

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of Background of Research, Statement of Problem, Research Objective, Research Significance, Definition of Key Terms.

1.1 Background of Research

Preposition is the crucial point in the sentence since it is used together with other word classes to create such concrete meaning. It is used in front of nouns or noun phrases, pronouns or gerunds to express a relationship between one person, thing, event, and another (Alexander, 1988). Prepositions are a kind of small word and cannot stand alone in the sentences. They may or may not need an object in the form of word or phrase to represent a meaning.

Morley (2000) states that prepositions have the feature of being accompanied, indeed normally followed, by a completive element in the form of a (single or multiple word) phrase or a clause. This completive element can be noun phrase, adjective phrase, adverbial phrase, further prepositional phrase, subordinate clause, pronoun, and gerund. The combination of preposition and those completive elements form a prepositional phrase. Prepositional phrase comprises a preposition as the headword plus a second, complement or completive element which is integral to the structure of the phrase.

Quirk and Greenbaum state that most of the common English prepositions, such as at, in, and for, are simple, consist of one word. Other prepositions, consisting of more than one word, are called complex e.g. apart from, out of, owing to, together with, except for, because of, instead of, in view of, in addition to, in spite of, on behalf of (Morley, 2000).

Those various form of prepositions are changing over the time and it makes either ESL (English Second Language) or EFL (English Foreign Language) learners are still confused in determining the correct preposition. According to

research conducted by Hamataher, in his thesis entitled "Analysis Of Errors Of Use Preposition And Factors Caused In Writing" There are some causes that make learners have difficulty in understanding preposition such as: interference, lack of mastery of prepositions in English, and prepositions in English have more than one equivalent meaning in Indonesian. Although they have achieved a high level of proficiency in English, they still get difficulty to study even memorize it (Hamataher, 2012).

Many English prepositions have nearly the same meaning: e.g. beside, by near, next to, or: above, on top of, over. Many of the words described as prepositions can also be used as other parts of speech and it makes ambiguous in interpreting meaning, as exemplified in this sentence: *She swept off the stage departed majestically*. This sentence can have either of two meanings, depending on whether off is analyzed as part of the particle swept off which means 'cleaned', or is a preposition heading a prepositional phrase off the stage.

In a sentence, there must be some groups of words that construct a meaning. One of them is a phrase. A phrase is a group of words (or sometimes a single word) that form a constituent and functions as a single unit in a sentence. According to Radford, a phrase is a process of merging (a technical meaning 'combining') two words together (Morley, 2000). For example, speaker A : what are you trying to do ?, the speaker B : help you. By merging the word help with the word you, it will form the phrase help you.

In addition, Biber, Conrad and Leech state that a phrase may consists of a single word or a group of words. For example, the opposition demands a more representative government. This sentence consists of three phrases. They are the opposition, demands and a more representative government. So, phrase is a group of related words that may have noun or verbals and it does not have a subject which is doing a verb. It functions as a single part of a sentence but it does not act as a sentence (Morley, 2000).

Prepositional phrase (henceforth PP) attachment disambiguation is an important task within the task of syntactic parsing of text. Based on the British National Corpus (BNC) (Burnard, 2000), out of the top-ten most frequent words in English, four are prepositions (of, to, in and for). The frequency of the prepositions in the text emphasizes the need for correct PP attachment during the parsing process, since it affects the resulted parse tree. An incorrect attachment can have a major influence in several linguistic tasks that embed syntactic parsing, such as information retrieval.

A Prepositional Phrase is structured of the preposition, its object and any associated adjectives or adverbs. A prepositional phrase can function as a noun, an adjective, or an adverb. Prepositional Phrase is the part of preposition and absolutely it is the part of grammar too. It has rules and deregulations that must be obeyed. Without a correct replacement of preposition, the meaning of the sentence can make the people confused.

In the opinion of Wishon and Burks prepositional phrase conveys the kinds of information: place (position), direction, time, purpose (reason), possession, manner (instrument), identification, distance, agent, material, and quantity (George E. Wishon, 1980).

Novel is one of literary works. In writing this novel, a writer can not be free from the use of language. By reading a novel, a reader directly or indirectly will get knowledge about the language used in a novel. From some cases above, the writer is interested in analyzing kind of information of prepositions phrase and find out the patterns for a prepositional phrase. Therefore, the writer chooses novel as source of data. Novel is one of literary works. In writing this novel, a writer cannot be free from the use of language and grammar. By reading a novel, a reader directly or indirectly will get knowledge about the grammar used in a novel.

In this thesis, the object is taken from literary works that is a novel entitled “The Perfect Nanny” written by Leila Slimani, One of the 10 Best Books Of The Year of The New York Times Book Review one of the English famous writer and

the first international bestseller and winner of France's most prestigious literary prize (The 10 Best Books of 2018, 2019).

Based on the reason above, I assume that there are many prepositional phrase found in the novel. And the theory used is from Frank that states there are some syntactic functions of prepositional phrases of sentences, such as nominal function which consists of prepositional object, Adverbial function which consists of modifying a verb and modifying an adjective and the last one is Adjectival function. (Frank, 1972)

Another research was In University Of North Sumatra, especially in Faculty Of Letters English Literature Department some researchers have made the similar research. The first is entitled "An Analysis Of Prepositional Phrase In Jane Austen's Novel "Pride And Prejudice". It has been written by Eva Pebriyanti (Pebriyanti, 2008). He Concluded that the prepositional had two types relationships: Physical Relationships (place, time and direction) and Semantic Relationships (identification, purpose or reason and possession).

The second research was in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, written by Sukei titled "A Syntactic Analysis Of Prepositional Phrase In Sentences Of Short Story Entitled: Hansel And Gretel (By Brothers Grimm)" (Sukei, 2008). Her objective studies are to explaining the functions of prepositional phrase in a sentence of Hansel and Gretel by Brothers Grimm and the ambiguous prepositional phrase construction applied in the sentence of Hansel and Gretel by Brother Grimm.

Then, the conclusion of her study are the function of prepositional phrase in sentences of the short story is syntactic function: PP as a qualifier in AdjP, as a qualifier in AdvP, as a qualifier in NP, as a completive in PP, as a subject of the sentence, as a direct object of the sentence, as a subject complement, as a object complement, as a predicator complement, as an adjunct, and as a conjunction

The similarities between those research and this research are focused on syntax and using tree diagrams or phrase markers to analyze the data. It really helps the researcher to make this research because it enlarges

1.2 Statement of Problem

Understanding prepositional phrase is one thing become problems for some people, especially those who are the EFL learners. This study focuses on analysis of prepositional phrase in the novel written in English entitled *The Perfect Nanny* written by Laila Slimani. The research questions are as follows :

1. What are the positions of prepositions phrase of sentences found in Novel *The Perfect Nanny* written by Leila Slimani?.
2. What are the patterns of tree diagram for a prepositional phrase of sentences found in Novel *The Perfect Nanny* written by Leila Slimani?.

1.3 Research Objective

1. To know what the position of prepositional phrases that usage on novel *The Perfect Nanny*.
2. To know the pattern of tree diagram of prepositional Phrases on novel *The Perfect Nanny*.

1.4 Research Significance

Through this study, this thesis is expected to be useful to the students in understanding the Prepositional Phrase used in the novels. And it can give some contribution to the language learners of English, about the contextual use of English Preposition, especially the use of prepositional phrase in the literary works. Below this is some of the significance of this research. divided into two significance, theoretically, and practically.

Theoretically

- a. This research can extend the study of syntax in terms of Prepositional Phrase.
- b. This research can help other readers who are looking for an analysis of things that the researcher is analyzing.

Practically (Pebriyanti, 2008)

- a. Giving information and understanding to public about the prepositional phrase usage on the novel.
- b. Giving explanation about the prepositional phrase on the novel.

1.5 Definition of key Terms

The researcher explains several terms related to this research to prevent the misapprehension, the terms are as follows:

- a. **Phrase** : Phrase is a group (or pairing) of words in English. A phrase can be short or long, but it does not include the subject-verb pairing necessary to make a clause.
- b. **Prepositional** : Any member of a class of words found in many languages that are used before nouns, pronouns, or other substantives to form phrases functioning as modifiers of verbs, nouns, or adjectives, and that typically express a spatial, temporal, or other relationship, as in, on, by, to, since.
- c. **Prepositional Phrase** : Prepositional phrase is a group of words made up of a preposition (such as to, with, or across), its object (a noun or pronoun), and any of the object's modifiers (an article and/or an adjective).
- d. **Syntax** : Syntax is the grammatical structure of sentences. The format in which words and phrases are arranged to create sentences is called syntax.
- e. **Sentence** : Sentence is the largest unit of any language. In English, it begins with a capital letter and ends with a full-stop, or a question mark, or an exclamation mark.

- f. Novel : An invented prose narrative that is usually long and complex and deals especially with human experience through a usually connected sequence of events.

