

ANALYSIS OF THE LANGUAGE STYLE OF SINEKDOKE *PARS PRO TOTO* AND *TOTUM PRO PARTE* IN KOMPAS NEWSPAPER

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the form and function of the synecdoke language style in national newspaper news texts and explain its role in the construction of the meaning of journalistic discourse. The research uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive method. The research data is in the form of eleven excerpts of news texts published in the January-February 2026 period in national newspapers. Data was collected through documentation techniques and analyzed using content analysis techniques with stages of reduction, classification, interpretation, and conclusion drawn. The validity of the data was tested through diligence of observation and triangulation of stylistic theory and functional linguistics. The results of the study show that there are two main forms of synecdoke, namely *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte*, with different distributions according to the characteristics of the news rubric. The *pro toto form of pars* is found in the use of part elements to represent the whole entity, especially in the rubrics of law, opinion, and humanities. Meanwhile, the form of *totum pro parte* is more dominant in the rubric of sports and technology through the mention of collective entities, such as the name of the country, to refer to a specific group. Functionally, both forms act as representational strategies that simplify reality, build dramatic effects, and strengthen the reader's collective identity and emotional closeness. These findings confirm that journalistic language is not completely neutral, but rather works through structured representation mechanisms. Synecdoke in news texts serves as a systematic stylistic device in building the meaning and perspective of discourse. This research contributes to the development of media stylistic studies and can be a reference in learning the analysis of language styles and mass media discourse.

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INTRODUCTION

Language as an arbitrary and conventional symbol system has a representational as well as a social function. (Halliday, 1978) affirms that language serves not only as a means of communication, but also as a social semiotic system that shapes and represents the human experience. In practice, the use of language always involves stylistic choices that reflect the speaker's attitudes, ideologies, and communicative goals. The choice is manifested in the style of language.

(Keraf, 2010) states that language style is a way of expressing thoughts through language in a distinctive way that shows the soul and personality of the writer. In line with that, (Leech & Short, 2007) Viewing language style as a linguistic variation that has an aesthetic and pragmatic function in building the effect of meaning. Thus, language style serves not

only as a rhetorical ornament, but also as a strategy for the formation of meaning in discourse.

In the context of mass media, journalistic language is often perceived as objective and neutral language. However, (Fowler, 2013) emphasizing that news texts are linguistic constructions that cannot be separated from the lexical choices and structures that frame certain realities. Media language works through a process of representation, so the choice of certain language styles can influence the reader's perception of the events being reported. Therefore, the study of stylistics in journalistic texts is important to reveal the linguistic strategies used by the media.

Semantically, the relationship between linguistic signs and their referents is arbitrary (Lyons, 2017). This arbitrariness allows for the expansion of the meaning and variation of the name. One form of such naming variation is synecdoche, which is a style of language that uses parts to represent the whole or whole to represent the parts. (Tarigan, 2009) Classify the synecdoche as part of the comparison *majas* which has two main forms, namely *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte*. The form of *pars pro toto* mentions part of the element to refer to the whole entity, while *totum pro parte* mentions the whole to refer to the part of the element.

In journalistic texts, synecdoche often appears in the mention of the name of a country to represent a sports team, a mention of an institution to refer to an individual, or the use of body parts to represent the individual as a whole. This strategy serves not only as a linguistic efficiency, but also as a mechanism of social representation that can simplify, generalize, and even frame certain realities.

Several previous studies have examined the use of language styles in literary and media texts. However, most of the research focuses on identifying the types of *majas* without examining in depth the rhetorical function of synecdoche in the construction of the meaning of news discourse. In addition, the systematic classification between *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte* in national newspaper news texts is still relatively limited. In fact, national newspapers have a strategic role in shaping public opinion through the choice of language used.

Although a number of studies have examined the style of synecdoche language in literary texts and religious texts, most of these studies are still limited to the stage of identification and classification of the form of *majas* without deeply associating it with representational functions in the construction of journalistic discourse. The study of synecdoche in the mass media, especially in the sports section of national newspapers, is still relatively limited and has not been widely analyzed in an integrated semantic and stylistic perspective. In fact, journalistic language has distinctive characteristics that demand efficiency, information density, and high rhetorical appeal.

In the context of sports reporting, the use of the mention of the name of a country to represent the national team, or the mention of an athlete's body part to represent the entire subject, is not just a form of linguistic variation, but a representation strategy that has the potential to build a collective identity, strengthen the symbol of nationalism, and simplify complex realities into a more communicative form. In line with Roger Fowler's view that the language of the media is a construction of reality, the use of synecdoche in sports news can be understood as a linguistic practice that also frames the reader's perception of the events being reported.

In addition, in the perspective of functional linguistics put forward by (Halliday, 1978) Lexical choices in texts are never neutral, but rather a realization of the ideational and interpersonal functions of language. Thus, the synecdoche *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte* in sports news texts can be seen as strategic lexical choices that not only function referentially, but also contain ideological and social dimensions.

Based on these considerations, this research has novelty in two main aspects. First, this study specifically focuses on the systematic classification of synecdoche *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte* in the sports section of Kompas newspaper as a national media that has high journalistic language standards. Second, this study not only identifies the form of synecdoche, but also analyzes its rhetorical function and meaning in building sports discourse. With this approach, the research is expected to be able to make a more comprehensive contribution to the development of media stylistic studies and discourse semantics.

As one of the national newspapers with high credibility, Kompas is a relevant object to be analyzed. This research is focused on the Sports rubric because of its dynamic language character and the high frequency of use of naming strategies, such as the mention of country for teams and the mention of body parts for athletes. Thus, this study aims to identify, classify, and analyze the use of synecdoche *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte* language styles in the text of the Sports section of the Kompas newspaper and reveal its function in building the meaning of journalistic discourse.

This research is expected to make a theoretical contribution to the development of the study of media stylistics and semantics of discourse, as well as a practical contribution to the study of language in journalism and Indonesian language learning.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive type because it aims to identify, classify, and interpret the use of synecdoche pars pro toto and totum pro parte language styles in the news text of Kompas newspaper in a contextual and in-depth manner. The qualitative approach was chosen because this research is oriented towards understanding the meaning and function of language in media discourse, not on testing statistical hypotheses. According to (Creswell, 2016) Qualitative research emphasizes the exploration and interpretation of the meaning of social phenomena with the researcher as the main instrument, while (Moleong, 2017) emphasizing that qualitative research aims to understand phenomena holistically in a natural context. The research data is in the form of lingual units that contain synecdoche in news texts obtained through systematic documentation and recording techniques as stated by Sugiyono. Data analysis was carried out interactively through the stages of reduction, presentation, and drawing conclusions based on the model developed by (Huberman & Miles, 2002), by using stylistic and semantic perspectives to interpret the representational function of synecdoche in the construction of the meaning of journalistic discourse.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Based on the results of the analysis of eleven data taken from the January-February 2026 edition of the Kompas newspaper, it was found that there was a use of the synecdoche language style which included the form of pars pro toto and totum pro parte in various rubrics, such as Opinion, Politics and Law, Economics, Humanities, Technology, and Sports. The use of this language style is seen in the choice of words and phrases that contextually undergo a shift in meaning, both in the form of the mention of parts to represent the whole and the mention of the whole to represent parts.

In general, the more dominant form of pars pro toto is found in expressions related to the human body, symbols, and metaphorical terms, such as "mouth", "bridge of the nose", "voice", and "green table". Meanwhile, the form of totum pro parte appears in the mention of country names or collective categories, such as "Indonesia", "Japan", and "Indonesian players", which referentially do not refer to the entire entity, but only certain elements in the context of the news.

These findings show that journalistic language not only functions as a means of conveying information, but also utilizes stylistic strategies to build the effect of representation, emphasis on meaning, and strengthening persuasive power in news texts. Thus, the analysis of the synecdoche pars pro toto and totum pro parte in this newspaper shows how the construction of meaning in media discourse is formed through contextual and communicative section-whole relations.

Date: 1

Publication Date : January 18, 2026 News Title : *The Collapse of the Nation's Mental Health*
 Rubric : Opinion "Look at the social median and even mental illness. And then he was like, 'Hey, he's mentally healthy, he's going to be laughing.'" This is the comment of a young friend of Pandji Pragiwak-sono's fans, a comic whose series has become a trending topic on one of the platforms even though it is controversial at the same time."

Based on data (1) above, there is a use of majas pars pro toto in the word "social media". Pars pro toto is a style of language that mentions parts to represent the whole.

Laughter "Media" is an abbreviated form of *Social Media*. In a lexical sense, social media includes various digital platforms such as Instagram, X, TikTok, and other platforms. However, in the context of this sentence, the speaker does not intend to refer to all social media as a whole, but to some content or certain phenomena that are considered to have a negative impact on mental health.

Thus, the word "social media" in the sentence mentions the entire concept of social media, but what is meant is only part of the content or certain content contained in it. The mention of the whole (social media) to represent some (negative content in it) is a characteristic of the pro toto pars majas.

According to (Gorys Keraf, 2006), pars pro toto is a term that mentions a part of a thing to replace the whole or vice versa in a particular context. In this data, there is a contextual narrowing of meaning because not all social media causes "mental illness", but only a certain part of the content or experience is accessed by users. Thus, the use of the word "Media" In data (1), it is included in the Pars Pro Toto Majas because it mentions the entire social media to represent some elements in it, namely certain content or experiences that have a negative impact on mental health.

Dates 2

Publication Date : February 15, 2026 News Title : *The Green Table that is Now Getting "Green"* Rubric : Politics and Law

Data Citation: " *Green Desks That Are Now Getting "Green"* The digitization of case handling in the Supreme Court and courts under it has saved paper up to 866 tons or the equivalent of more than 10,000 trees."

Based on data (2), it was found that the use of majas pars pro toto in the expression "Green Table" was found. Denotatively,

a green table refers to a table that is green. However, in the legal context in Indonesia, the phrase has become a conventional term used to refer to judicial institutions or processes.

The phrase "Green Table" is not interpreted as a physical object, but rather as a symbol of the entire judicial system. The table (historically used in the courtroom) is used to represent the entire judicial system, including judges, law enforcement officials, and case handling mechanisms.

The context of news that discusses the digitization of cases in the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia and the courts under it makes it clear that what is meant by the title is not a literal table, but a judicial institution as a whole. Theoretically, *pars pro toto* is a *majas* that mentions parts to represent the whole. In this data, the element of a section in the form of a "table" is used to replace the entire judicial system. Therefore, the phrase "Green Table" falls under the category of *pro toto pars majas*.

Dates 3

Publication Date : January 20, 2026 News Title : *Basic Food Prices Rise Drastically*
 Rubric : Economy

Quote: "Three more mouths he must bear."

Based on data (3), it was found that the use of *majas pars pro toto* in the word "mouth". Denotatively, the mouth is the part of the human body that functions to eat and speak. However, in the context of the sentence, the word "mouth" is not interpreted as a literal organ of the body, but as a representation of a person or family member who must be fed.

Thus, the body part in the form of a "mouth" is used to represent the entire individual (family member). The mention of body parts to replace the whole person is a characteristic of *majas pars pro toto*.

In the context of economic news about the increase in the price of basic necessities, the phrase reinforces the meaning of the economic burden that must be borne by the subject, since each "mouth" symbolizes one individual who needs consumption. According to (Damhuri et al., 2024) In the study of *synecdoche*, *pars pro toto* is a language style that uses parts to represent the whole in a discourse context. The section semantically undergoes an expansion of meaning so as to replace a broader referent.

Dates 4

Publication Date : January 22, 2026 News Title : *Corruption Case Trial Postponed*
 Rubric : Law

Quote: "*The bridge of the defendant's nose has not yet been seen.*"

Based on data (4), there is a use of *majas pars pro toto* in the expression "bridge of the nose". Denotatively, the nose is a part of the human body that functions as a means of breathing and smell. However, in the context of the sentence, the expression "bridge of the nose" is not interpreted as a literal organ, but as a representation of the defendant's overall figure.

In the legal discourse, what is meant is not only the defendant's nose that is not visible, but the entire person of the defendant who has not been present in the courtroom. Thus, there is a substitution of meaning, that is, the body part (nose) is used to represent the whole individual (the defendant).

According to (Kerap, 2010) in the book *Diction and Language Style*, the *synecdoche pars pro toto* is a style of language that mentions a part of a thing to replace the whole. In this data, the "nose" part is used to replace the entire person who is the defendant in the case.

In line with that, (Tarigan, 2009) in *Language Style Teaching* Explains that the *synecdoche pars pro toto* occurs when a certain part of an object is used to refer to the whole object in the context of communication.

Dates 5

Publication Date : February 11, 2026 News Title : *Linking Young Women's Voices in Climate Action* Rubric : Humanities
 Excerpt: "Linking Young Women's Voices in Climate Action."

In the title, there is the use of *synecdoche pars pro toto* in the phrase "young women's voice". Denotatively, *sound* is a part or aspect of a person's self that is related to the sounds produced through speech tools. However, in the context of this discourse, the word *voice* is not interpreted as a literal sound, but as a representation of young women's ideas, aspirations, and participation in the issue of climate change. Thus, the part (voice) is used to represent the whole individual along with his thoughts and roles. According to (Kerap, 2010), *synecdoche pars pro toto* occurs when some elements are mentioned to replace the whole. Therefore, the title is classified as a *synecdoche pars pro toto* because there is a change of meaning from

the part to the whole subject in question.

Dates 6

Publication Date : 05 February 2026 News Title : *Suicide Case Becomes a Mirror of Vulnerability*
 Rubric :

Quote: "Suicide cases are a mirror of vulnerability."

In the title, there is the use of synecdoke *pars pro toto* in the phrase "mirror of vulnerability". The word *mirror* is denotatively an object that reflects a shadow. However, in this context, *the mirror* is not interpreted literally, but rather as a representation of a picture or reflection of a broader social condition. That is, suicide cases (specific parts of events) are used to represent a more complex set of social vulnerability issues. Thus, there is a part-whole relationship, i.e. specific events used to describe general conditions. Based on the theory (Keraf, 2010), synecdoke *pars pro toto* occurs when some elements are mentioned to represent the whole. Therefore, the title can be classified as a synecdoke of *pars pro toto* because certain cases are used as a representation of vulnerability conditions more broadly.

Dates 7

Publication Date : February 11, 2026 News Title : *Local Game Developers Need Support* Rubric : Technology

Quote:

"Meanwhile, Indonesian players prefer puzzle games (12.05 percent), strategy (11.74 percent), and adventure (11.47 percent)."

In data (5) there is the phrase "Indonesian players" which contains majas sinekdoke *totum pro parte*. Laughter *Indonesia* Lexically refers to the entire state entity, but in the context of the sentence it only refers to a part of the community, namely game players who are survey respondents. Thus, the whole (*totum*) is used to represent a part (*part*). According to (Keraf, 2010) In stylistic studies, the synecdoke *totum pro parte* occurs when the whole is mentioned to replace some of the elements in question. This is also confirmed in stylistic research in Indonesian linguistic journals which states that the use of country names in news texts often functions as a collective representation that actually refers to a specific group, not the entire population. Therefore, the data is classified as a synecdoke *totum pro parte* because there is a narrowing of the reference from the meaning of the whole country to only a part of its members.

Dates 8

Publication Date : February 11, 2026 News Title : *Local Game Developers Need Support*
 Rubric : Technology

Quote: "In addition, *Indonesian players* are used to enjoying large-scale, high-quality games that are free from foreign developers. While *local developers*, with limited capital, are only able to make simpler games."

Based on this data, there is the use of synecdoke *totum pro parte* in the phrases "Indonesian players" and "local developers". The word *Indonesian* lexically refers to the entire country, but in the context of the sentence it only refers to a part of the community, namely individuals who play the role of game players. Similarly, the phrase *local developer* does not refer to all game developers in Indonesia, but only some industry players have limited capital. Thus, the entire category is used to represent some of its members (*totum* represents the part). According to (Keraf, 2010), synecdoke *totum pro parte* occurs when the whole is mentioned to replace some of the elements referred to in the communication. Therefore, this data is classified as a synecdoke *totum pro parte* because there is a narrowing of the reference from the general meaning to a specific group in the context of news.

Dates 9

Publication Date : 05 February 2026 News Title : *Indonesian Futsal National Team Challenges Japan in Semifinals*
 Rubric : Sports

Quote: "The Indonesian futsal national team will challenge the 'pandora's box', Japan, in the semifinals of the 2026 Futsal Asian Cup, Thursday (5/2/2026) at 19.00 WIB, at the Indonesia Arena, Jakarta."

In the data, there is the use of the words "Indonesia" and "Japan" which contain majas sinekdoke *totum pro parte*. Lexically, Indonesia and Japan refer to all state entities that include territories, governments, and all their citizens. However, in the context of this sentence, what is meant is not the entire country, but some elements, namely the players of the futsal national team who compete in the competition.

Thus, the whole (totum) is used to represent a part (part). According to Gorys Keraf (2010), synecdoke totum pro parte occurs when a whole is mentioned to replace part of the element actually in question. In sports journalism discourse, the mention of country names is commonly used to build the effect of national collectivity and representation, even though factually only a certain number of athletes are involved.

Dates 10

Publication Date : 05 February News Title : Revision of the Constitutional Court Law Allegedly Targets Judges with Different Views Rubric : Politics and law

Quote: "Without professional and credible organizers, technology becomes a source of new problems, not democratic solutions. Technology in the hands of partisan and opportunistic organizers will only be a new effective cheating tool to manipulate votes," he said.

In the quote there is the use of synecdoke pars pro toto in the phrase "manipulating the voice". Denotatively, *sound* is a sound produced by humans. However, in the context of democracy and elections, the word *vote* is not interpreted as a literal sound, but as a representation of the overall voting rights or political choices of citizens. Thus, the part (vote) is used to represent the entire process and the outcome of individual choice in a democratic system.

In accordance with the opinion (Keraf, 2010), synecdoke pars pro toto occurs when some elements are mentioned to replace the whole in question. Therefore, the phrase "manipulating votes" is classified as a synecdoke pars pro toto, because what is manipulated is not just the sound of the vote, but the entire rights and results of voters' choices in the democratic process.

Dates 11

Publication Date : 05 February 2026 News Title : Japan, "Pandora's Box" Indonesian Futsal National Team

Rubric : Sports

Quote: "The captain of the Indonesian futsal national team, Mochammad Iqbal, agrees with the coach who considers Japan as a big test for Indonesia to prove development in the last two years. Japan's status is preferred, said Iqbal, will not intimidate Indonesia's fighting spirit."

In the data, there is the use of the words "Indonesia" and "Japan" which contain majas sinekdoke totum pro parte. Lexically, Indonesia and Japan refer to the entire entity of the country that covers the territory and its entire population. However, in the context of the sports discourse, the mention of the two countries is not intended for all their people, except that it only refers to some elements, namely the national futsal team that competes.

Thus, there is a whole relation (totum) that is used to represent a part (part). According to Gorys Keraf (2010), the synecdoke totum pro parte arises when a whole is mentioned to replace the part that actually becomes a reference in the context of speech. In sports news texts, this strategy is commonly used to build the effect of collectivity, national identity, and symbolic solidarity.

In addition, the phrase "Indonesian fighting spirit" also shows the same pattern. What is meant is not the spirit of the entire nation, but the spirit of the players who represent the country in the match. There has been a narrowing of the reference from the meaning of the state as a comprehensive entity to a specific group of athletes.

DISCUSSION

The use of synecdoke in Kompas' journalistic discourse shows that the language of the media is not only informative, but also persuasive and ideological. Stylistically, synecdoke serves to present a concise, dense, and symbolic effect, so that complex meanings can be conveyed through simpler lexical units. In the context of mass media, this strategy is relevant to the character of journalistic language that demands efficiency, appeal, and suggestive power.

The dominance of the pro toto form of pars in the research data shows the tendency of the media to present representations through the sections that are considered the most prominent or the easiest for the reader to understand. For example, the use of the word "mouth" to refer to individual family members not only saves language, but also reinforces the emotional dimension of the economic burden. Body parts related to food needs become a concrete symbol of financial pressure due to the increase in the price of basic necessities. This is in line with the findings of the latest stylistic studies that state that synecdoke in media texts function to strengthen the dramatic power and build readers' empathy for social issues (Rahardi, 2020).

In the realm of politics and law, expressions such as "green table" and "manipulating votes" show how synecdoke shapes the construction of institutional meaning. The "green table" is no longer understood literally, but has become a

symbol of the judicial system. Meanwhile, "votes" in the context of democracy represent the entire political rights of citizens. From the perspective of critical discourse analysis, the use of this kind of synecdoke functions as a social representation strategy, namely simplifying complex structures into symbols that are easy for the public to understand (Eriyanto, 2021). This simplification also builds a certain framework of interpretation of reality.

The form of totum pro parte found in the rubric of sports and technology shows the tendency of the media to build a collective identity through the mention of the name of the country. The words "Indonesia" and "Japan" in the context of futsal matches do not refer to all citizens, but to the national team as a symbolic representation of the nation. This strategy reinforces a sense of nationality and symbolic solidarity. Recent media linguistic studies show that the mention of national entities in sports news texts is a form of collective representation that is effective in building imaginary nationalism in the public space (Santoso & Setiawan, 2022). Thus, the synecdoke totum pro parte in sports texts functions not only rhetorically, but also ideologically.

In social and humanities contexts, phrases such as "young women's voice" and "mirror of vulnerability" indicate how certain parts or events are used to represent broader social conditions. The synecdoke here acts as a conceptual generalization tool. Contemporary stylistic research confirms that synecdoke in public discourse is often used to frame issues so that they appear to represent collective reality, even though the referent is limited to some phenomena (Nurgiyantoro, 2021). This strategy is effective in building the urgency of the issue while expanding the scope of meaning.

Overall, the findings of this study show that the synecdoke in the Kompas newspaper is not just a variation of language style, but a rhetorical device that functions to build social representation, collective identity, dramatization of issues, and communication efficiency. The dominance of pro toto pars shows the tendency of the media to use concrete parts to represent the abstract whole. Meanwhile, the totum pro parte was used to build the effect of nationalism and symbolic solidarity. Thus, the synecdoke language style in journalistic discourse plays a role as a linguistic strategy that is not neutral, but is full of ideological and persuasive functions in shaping public perception.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of eleven data sourced from various national newspaper rubrics, this study shows that the synecdoke language style has a significant frequency of occurrence in journalistic texts and functions as a representational strategy in building the meaning of discourse. The findings of the study show two main forms of synecdoke, namely pars pro toto and totum pro parte, with different distributions according to the characteristics of the news rubric. The pro toto form of pars is found in the use of part elements to represent the whole, such as in the expressions "mouth", "bridge of the nose", "voice", "green table", and "young woman's voice". In such contexts, certain body parts or elements are used to represent individuals, institutions, or democratic rights as a whole. This pattern suggests that journalistic language utilizes lexical efficiency to amplify dramatic and emotional effects, especially in the rubrics of law, opinion, and humanities. Semantically, the part-whole relationship shows an expansion of contextual meaning that is representational. Meanwhile, the form of totum pro parte is more dominant in sports and technology rubrics, especially through the mention of the names of countries such as Indonesia and Japan to refer to a specific national team or group. The mention of state entities to represent some element (athletes, gamers, or industry players) indicates a strategy of collectivization that builds national identity and symbolic solidarity. From a functional linguistic perspective, this lexical choice realizes the ideational as well as the interpersonal function of language, as it not only conveys factual information, but also builds the emotional closeness and sense of nationality of the reader.

These findings confirm that journalistic language is not completely neutral, but rather works through structured representation mechanisms. The synecdoke in news texts is not just a rhetorical ornament, but a stylistic device that simplifies complex reality, strengthens the persuasive effect, and frames events in a certain perspective. Thus, this study shows that the use of pars pro toto and totum pro parte in national newspapers is part of a systematic meaning construction strategy. Theoretically, this study enriches the study of media stylistics by presenting a systematic classification of synecdoke in journalistic discourse and relating it to the representational and ideological functions of language. Practically, the results of this study can be a reference in learning the Indonesian language, especially in language style materials and media discourse analysis, as well as a foundation for further research that examines the relationship between stylistic choices and the formation of public opinion. Thus, the synecdoke pars pro toto and totum pro parte in news texts are not only linguistic phenomena, but also a reflection of how the media constructs social reality through strategic and meaningful language choices.

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