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THE DETERMINATION OF LANGUAGE AS PART OF THE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN STRATEGY Michael Adiwijaya michaels@petra.ac.id Lecturer, Faculty of Economics, Petra Christian University The Language Definition of language according to Keraf (2005) refers to the communication tools among societies in the form of sound symbol which are produced by human speaking tools. Another definition about language is the culture creation which is used by human to communicate or to interact through vocal, writing, or signal language in purpose to express the feeling or the willing to others. There are several functions of language which can be categorized into two main elements; they are the general function and the special function. The general function of language is as the tool for self expression, communication, integration, and social adaptation. While the special function of language is as the tool for developing relationship in daily interaction, expressing the material of arts, investigating the ancient script, and finally cultivating science and technology. The language is formed by the certain standard of rules and patterns that should be followed to avoid the communication noises. The rules and the patterns of language comprise the sound order, the form order, and the sentence order. The communication sender and receiver should aware of this order to assure the effectiveness of message delivery. According to the Indonesian Online Community and Library, there are six variations of language; firstly, the certain field language variations such as law language, science language, journalist language, etc. Secondly is the individual language variation which refers to variation of language where every individual has his or her own dialect. Thirdly is the territorial language variation which refers to the variation of language where every community in the certain are has its own dialect. Fourthly is the variation of the certain community language such as the language of the scholars, the language of the street boy, etc. Next variation is the language form variation which refers to the verbal and non verbal language. Finally is the certain situation of language variation which refers to the formal and non formal language. The Advertising Campaign Strategy Definition of advertising based on Kotler and Amstrong (2004) is

any paid form of non personal presentation and promotion of ideas, goods, or services by an identified sponsor. Although advertising is

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used mostly by business firm, it also used by a wide range of non profit organizations, professionals, and social agencies that advertise their causes to various target

public. There are several advertising objectives; they are informative advertising, persuasive advertising, and reminder advertising.

Informative advertising is used heavily when introducing a new product 2 category. In this case, the objective is to build primary demand. While the persuasive advertising

is used in purpose

to persuade the customer to buy the product.

This objective can change into the comparative advertising along with the increasing of the competition which means that the advertising objective is to compare its brand with others directly or indirectly. Finally the

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reminder advertising is used in purpose to remind the customer towards the product.

This objective commonly used by the mature products or brands. Developing the advertising campaign strategy required

two major elements; the creating advertising message and selecting advertising media.

Nowadays,

more and more advertisers are orchestrating a closer harmony between 2 their message and their media that deliver them. In some cases, and advertising campaign might start with a great message idea then followed by the choice of appropriate media.

The advertising campaign

can succeed only if commercials gain attention and communicate well. 2 Good advertising message are especially important in today's costly and cluttered advertising environment. Just to gain and hold attention, today's advertising message must be better planned, more imaginative, more entertaining, and more rewarding to

customers. According to Grewal and Levy (2010), there are several steps in planning and executing an advertising campaign that can be seen on figure 1 below:

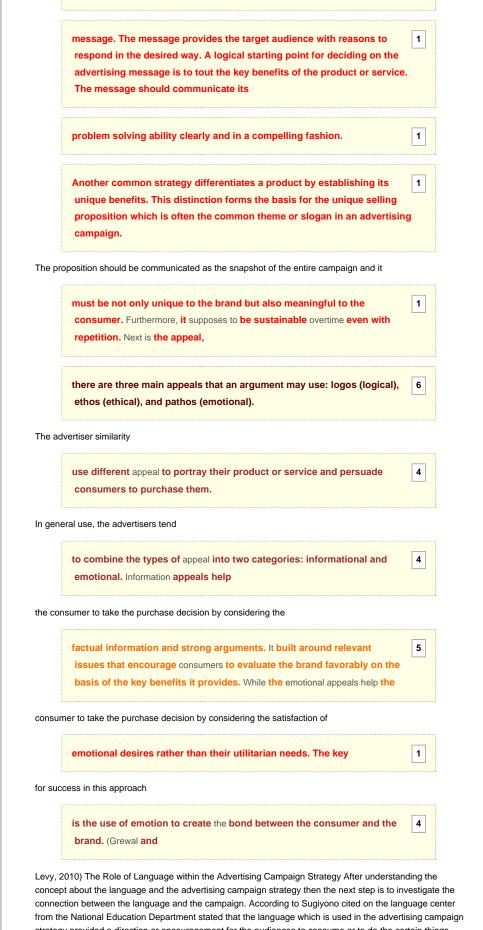
Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 Step 4 Identify target Set advertising Determine the

Convey the audience

objectives ads budget message Step 7 Step 6 Step 5 Assess impact Create Evaluate & advertisements Select Media Figure 1: Advertising Campaign Planning & Execution From figure 1, there are seven steps in planning and executing an advertising campaign strategy. The company should follow each step to develop the effective and efficient advertising campaign strategy. The focus on this essay is on the fourth step that is conveying the message. There are two steps in conveying the message; firstly is the

firm determines the key message it wants to communicate to the target audience. Secondly is the firm decides what appeal would most

effectively convey the



strategy provided a direction or encouragement for the audiences to consume or to do the certain things. The effective advertising campaign will develop the certain image on the customer perception based on the advertisers' goals. The mistakes when determining the language within the campaign will affect the

effectiveness of the campaign to deliver the message from the company to the target potential customer. In this case the language will play the critical role to support the effectiveness of the advertising campaign strategy. Considering the role of language as one of the key success for delivering message in the advertising campaign strategy therefore the copywriter must have the adequate language skill to combine the language with purpose to create the desired effect towards the target audiences. In the Indonesian advertising context, the copywriter can't only focus on mastering the certain adequate language skill but also the variation of language as well as the local culture where the target audience lives. Some examples related to the territorial variation of language within the advertising campaign strategy can be seen on figure 2 and figure 3 below: Figure 3: SimPATI Telkomsel Outdoor Advertisement at Malang, East Java Province Indonesia Figure 2: SimPATI Telkomsel Advertisement at Semarang, West Java Province, Indonesia From the picture on figure 2 and 3showed that the company (Telkomsel) with its product (SimPATI) used territorial variation of language based on the location where the target customer lived in order to communicate the unique selling proposition in this case the special price offering. These examples proved that the company that use local dialect to communicate the brand was not dominated by local brand only but also by the national brand such as SimPATI. This phenomenon occurs because the determination of local dialect at those advertisements will enhance the effectiveness of message delivery instead of using the formal Indonesian language. During the local election for instance the Governor or the Mayor election in Indonesia, many candidates used the local dialect as their campaign slogan to attract and to gain attention from the voters as can be seen on figure 4. Even this approach is also used for the candidatures campaign for the Presidential and National Senate Election. The determination of which local dialect used is based on where the advertisements are located. Figure 4: The Campaign, One of the Candidates for the Surabaya Mayor KFC and Fren advertisement at figure 4 showed the using of certain situation language variation in this case in the form of non formal language. KFC use the word "Goceng" which is originated from Chinese word that means five thousand. The consideration behind the determination of this word within the advertisement is because this word is used in daily trade activities within the Indonesian society. The word "Goceng" creates the bombastic effect to attract the audience attention instead of using the Indonesian word "Lima Ribu". Nevertheless, the amount Rp 5.000 is inserted within the advertisement to support the message delivery. Figure 5: KFC and Fren Advertisement Next, the Fren advertisement comprised full of non formal Indonesian language to communicate its offering to its customer. First, the advertisement used the word "Doweerr" which is originated from the slang language that means the dropping lower lips. Many other slang word such as "trus" from "terus" and "sampe" from "sampai". In addition, another word used is the English word "Swear" but it is used inappropriately by change it into the slang word of "Sueerr". The use of those slang words enhanced the message delivery because mostly Indonesian society using non formal language when communicating with their close friends and relatives. Most of the advertisements in Indonesia used non formal language within their campaign no matter the form of the advertisement either the electronic advertisements such as television commercial, radio advertisement, internet banners, etc or the printing advertisements such as newspaper, magazine, brochure advertisement, etc. This situation is applied not only for the commercial advertisements but also for non profit advertisements for instance the public advertisement. The consideration behind the using of non formal language is to increase the effectiveness of message delivery since the Indonesian society used formal Indonesian language only at the formal situation. Figure 6 showed the examples of public advertisement. Figure 6: The Examples of Public Advertisement Many advertisements in Indonesia use English word on their advertisements in order to create the western image of product since most of the Indonesian customers "adore" the western product and all western related things. Some products succeed with this strategy but many also of them failed as well, Figure 7: The Comparison of the Old and New Yamaha Tagline Figure 7 showed the old tagline of Yamaha brand that using the English word "Touching Your Heart" which is originally translated from Japanese word "Kando" which has the same meaning. But according to Dyonisius Beti, the Director of Yamaha Indonesia said that the Indonesian customers didn't get the idea of the old slogan. Therefore the company replaced the English language tagline (Touching Your Heart) into the new Indonesian language tagline (Semakin Di Depan) to help the customers get the idea that Yamaha can bring them move faster than the others. (Jawa Pos. 2010) Figure 8: Petra Christian University Tagline Figure 8 showed that Petra Christian University use English language as the tagline to create the image of international standard university. This approach is effective to develop and to increase the image of the university from the point of view of the Indonesian customer perception. Assuming that Petra uses the Indonesian language for its tagline for instance "Sebuah Kampus yang Peduli dan Global", comparing the English and the Indonesian version reveals that the Indonesian version of tagline is not as strong as the English version especially in the point of view of the Indonesian customer perception. Conclusion and Discussion This essay is started with the concept of language and advertising campaign strategy as the introduction. The concept of language comprises the definition, the function, and the variation of language. While the concept of advertising campaign strategy comprises the definition, the goals of advertising, the steps to develop and to execute the advertising plan, and the strategy to deliver the message. After understanding the two concepts then it is continued by connecting those concepts to figure out the roles of language within the advertising campaign strategy. Several examples of the advertisement both the commercial and the public advertisements are given to prove the importance of language determination in purpose to deliver the message from company to the target audiences or target customers. There are several conclusions that can be taken from this essay as follow: Firstly, the determination of language plays critical role toward the successfulness of an advertising campaign strategy. Therefore the company or the advertising agency should pay special attention regarding the determination of the language when setting the advertising campaign strategy. Secondly, the determination of language within the advertising campaign should consider the characteristics of the target audiences such as the location, occupancy, lifestyle, education, etc. This consideration is important indeed when selecting the appropriate language variation to communicate the message. Finally, the determination of language within the advertising campaign strategy

needs the support from other elements such as the brand ambassadors, the visual graphic, etc. The combination of the appropriate language with other important elements will enhance the effectiveness in message delivery. References: Books: Grewal, D., & Levy, M. (2010), Marketing, 2nd Edition, Mc-Graw Hill Irwin: New York. Keraf, Gorys. (2005), Diksi dan Gaya Bahasa, PT. Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta Kotler, P & Amstrong, G. (2004), Principle of Marketing, 10th edition, International Edition, Prentice Hall, New Jersey Articles: NN. (2008), Pengertian Bahasa, Ragam dan Fungsi Bahasa, Indonesian Online Community and Library Sugiyono, (2007) Wacana Iklan Bahasa Indonesia, Language Center, Indonesian Department of National Education. Newspapers: Sugeng. (2010), Jatuh 10 Kali Harus Bangkit 11 Kali, Jawa Pos, Wednesday edition, March 17th, 2010. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8