

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first chapter of this study consists of some sub-chapters. They are background of the study, statements of problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and the scope and limitation of the study. All of the sub-chapters are so important to be explained here since they help the readers to understand the study deeper.

1.1 Background of the study

Language usage cannot be separated in daily life. All interactions in human life use language. Humans use language to provide information and also to obtain information. Littlejohn (2009) revealed that language is a vehicle of meanings in which humans transmit meaning to an object or phenomenon to other individuals through the language used. Soepano (2002) then explained that no community groups were created without using language and no language was created that did not originate from the Community Groups. That is what underlies the emergence of various languages from ethnic groups scattered throughout the world and also masters human languages that make it easy.

English then emerged as one of the international languages which became universal communication tools for the nations of the world. English is also used as a development language in all scientific sectors, from health, engineering to social and political sciences. An estimated 1 billion people around the world speak English. In addition, 67 countries use English as their official language, there are

27 countries that use English as their second official language (Nishanthi, 2018). One of them is the world of journalism.

McQuail (2000) sees the role of the media as a window for the public to see the phenomenon and also the variety of cases that are out there. Through the media, individuals can find out events that occur in all countries in the world from the news they present. To get news about various events that occur in other countries, then one of the media that can be used as a source of information is international media.

The New York Times online newspaper is an International media that is trusted as the source of information. According to Forbes Magazine, it is international media that present true facts from reliable sources. The New York Times also occupy the top five most popular media outlets in the United States. In Indonesia, the printed version of those newspaper is not available, but they can be accessed through the websites of the media to get the latest information developments from the international world. All news on the site is presented in English.

Journalistic language is the language that used in a mass media to explain various phenomena and cases that occur in the community. Journalistic languages are located in the midst of scientific language styles as well as literary languages. The style of scientific language is usually brief, concise, and clear and in accordance with facts, whereas imaginative literary considers beauty. Journalistic language itself must be able to convey something effectively and also has its own style.

Itule and Anderson (2003) stated that there are some specific characteristics of other languages specifically used in news writing. There is a lot of information

that must be added in the news to explain the source of information such as "said" or "added .." Meanwhile, Fowler (in Boonpattanaporn, 2011) explains that writing is not a form of public writing. Writing news has its own rhythm, tone, words and phrases. The form of writing should be studied further to get a certain pattern.

One reason is the many uses of modifiers, especially post modifiers, which are used in many sentences and are located irregularly. Modifier itself is a function as adjective or adverb that explains another word or group of words. Based on its location, there are two types of modifiers, namely Pre-Modifiers and Post Modifiers. Modifiers that appear before the head (the group of words that are explained) in sentence are called Premodifiers, while modifiers that appear after Head are called Postmodifiers. In writing news, post modifiers are used to add important information a sentence. The following is an example of the use of complex postmodifiers in one of the New York Times articles.

He has long been a critic of law enforcement and intelligence officials' attempts to understand Russia's efforts to tilt the 2016 election.

From the example sentence above, it has several modifiers. The phrase a critic that works as noun phrase of the sentence modified by of law enforcement and intelligence official's attempts. It also modified by to understand Russia's efforts and to tilt the 2016 election. So, a noun phrase in a sentence can have multiple post modifiers.

Written language requires complete grammatical forms such as sentence structure, correct choice of words, truth using spelling and punctuation in

expressing ideas. In a sentence, there are many forms of grammar, one of which is a phrase. Syntaxed or syntactic structure, the phrase takes a very important role because it always fulfills the function of the place of the sentence. A phrase is a group of words, which act as a unity of meaning in grammar.

To find out the structure of a sentence, syntactic analysis is performed. Syntax Analysis itself is an analysis which is a sub of micro linguistics that examines the structure and also the construction of a sentence. Through syntactic studies, researchers can find the structure and also the use of post modifiers in a text, including news texts in the mass media. Syntactic studies also allow a researcher to fully understand the meaning of a sentence in the news text of the sentence structure displayed.

Several previous studies have been conducted to examine the structure of sentences and also the use of post modifiers in a news article. Research conducted by Boonpattanaporn (2011) was conducted to examine the use of post modifiers in business articles in four major media outlets in Thailand, the United States, and the United Kingdom, namely Bangkok Post, The Nation, USA Today, and The Guardian. The results of this study indicate that many mass media use mass media and the use of post modifiers is used in most of these media to add information. All four of these media have post modifiers in. Then there is a study conducted by Anggit Yuli Nugrahani (2009) regarding the use of modifiers in articles in the Jakarta Post. Subsequent research was carried out by (Susanto, 2019). She analyzed the pre-modifiers and post-modifiers of the noun phrase and learned of the effects that might result from the use of pre-modifiers and post-modifiers of the noun phrase

from 10 ad languages chosen from various women's online magazines. The findings show that at premodifiers, there are 11 noun phrases with 4 types of modifiers and 6 different structures. Meanwhile in post modifiers found 7 noun phrases with 3 types of modifiers and 3 different structures. Rhetorical devices are the most widely used persuasive strategies in advertising language.

In a news article, the use of modifiers is inevitable. The use is needed to provide additional information in the sentence structure that is used to convey meaning in full to the reader. Nutall (in Boonpattanaporn, 2011) suggests that the use of post modifiers alone can cause confusion to the reader, so the reader must have the ability to sort out the structure in the sentence.

This research focuses on political news in the New York Times. The choice of a political theme because politics is one of the most popular news issues in a mass media. Moreover, researchers find the use of post modifier which is quite a lot in the structure of a sentence. This will make it difficult for readers who do not understand the structure of sentences so as to make the meaning and information conveyed incomprehensible to the reader. From the above background, the researcher was appointed to conduct a study entitled " An Analysis of Post-Modifier Used in News Articles of New York Times "

1.2 Statement of Research Problem

From the background of the research described above, the researcher arranged two research questions as follows:

1. What are the types of post modifiers used in the news articles of New York Times?
2. What are the structural elements that composed the post modifiers used in the news articles of New York Times?

1.3 Objective of Study

From the research questions above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the types of post modifiers used in the news articles of New York Times.
2. To find out the structural elements that composed the post modifiers used in the news articles of New York Times.

1.4 Significance of The Study

This study aims to describe the use of post modifiers which are often used in news articles, especially reporting on issues and problems in politics. This research will provide practical contribution to various parties who have an interest in the political phenomenon in the international world in an international news in English, especially in the New York Times Post.

The results of this study also expected to give theoretical contribution to the study of syntax and sentence structure, especially those relating to the formation of noun phrases with Post Modifiers.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study analyzes the usage of post modifiers in five political-themed articles from an international mass media, New York Times Post. The scope for this study is Modifier focused on the type of post modifiers which is divide based on the location after the head in a structure in the sentence which is applied in the news articles posted in New York Times Post.

The writer limits his data only on sentences that added with post modifiers which is related to the theory in five news articles with political theme posted in April 2022.