. A. (2021). Online metapragmatic discourse on “english as taiwan’s second official language”: Multilingualism and ideological contestation. *Taiwan Journal of Linguistics*, 19(2), 119–160. [https://doi.org/10.6519/TJL.202107\\_19\(2\).0004](https://doi.org/10.6519/TJL.202107_19(2).0004)
- Lumer, C. (2010). Pragma-dialectics and the function of argumentation. *Argumentation*, 24(1), 41–69. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-008-9118-7>
- Mahsun, M. S. (2012). *Metode Penelitian Bahasa: Tahapan Strategi, metode dan Tekniknya Edisi Revisi*. Raja Grafindo Persada.
- Muhammad. (2011). *Metode Penelitian Bahasa*. Ar-Ruzz Media.
- Mulyana. (2005). *Kajian Wacana: Teori, Metode, dan Aplikasi Prinsip-Prinsip Analisis Wacana*. Tiara Wacana.
- Pilgram, R., & Henkemans, F. S. (2018). A pragma-dialectical perspective on obstacles to shared decision-making. *Journal of Argumentation in Context*, 7(2), 161–176. <https://doi.org/10.1075/jaic.18027.pil>
- Rigotti, E. and Greco, S. (2006). Topics: The Argument Generator. *Argumentum ELearning Module, 2006*, 519–540. [www.argumentum.ch](http://www.argumentum.ch)
- Rigotti, E. (2007). Relevance of Context-bound loci to Topical Potential in the Argumentation Stage. *Argumentation*, 2006, 519–540. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-007-9034-2>
- Sandeep, Rathore, S., Prakash, O., Gupta, D. K., Zaman, T., Kumari, V., Tomar, R., & Mertia, S. (2022). Virtual Class and Children Food Patterns during Pandemic: A Review. *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, 12(4), 315–324. <https://doi.org/10.36941/jesr-2022-0116>
- Satori, D., & Komariah, A. (2017). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Alfabeta.
- Sayginer, C., & Kurtsan, K. (2022). An Extended Decision-Making Model of Coastal Recreational Area Use During the COVID-19 Through Goal-Directed Behavior and Perceived Benefits Framework. *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 30(2), 541–556. <https://doi.org/10.47836/pjssh.30.2.07>
- Setiaji, A. B. (2019). Struktur Metafora dalam Wacana Narasi. *Totobuang*, 6(2), 229–244. <https://totobuang.kemdikbud.go.id/jurnal/index.php/totobuang/article/view/108>
- Sutopo, H. (2002). *Metode Peneliti Kualitatif*. Universitas Sebelas Maret Press.
- Sutrisno, I., & Wiendijarti, I. (2014). Kajian Retorika Untuk Pengembangan Pengetahuan dan Ketrampilan Berpidato. *Jurnal Ilmu Komunikasi*, 12(1), 70–84.
- Svačinová, I. (2017). The Role of Quasi-Logical Arguments in Critical Dialogue:

- A Pragma-dialectical Redefinition. *Informal Logic*, 37(1), 42–69.  
<https://doi.org/10.22329/il.v37i1.4468>
- Svačinová, I. (2020). Pragma-Dialectical Reconstruction of Crisis Diary-Writing as a Communicative Activity Type. *Argumentation*, 0123456789.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-020-09524-0>
- Syarifah, A. M. (2021). Presuposisi Dalam Tindak Tutur Direktif Dan Verdiktif Gelar Wicara Mata Najwa Kpk: Kiamat Pemberantasan Korupsi (Analisis Kpk Diperkuat Atau Diperlemah Atas Ratifikasi Revisi Kedua Undang-Undang Kpk). In *academia*. Universitas Jenderal Soedirman.
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2008). Valuing Validity as Reasonableness: Rationale for a Pragma-dialectical Perspective. *Truth and Judgement, Filosofia*(195), 199–222.
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2010). *Strategic Maneuvering in Argumentative Discourse* (2nd ed.). John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2012). The Pragma-Dialectical Theory Under Discussion. *Argumentation*, 26(4), 439–457. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-012-9274-7>
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2015a). *Reasonableness and Effectiveness in Argumentative Discourse* (27th ed.). Springer.
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2015b). *Reflections on Theoretical Issues in Argumentation Theory* (28th ed.). Springer.
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2016). Identifying Argumentative Patterns: A Vital Step in the Development of Pragma-Dialectics. *Argumentation*, 30(1), 1–23.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10503-015-9377-z>
- van Eemeren, F. H. (2018). *Argumentation Theory: A Pragma- Dialectical Perspective*. Springer.
- van Eemeren, F. H., Garssen, B., & Meuffels, B. (2009). *Fallacies and Judgments of Reasonableness Empirical Research Concerning the Pragma-Dialectical Discussion Rules* (16th ed.). Springer.
- van Eemeren, F. H., Garssen, B., Verheij, B., Krabbe, E. C. W., Snoeck Henkemans, A. F., & Wagemans, J. H. M. (2013). Handbook of Argumentation Theory. In *Handbook of Argumentation Theory*. Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-6883-3>
- van Eemeren, F. H., & Grootendorst, R. (2004). *A Systematic Theory of Argumentation The pragma-dialectical approach* In. United States of America by Cambridge University Press.
- van Eemeren, F. H., & Grootendorst, R. (2006). Argumentation, Communication and Fallacies Una perspectiva pragma-dialéctica. In *Publicidad Universitaria*. Universitaria.

- van Eemeren, F. H., & Houtlosser, P. (2002). *Dialectic and Rhetoric: The Warp and Woof of Argumentation Analysis*. Kluwer Academic Publishers.  
<https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1035-6851.2001.00246.x-i3>
- van Eemeren, F. H., Houtlosser, P., & Snoeck Henkemans, A. F. (2007). *Argumentative Indicators A pragma-Dialectical Study*. Springer.
- van Eemeren, F. H., & Peng, W. (2017). *Contextualizing Pragma-Dialectics*. John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Visser, J. (2016). Towards Computer Support for Pragma-Dialectical Argumentation Analysis. *Proceedings of the 1 Th International Conference of the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation (OSSA)*.
- Visser, J. (2015). A Formal Perspective On The Pragma-Dialectical Discussion Model. *In International Society for the Study of Argumentation: 8th International Conference on Argumentation, 1471-1482*.
- Wagemans, J. H. M. (2020). Institutionalized argumentative reasonableness : Commentary on Menno Reijven ' s " Institutional and Institutionalized Fallacies : Diversifying Pragma- Dialectical Fallacy Judgments ." *OSSA Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation*.
- Zarefsky, D. H. (2020). Argumentation Theory: A Pragma-Dialectical Perspective. *Informal Logic Reasoning and Argumentation, 40(1)*.
- Zhmakina, T. (2019). Pragma-Dialectical Interpretation Of Argumentative Fallacies In Political Discourse. *Вестні БДПУ, 5-10*.

---

**Copyright Holder :**

© Kamariah. (2023).

**First Publication Right :**

© International Journal of Education, Social Studies,  
and Management (IJESSM) This article is under:

