

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This first chapter consists of the background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitations of the study. This chapter functions as a gateway to understanding the entire proposal. It explains the background of the study, why this study is needed, and what is expected and what will be achieved in writing this proposal.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a means of communication used by humans to convey thoughts, ideas, feelings and information to other people. Language is the main tool that allows humans to interact, communicate and share knowledge with each other. Language has various components, including sounds, words, grammar, and visual signs such as writing or sign language. This allows humans to convey meaning and communicate in very complex and diverse ways.

Each language has its own unique structure, grammar rules, vocabulary, and communication conventions. Humans can use language orally, by speaking and listening or by writing and reading. Language can also be conveyed through sign language for individuals who cannot hear or speak. According to Nugraha & Mahdi (2020), language is a social semiotic which is a system for making meanings. Language is not only a means of communication, but also reflects human culture, identity, values and thoughts. In addition, through language human can express their abstract thought, think critically, and compose stories. This makes language one of the most distinctive and important aspects of human life.

There is SFL theory, to identify every meaning that exists in a language. Language theory known as SFL (Systemic Functional Linguistics) looks at how language interacts with its social environment. That is to say that, when people use language, their language acts produce or, more technically, construct meaning (Bloor & Bloor, 2013). For SFL, a language is a system of meanings. As cited in Halliday (1994), a language, then, is a system for making meanings: a semantic system, with other systems for encoding the meanings it produces. The term

'semantics' does not simply refer to the meaning of words; it is the entire system of meanings of a language, expressed by grammar as well as by vocabulary. Ideational meaning, which has to do with how language is used to communicate ideas and information in texts, is one of the key ideas of SFL. Ideational significance in the SFL theory that may be used in daily life, this idea explains how verbs in language describe activities. Ideational meaning frequently employs a variety of verbs in everyday speech to explain what is happening. The ideational meaning of the clause "I am eating," for instance, is to imply that the speaker is engaging in the act of eating.

There are three metafunction in systemic functional linguistics, they are ideational, interpersonal, textual. In this study, the focus of the study is ideational meaning, which is one of the important aspects in linguistic analysis or as we know systemic functional linguistics. Ideational meaning is more related to what a sentence or expression states in terms of the information or concept conveyed. The ideational meaning, is categorized into experiential meaning and logical meaning. Ideational meaning is related to experience meaning, which is linked with process in the transitivity system, and logical meaning, which is related to interdependence and Logico-Semantic relationship. Transitivity is a grammatical system which deals with several types of process found in structure of language (Nugraha & Mahdi, 2020). Refers to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), transitivity structures express representational meaning: what the clause is about, which is typically some process, with associated participants and circumstances. In SFL, each clause has an interconnected meaning in containing information. The clause of the grammar is not only a figure, representing some process some doing or happening, saying or sensing, being or having with its various participants and circumstances; it is also a proposition, or a proposal, whereby we inform or question, give an order or make an offer, and express our appraisal of and attitude towards whoever we are addressing and what we are talking about (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004).

In this study, data took from the short story by Albert Camus *The Guest*. A common literary style, short stories are frequently used to convey the thoughts, feelings, or ideas of the author. They may also be utilized in the classroom to help

students improve their reading, writing, and literary comprehension abilities. Short stories may be found all over the world in a wide range of literary journals, anthologies, and periodicals, and they are written in several languages.

In a short story, there must be a message that the writer wants to convey to the reader through their literary work, whether it is about socio-political, culture or conveying a form of love. This study took data from a short story by Albert Camus entitled *The Guest* (Camus, 2012). By conducting a study approach using systemic functional linguistic theory and taking a focus on one of the three metafunctions in SFL, that is ideational meaning. In studying a short story, Transitivity in SFL makes it possible to study a short story by utilizing sentence structure, word choice, and the role of grammar in describing character, conflict, and story plot development to see every meaning in a short story work.

The reason why the data chosen from the short story by Albert Camus *The Guest* in this research is because the author of the short story *The Guest*, Albert Camus, is someone who is already famous for his work and has credibility in the literary field. As quoted in Simpson (1995), Albert Camus was a French-Algerian journalist, playwright, novelist, philosophical essayist, and Nobel laureate. Though he was neither by advanced training nor profession a philosopher, he nevertheless made important, forceful contributions to a wide range of issues in moral philosophy in his novels, reviews, articles, essays, and speeches from terrorism and political violence to suicide and the death penalty. Also, in this study reveal the type of ideational meaning and reveal the relationship between the character and environment through narration and expressions from the narrator in the short story.

1.2 Research Question

This research question formulated based on the background of the study and focus of the study above, the writer formulates the research question as follows:

1. What are the types of process used by the characters in the short story *The Guest* by Albert Camus?
2. How do the types of process represent the experience of the characters in the short story *The Guest* by Albert Camus?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the research question that has been mention above the writer has the following objectives:

1. To find out and describe the types of process used by the characters in the short story *The Guest* by Albert Camus.
2. To describe the function of process, represent the experience of the characters in the short story *The Guest* by Albert Camus.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Significance of the study in the context of a study is to explain why this study is important or relevant. The following is an example of a sentence that explains the significance of a study with a focus on theoretically and practically:

Theoretically, this study provides information about what systemic functional linguistics (SFL) is, especially on ideational meaning through Albert Camus' short story *The Guest*. The significance of this study lies in exploring the ideational meaning embedded in the various conflict narratives in the story. By examining how the conveying of conflict and feelings through stories develop by different story writers builds and conveys meaning through their stories, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the diversity of human communication. It is highlighting the way cultural values, beliefs, and worldviews are reflected in the narrative choices made by storytellers, thereby increasing our appreciation of the richness and complexity of human expression.

Practically this study aims to provide information to readers about ideational meaning, like what are types ideational meaning, what are the functions of ideational meaning, how type of process represents the experience of the characters contained through this short story in short story *The Guest* by Albert Camus. Then for those who want to study ideational meaning in the future, so it is hoped that this study will help as a reference for future studies that also study ideational meaning, both from the same data or in different data.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is systemic functional linguistics, especially in ideational meaning. This study will focus on analysing type of process and examine the function of types of process in ideational meaning that use by the characters. Theoretical framework in this study is ideational metafunction of Systemic Functional Linguistics that proposed by Halliday and Matthiessen in 2014.

The limitation of this study is the short story entitled *The Guest* by Albert Camus. This study analyses all the part of the short story. In this study only focus analyse the clause.