

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter gives an overview of the study's background and provides an explanation for why this particular topic was chosen. The research question which is also addressed in this chapter is related to the background. This chapter also describes the objective of study in terms of the research question. This chapter also provides an explanation of the significance of the study in relation to its contribution to the theoretical as well as the practical aspects. It also explores the limitation of the study, which will be discussed in more detail.

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language serves an essential role in human life. Every people's activity and language are inseparable. According to Tseng (2018), Language is an organized means for expressing thoughts or emotions through commonly accepted symbols, sounds, gestures, or signals that convey clear meanings. Language has the function to communication or express human feelings, giving information, and to do interaction with each other in particular environment. It means that language has a crucial function in human life. Without language, people cannot communicate with others. As a result, language is used as a tool for communication when it involves opinions, ideas, and thoughts. It will be difficult for someone to determine the meaning of a speaker's or writer's messages if they cannot understand the language.

Communication is known as the process of comprehending and exchanging meaning (Person & Nelson, 2020). Communication is a social activities which involves at least two people. There are two methods of communication in this situation; verbal communication and non-verbal communication. In general, non-verbal communication also known as indirect communication that is used to interact with people who are far away. The example of this method of communication include letters and social media messages. Then, verbal communication that known as direct communication is generally used more frequently in our daily life. Verbal communication that take place frequently in society is like speeches, debates, and conversations.

Based on the description of the communication above, one example of verbal communication is speech. According to Hamli (2016), speech is formal address that usually delivers by someone in front of people or audience. Speech also known as the ability to speak in public using techniques and have a purpose allocated to the general public. Usually people who make speeches are figures in certain environment such as headmasters, headmans, state politicians, presidents, etc. Speech is usually spoken by an individual with a goal and purpose in front of an enormous crowd. It could be to inform, persuade, or make an announcement. Each statement has a distinctive meaning. It is because every speaker who gives a speech has their own purpose. The speech's statements must be carefully chosen with the aid of effective language tools, and the audience should be able to understand the message. Therefore, speech can be analyzed to find out one of the linguistic branches, namely discourse markers.

A discourse marker consists of words and phrases that lie outside the clause structure, serving to connect different segments of discourse. They help reflect the speaker's choices in monitoring, organizing, and managing the flow of communication (Choxter & Michael McCarthy, in Hamli:2016). Discourse markers have an important role in a well-constructed speech by providing clarification and simplifying the speaker's language for the audience. As a linguistic deice, discourse markers play a role in connecting ideas in discourse (Sharndama & Yakubu, 2013). In addition, it diverts attention, ends a conversation, and arranges what people write or say to express how they are feeling. Put another way to organize what people say or write to express feels, close a conversation and divert topics. In the other word, people use discourse markers to manage and connect what they want to say. Schifffrin (1987) elaborates the function of discourse markers when a speaker delivers a discourse in conversation or written discourse, and there are six types of discourse markers. It called marker of information management (oh), marker of responses (well), marker of connctives (and, but, and or), marker of cause and effect (so and because), marker of temporal adverb (now and then), and marker of information and participation (you know and I mean). Here are the conversation example using discourse markers:

**Speaker 1:** Hi, are you Maxwell's friend, Kevin?

**Speaker 2 : Oh**, yes I am. Is there something wrong?

**Speaker 1 : Well**, there is no something wrong. I am Axel, Maxwell's friend that want to meet you.

**Speaker 2 : Oh**, **so** you are Axel. Hi Axel!

**Speaker 1 : Yes**, can I sit here **and** talk with you **or** maybe you're not able to talk?

**Speaker 2 : Of course**, please take a sit.

**Speaker 1 : You know**, I have heard about you so much.

**Speaker 2 : Really ? So**, what you heard about me? Haha

**Speaker 1 : I know** that you have a brilliant brain, **I mean** how can be a person that have brilliant brain?

**Speaker 2 : Haha**, you're praising too much. **Now**, tell me about yourself.

**Speaker 1 : I'm just a normal person**, **then** there is no interesting about me.

**Speaker 2 : Hey**, don't be like that. You're actually such a nice person.

The use of discourse marker either in speaking or writing is so important, in order to make the text properly structured. Beside that, when we want to express an utterance, we also need a discourse marker to make it meaningful. Therefore, the researcher considered that it is necessary to study the use of discourse marker, because discourse markers is one of the important function in language usage especially in speeches in order to aid speakers in accurately communicating their meaning.

One kind of speech that is frequently delivered and has the potential to draw in large audiences is presidential speeches. This is due to the fact that the president is the primary figure with the greatest national reputation. Therefore, the public has always discussed the president's speeches extensively. When providing a speech, even the smallest decision to use an incorrect language device can lead to misunderstandings among the audience. Furthermore, the speaker is a well-known individual with a significant influence in the state.

In the context of presidential speeches, the author consider to choose a president from US, Joe Biden. He was the 46th president of the United States from 2020 to 2024. In the US, his name is well-known because it's highly contentious.

As a result Joe Biden's speeches are going to receive significant attention from public.

Based on the background, this study set out to analyze discourse markers in spoken discourse. This is due to the fact that discourse markers are interrelated and crucial in spoken activity. Furthermore, discourse markers are important to explore because they are always present in how we communicate with others, such as daily conversations, utterances, etc. Speech is one of the many objects that may be utilized for analyzing discourse markers. As a result, the study's focus was on speech analysis, especially presidential speech. This study examines how Joe Biden used discourse markers in his speeches about peace, which was posted on several YouTube channels.

This study uses a video of Joe Biden delivering a speeches about peace, specifically about the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The author took three videos of Joe Biden's speeches which were uploaded to three different YouTube channels with different durations. The author chose these three videos because from the various channels and videos available, only these three videos that have the complete duration among the others. The author chose these three videos to analyze how discourse markers are used in them. After watching the videos several times, it was found that Joe Biden utilized a lot of discourse markers in his speeches. Therefore, this can be a reason for the author to analyze discourse markers in Joe Biden's speeches.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

From the background of the study above, it is formulated the following research questions:

- 1.2.1 What are the types of discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speech?
- 1.2.2 What are the functions of discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speech?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the statement of the research questions above, the objectives of the study in this research are :

1.3.1 To find out the types of discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speech

1.3.2 To explain the functions of discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speech.

#### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

Based on the findings of this study, it is anticipated to offer both theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, this research provides empirical data on the discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speeches, examining how these markers function within them. The results further contribute to existing theories from Schiffrin (1987) and Fraser (2009) by supplying additional data. This study contributes to the body of knowledge in the field of discourse analysis and pragmatics by focusing on the use of discourse markers in political speeches, particularly in the context of peace talks. While discourse markers have been studied extensively in various contexts such as casual conversation, academic writing, and formal debates, there is a gap in literature when it comes to their strategic use in peace-oriented political speeches.

By analyzing the discourse markers used by Joe Biden in his peace speeches, this research provides insight into how these linguistic tools help construct meaning, emphasize points, and guide listeners toward specific interpretations. This is particularly relevant in political discourse, where leaders use language not only to convey messages but also to persuade, unite, and call for action. Furthermore, the study enhances our understanding of how discourse markers function within political rhetoric to shape public perceptions of peace and conflict resolution.

Practically, this study can benefit academic communities, particularly students and lecturers in English departments. For lecturers, it may serve as a reference to teach students about the types and functions of discourse markers. For students, it offers insights into the application of discourse markers. Moreover, this study can aid other researchers interested in analyzing discourse markers by expanding on prior studies and serving as a reference for further development in this field. This research also benefits political leaders, speechwriters, diplomats, and communication strategists by offering an in-depth look at how discourse markers can be effectively employed in peace-related political communication. In peace speeches, where the stakes are high and the need for clear, persuasive

communication is crucial, discourse markers serve as critical tools for fostering understanding, reinforcing key messages, and managing audience expectations.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

The scope of this study is discourse analysis which focuses on discourse markers. This study is limited to discuss about discourse markers in three speeches of Joe Biden using the theory of Fraser (2009) to analyze the types of discourse markers in Joe Biden's speeches and Schiffirin (1987) to figure out the function of discourse markers used in Joe Biden's speeches. This study analyzes the utterances of Joe Biden during his speech.