

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five sub chapters, namely: background of the study, statements of research question, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, scope, and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language has a particular role for humans in the world of communication. It is because humans interact with each other in their daily life using language. Bloor and Bloor (2004) claim that a language means a system of meanings, which is means when people use language, their language acts produce and create significance. Based on his statement, the purpose of language is not only based on what the speaker said. But it is influenced by their act when they say something. Therefore, language is a communication tool to share ideas and feelings and a phenomenon that can be studied. According to Michael Halliday, language is used to discourse our experiences in the world, communicate with others, and establish relationships with them (Thompson, 2004). So, based on its function, language can be analyzed using linguistic studies.

Linguistics means the study of language and its features. Nailah (2015) claimed the term linguistics analysis is used for analyzing something relating to the features of the language. The linguistic analysis aims to identify and classify the elements of language used by the speaker. Thus, language analysis is helpful for research related to how to use, select, and arrange language in literary and non-literary work. For academic work, the researcher can analyze words in short stories and novels, while for non-literary work, the researcher can elaborate on the utterances in a movie.

A movie is one of the most-watched works in the current era, beginning from children to parents. A movie is, also called a film, means a story conveyed with moving images (Nurhayati, 2016). A movie is also known as one of the entertaining works representing life in the world. Fiorelly (2016:156) argues that

movies allow us to see and hear facts about their fictional world in the same way we see and listen to points in the real world. Based on her argument, it can be concluded that the movie is not only used for entertainment; therefore, the movie contains a message that the director wants to convey. By this fact, many researchers analyze the movie in terms of literature and linguistics. Based on a literary perspective, the researcher can research the movie topic using theories such as Feminism, Marxism, etc. Meanwhile, from a linguistic point of view, the researcher can elaborate language in the movie using one of the linguistics features called systemic functional grammar.

Systemic functional grammar is part of systemic functional linguistics. Systemic functional grammar discussing the study of the forms relates to the expressed meaning (Thompson, 2014). Grammar is divided into three kinds, namely traditional grammar, formal grammar, and functional grammar. Traditional grammar discusses the rules to produce the correct sentences. Formal grammar is concerned with describing the structure of individual sentences, and systemic functional linguistics means the technique of looking at grammar in terms of how grammar is used (Martin, Matthiessen, & Painter, 1997). So, based on the different language in usage, there is a language metafunction.

The function of language as a source to create meaning is known as a language metafunction. One type of language metafunction is known as an ideational function. The ideational function in systemic functional linguistics represents someone's experience. Ideational functions are categorized into two, namely experiential functions and logical functions. The logical function refers to the various types of clause complex, and the experiential function is manifested by the transitivity system.

Applying ideational functions to analyze language in the movie is an interesting subject because one part of the ideational function called transitivity can be used to understand clauses clearly. Transitivity analysis explains deeper than strands of clauses because transitivity categorized clauses into participant (actor), process (verb), and circumstance. The division of the participant's role in a

clause makes transitivity can clarify how the action was carried out, by whom, and on what in a clause (Eggins: 2004).

Halliday divided the transitivity process into six types. They are material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioral, and existential. The process is a smaller part that can let us know the participant and the circumstances in a clause. This is because each process in the transitivity system has different participants and functions. For example, is a material process. The material process is used to reveal the process of doing and happening. So, the characteristics of this process usually use action verbs and consist of two participants. The name of the participant that does action is known as the actor and the receiver of the action can be verb phrase and range. This idea makes transitivity unique and interesting for analyzing because the six types of processes also have different names of participants.

In this study, the writer analyzes the movie *Crazy Rich Asians*, adapted from the novel by Kevin Kwan entitled *Crazy Rich Asians*. *Crazy Rich Asians* is an American romantic comedy-drama movie directed by Jonathan Murray Chu and produced by Nina Jacobson, Brad Simpson, and John Penott. This film is used in this study because this film uses everyday language. Using simple language makes it easy for the audience to understand the story even though the film uses a foreign language. So, from a linguistic point of view, it is interesting to study based on how the director codes the language used in the movie. An appropriate tool to describe how directors encode language in films in line with this issue is transitivity study.

Many researchers have researched transitivity in movies, speech, fairy tales, narrative books, etc. This study also analyzes the topic of transitivity by Halliday. But, the gap that makes this study different is because this study analyzes *Crazy Rich Asians* movie. This movie has been widely investigated in terms of literature, but no one has examined this movie using the transitivity feature. Based on this fact, this study will provide new findings to add references to transitivity studies. Thus, the writer would like to conduct a study entitled *Transitivity Analysis in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie "Crazy Rich Asians"*.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study, this study analyzes the transitivity process in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie *Crazy Rich Asians*. Along with the aim, the research questions are formulated as follow:

1. How are the transitivity components in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie "Crazy Rich Asians" categorized as effective components?
2. What are the types of transitivity processes found in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie "Crazy Rich Asians"?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In line with the statement of the research problems above, the aims of this study are:

1. To explain the types of the effectiveness of transitivity found in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie "Crazy Rich Asians"
2. To explain the types of transitivity processes found in Jonathan Murray Chu's movie "Crazy Rich Asians"

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to provide theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, the result of the study can add references and support the transitivity theory proposed by Martin, Matthiessen, and Painter (1997) and Hopper & Thompson (1980). Practically, the findings in this study are expected to be a reference for other researchers who are interested in a similar study. As for readers, this study is expected to be able to provide insight and understanding to readers about the types of transitivity process.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is the ideational meaning in systemic functional grammar. This study concerns the transitivity system and the effectiveness of transitivity's components in the *Crazy Rich Asian* movie. This study uses the hypothesis of transitivity proposed by Hopper & Thompson's (1980) to explain the effectiveness of transitivity components and transitivity theory proposed by Martin, Matthiessen, and Painter (1997) to explain the types of transitivity processes. Furthermore, to make this study more specific, this study limits its discussion only on the transitivity process in the dialogues of the actors

in the movie Crazy Rich Asians