ABSTRACT

The present study investigates Experiential meanings in the genre of biographies of famous music composers. Specifically, the study investigates the System of Transitivity and the Schematic structure of three music composers of the 18th century namely Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert. The texts were coded, analysed and interpreted in terms of Transitivity (Process Types, Participants and Circumstantial elements), based on the model by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), Eggins (2004), Bloor and Bloor (2004) and Thompson (2004), and Schematic structure by Eggins (2004). Data for the study comprised six texts; Two different accounts for each composer’s biographies. The findings show that the biographies used all the six Process Types. The Material Processes (59.28%), such as “met, explored and married” were widely used to depict action-orientated events as they unfold in reality, followed by the Relational Processes (22.31%), such as “was, have and became” to describe the music composer’s identity and personality. Next, the Mental Processes (8.47%), as in “am insulted, can be seen and thought”, illustrated the inner word of consciousness. The Verbal Processes (4.4%), as in “suggesting, was negotiating and called” provided the thoughts and ideas of the music composers, biographers and people in the biographical texts. Physiological and psychological behaviours as in “wake up and relaxes” were portrayed through the Behavioural Processes (4.07%). The least used Process Types was the Existential Processes (1.47%), for instance “There is/are” to show existence. Besides the transitivity analysis, Schematic structure analysis was carried out to show the structure of the biography. Three stages identified were ‘Introduction to the Subject’, ‘Life as a Grown Up’ and ‘Evaluation – Late Works and Life after Death’. The findings revealed the importance of the System of Transitivity and the Schematic structure in uncovering the goings-on and the organisation of biographical texts of
music composers. The findings of this study will be useful to ESL students, teachers and practitioners of genre analysis.
ABSTRAK

kajian ini menunjukkan kepentingan analisis *the System of Transitvity* dan struktur skematik dalam teks-teks biografi penggubah musik. Dapatan kajian ini juga akan berguna kepada pelajar-pelajar jurusan *ESL*, guru-guru serta pengamal analisis *genre*. 
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