

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes background of the research, statement of problem, purpose of the research, significance of the research, definition of key terms and organization of writing. Each of the points will be explained below.

1.1 Background

Written language is more complex than spoken language, because it needs correction of grammar. Structure of grammar is very important in written language. By studying the rules of grammar, the people can use them more flexible to express an idea. What people say and write not just come out, but also structured. In other words, written language needs completeness of grammatical form like sentence structure, appropriate word choice, the truth of using spelling and punctuation in expressing ideas.

In a sentence, there are many grammatical forms, one of them is phrase. In syntax or syntactic structure, phrase takes a very important role because it always fulfills the place of sentence function. Phrase is a group of words, which acts as a single unit of meaning in grammar. According to (Valin, 2004, p. 35) syntax deals with how sentences are constructed and users of human language employ a striking variety of possible arrangements of the elements in sentences. One of the most obvious yet important ways in which language differ is the order of the main elements in a sentence.

Syntax studies how to combine words into bigger linguistics unit of phrases or sentences (Chomsky, 2002, p. 11). Based on that statement, syntax discusses the relation among word in phrases, clauses, and sentence. It is stated that one of the language components is structure of grammar, that makes it very important to be learned. The function is to arrange words or to make meaningful utterance. It can be seen in the example “beautiful the woman” it is ungrammatical or meaningless. On the

other hand, the word “the beautiful woman” is grammatical and meaningful according to correct mechanism of arranging words. As an example, it can be seen from the differences of grammatical structure occurring in English and Indonesia. A large number of English construction especially in phrase is modifier-head, whereas in Bahasa is head-modifier, for example, in English it is said “red flower” and in translating to Bahasa it is “*bunga merah*”. The example above is a form of noun phrase. Noun phrase is a noun which is added modifier. In other word, it can be said that noun phrase is the arrangement of word in noun function as head.

The existence of noun phrase is unavoidable in every text, including in mass media as the object of this research which is The Jakarta Post, for example the phrase “the country’s greenhouse gas emissions” that indicates meaning of ownership. The phrase “his service to our nation” also means ownership because there is possessive pronoun. It can be known that noun phrase construction is pre-modifier or left-handed modifier. In English, for some purposes, noun phrase can be treated as single grammatical units. In the title of article, for example, most of them uses noun phrase to make the readers easier in understanding the contents of articles at the first glance. As one of the media of information, The Jakarta Post (one of newspapers in Indonesia which is written in English) gives much information about politics, economics, sports, education and entertainment to the society. The information of this newspaper is packaged in the article form and there are many kinds of noun phrase construction in the sentences. Furthermore, it is interesting to be analyzed.

The researcher chooses politic as the topic in mass media because many people get interested in it, it is the most interesting kind of news, the most special purpose in those written and a lot of case in the government. Political news as one of the contents in The Jakarta Post Newspaper is reporting all kinds of case that happened. These contents are intended to know the reader’s attention. When people read the newspaper about politics, they can find nouns and phrasal nouns that written in the newspaper and they have to understand the meanings of those writings.

There were relevant studies that is related to the analysis of noun phrase. This is a relevant study that is related to noun phrase. This study has a relation to give contribution explaining about the noun phrase. (Ayuningsih, 2007) focuses to analyze noun phrase construction in report genres in first year senior high school student's textbooks. Based on the result of the study she has found three types of noun phrase construction; they are Pre- Modifier + Head, Head + Post- Modifier, and Pre- Modifier + Head + Post- Modifier. And the most dominant type of Noun Phrase construction found in the three textbooks is Pre- Modifier + Head. It can be proven by seeing the percentage of it. It has 71% in book 1, 58% in book 2, and 64% in book 3.

The second research is conducted by (Suhendro, 2013). He focuses to analyze constituent of Noun Phrase and the dominant construction of noun phrase in George Bernard Shaw's 'Arms and the Man'. Based on the analysis, the writer found that there are thirty-five constructions of Noun Phrase and the dominant construction lies within pre-modifier + Noun (Head) construction. For specific result, the writer provides the percentage in detail, such as Noun, in 3 data, Pre-modifier + Noun (Head), in 94 data, Noun (Head) + Post-modifier, in 5 data, Pre-modifier + Noun (Head) + Post-modifier, in 76 data.

The third research is conducted by (Nugrahani, 2009) focuses analyze forms of modifiers in the noun phrase used in Jakarta Post and the distributions of noun phrase modifiers in the noun phrase used in Jakarta Post. The results of this study show that based on the forms of modifiers, there are seven forms of modifiers that modify a noun-head. Those are, a) lexical namely: noun (N+N), Adjective (Adj + N), b) phrasal namely: prepositional phrase (N + prepositional phrase), infinitive phrase (N+ infinitive phrase), noun phrase (NP + N), adjective phrase (ADJV + N), participle phrase (participle phrase + N), c) combination namely: Art + Adj + Head + PP, Art + Adj + Head + to infinitive. Moreover, based on their distributions, there are three positions of modifiers: a) modifiers appear before the noun-head or pre-position (premodifier + head), b) modifiers appear after the noun-head or post-position (Head

+ postmodifier), c) modifiers appear before and after the noun the noun-head(premodifier+ Head + Postmodifier).

The fourth research is conducted by (Susanto, 2019). She analyzes pre – modifiers and post – modifiers of noun phrase and find out the possible effects resulted from the use pre – modifiers and post – modifiers of noun phrase from 10 advertisements language chosen from different female online magazine. The findings show that in pre-modifiers, there are 11 noun phrases with 4 types of modifiers and 6 different structures. Meanwhile in post modifiers it is found 7 noun phrases with 3 types of modifiers and 3 different structures. Rhetorical device is the most utilized persuasive strategy in the advertisement languages.

Unlike those research, this research will also work on analyzing noun phrase in different form. The researcher will focus on construction of noun phrase in political article in The Jakarta Post. Therefore, the title of this research is **“The Constructions of Noun Phrase in Political Articles in The Jakarta Post”**. In this research the researcher wants to analyze the constructions of noun phrase and the functions of noun phrase used Nelson’s theory which is found in political articles in The Jakarta Post.

1.2 Statement of Problems

Noun phrase is one part of grammar that is interesting to study for its complexity. It is inevitable that noun phrase always exists in every text including in political article published in The Jakarta Post. For that reason, the researcher will analyze the construction of noun phrase in that article which is guided by the following questions:

1. What are the constructions of noun phrases in political articles in The Jakarta Post?
2. What are the functions of noun phrases in sentence of political articles in The Jakarta Post?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the research questions above, the aims of this research are as follows:

1. To analyze the constructions of noun phrase in political articles in The Jakarta Post.
2. To find out the functions of noun phrase in sentences of political articles in The Jakarta Post.

1.4 Research Significance

This research is conducted to enrich the knowledge dealing with the study of syntax, especially related to the study of language in using the appropriate noun. Besides, this research is also expected to broaden people's knowledge especially on the importance of realizing the construction and the internal structure of noun phrase. For English students, this research is expected to help them understand the application of syntactic structure in real condition, especially for figuring out the noun phrase.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

This part is to clarify the key terms as the delineation of theory in the whole of the research, as follows:

1. Constructions is component of structure.
2. Noun phrase is a group of word. It means that a phrase can consist of several words like "the man", this phrase consists of determiner and noun and it always call noun phrase.
3. The Jakarta Post is one of newspapers in Indonesia which is written in English gives much information about politics, economics, sports, education and entertainment to the society.