

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In living, human being need communication tools so that they can interact each other absolutely. People called the tool language. Wardhaugh (1977: 3) stated “Language is a system of arbitrary vocal used for human communication”. Here, Wardhaugh’s perception about language does not mean that the term “arbitrary” itself is a lot of thing about language which cannot be predicted. It also cannot predict precisely if it refers to the people who are unusual with that language or with language that relate it. According to Richard Nordquist (2013) “A human system of communication uses arbitrary signals, such as voice sounds, gestures, or written symbols”. Furthermore, language is very important for human. People can express their feeling, idea or emotion through the beauty of language. Sometimes the speakers use the other languages to express their verbal ability such as using prestige language and to have sense in showing their utterances.

Radford (1988: 4) stated that:

Language has four different aspects namely phonology (the study of sounds and sound systems), morphology (the study of how morphemes are combined together into words / grammatical units smaller than the word), semantic (the study of meaning), and syntax (how words are combined together to form sentences).

Syntax, one of aspects of linguistic analysis as Radford's stated, is used for the study of some rules which aim to govern several ways words are combined thereby forming phrases, clauses or sentences. Furthermore, the study of syntax is fundamental to language study. Thus, syntax is the study of sentence structure.

Syntactic structure cannot be separated from syntax. Analyzing grammatical forms can be done by using syntactic structure. One of grammatical forms is phrase. Phrase is grammatical unit containing a head word and any modifiers. According to Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2011: 329) "Phrase is group of words which have a particular meaning when used together". According to Miller (2002: 21) "Phrases can be extended indefinitely, different types of phrase have different types of head, phrases occur in clauses, but clauses can also occur inside phrases". Bloomer, Griffiths and Merrison (2005: 188) concluded that there are five types of phrase in English. Radford (1988: 167) said five phrases are nominal phrase, verbal phrase, adjectival phrase, prepositional phrase, and adverbial phrase.

Phrase, and head and modifier have tightly relation. Therefore, it cannot be separated each other. Actually, head is the central element for phrase. Each phrase has a head. As Miller said in his book entitled *An Introduction to English Syntax* (2002: 1) "The head, controls the other words, the modifiers". It means without the head, modifier will not be able to function. It is because the head itself is the regulator for the modifier. Therefore, the head always control or set the modifier. A noun phrase will have a noun as its head, a verb phrase will have a verb as its head, an adjective phrase will have an adjective as its head, etc.

Modifier is a phrasal element that is not selected by the verb functions as a modifier to the head phrase.

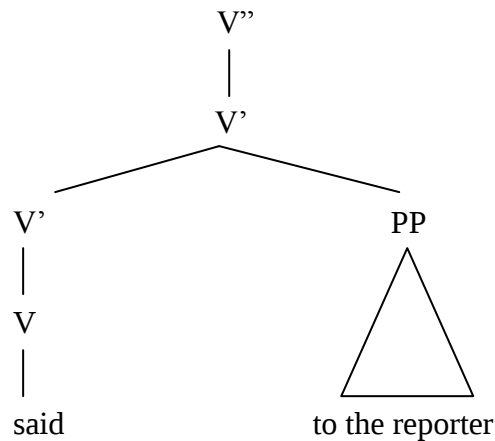
Verb phrase is one example of phrases. Morley (2003: 55) stated that verb phrase is a phrase which has a verb headword as a main verb“. It first deals with the auxiliary then with the verb and their complements”. Fabb (2005: 33) stated that there are two characteristics of verb phrase. Firstly, the verb phrases containing one or more phrases which follow the verb within the same sentence. Secondly, the verb phrases containing auxiliary verbs which precede the verb. Briefly, it means that the verb phrase is all sentence elements following the subject. In the other word, verb phrase is all elements in a sentence except subject. The verb phrases begin from simple forms to complicated ones like in the Campus English Magazine (LPM Campus: 2013), for instance:

1. (She) said to the reporter.
2. (We) explore the differentiation in the basic materials of it.

From the examples of verb phrase above, by using X-bar analysis, it can be broken down deeply.

1. S: *(She) said to the reporter.*

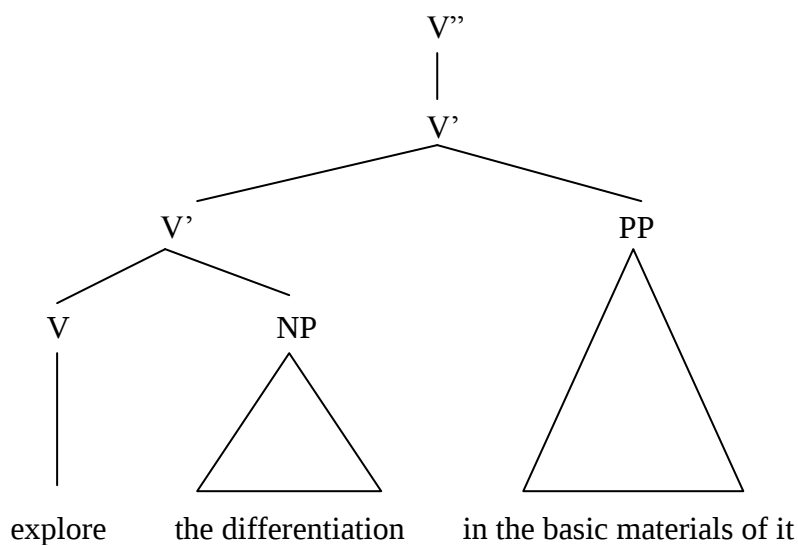
VP: said to the reporter.



From the analysis of verb phrase “said to the reporter”, it is identified that the constituent of “said to the reporter” is full verb phrase (V’). The constituent *said* stands as the head of VP. The constituent *to the reporter* as modifier constituent of PP. Specifically, it stands as post modifier because it follows the head or its position after headword. It can be seen that V’ is generated into V’. V’ is generated into V’+PP (V’ → V’+PP). V’ itself is generated into V (V’ → V). The constituent of *to the reporter* has function as adjunct rule or optional because if the constituent is deleted becoming *She said*, it does not result ill-formed construction. The constituent of PP is the sister of V’ and the daughter of V’.

2. S: (We) explore the differentiation in the basic material of it.

VP: explore the differentiation in the basic material of it.



The verb phrase *explore the differentiation in the basic*, has three constituents, they are verb (*explore*) as the head, noun phrase (*the differentiation*) and prepositional phrase (*in the basic materials of it*). It is identified as a full verb phrase (V''). The constituent *the differentiation* as post modifier constituent NP and has function as complement or obligation. Besides, the constituent *in the basic materials of it* stands as post modifier constituent PP and has function as adjunct because the head *explore* does not have to follow this PP.

Based on the phenomena above, the writer interests to analyze verb phrases because the writer thinks that the words construction of verb phrases in the sentences need identifying. Not only noun phrase, verb phrase is also important because it is important part in arranging a sentence. Finally, the writer is interested for conducting analysis in the research of verb phrase constituent found in Campus English Magazine using X-bar theory. Therefore, the writer chooses the title “*A Syntactic Analysis of Verb Phrase Found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013 (Using X-bar Approach)*”.

B. Previous Study

The writer finds that some researchers conducted the research related to the writer's research, syntactic analysis. The writer presents three previous studies to verify this research.

The research has similarity with some previous researches. The first research was conducted by Laila (1986). She studied Verb Phrase construction analysis entitled *STUDI TENTANG KONSTRUKSI FRASE KERJA BAHASA INGGRIS*. Her technique sampling is random sampling. The objectives of her study are describing Verb Phrase construction by using Transformational approach, knowing the kinds of Verb Phrase construction in English, determining the level of using frequency Verb Phrase construction in English and attempting to find out kernel sentence. She also has presented the result of her study around the Verb Phrase. Based on her data analysis, the study focused kinds of Verb Phrase construction in English.

The second research was conducted by Astuti (2007) entitled *A Syntactic Analysis of Noun Phrase on **Pride and Prejudice Novel** by Jane Austen*. In her research, she focused the constituent of noun phrase and modifiers of noun phrase in *Pride and Prejudice* novel. She presented two results from her study. The first result is noun phrase based on position. The second result is noun phrase based on grammatical structure. In the first result, she found three positions of modifiers. They are pre-position (modifier + N), post-position (N + modifier), and before and after noun (modifier + noun + modifier). In the second result, she found six

constituents that function as modifier of noun phrase such as noun, adjective, preposition, infinitive, adverb, and clause. Her type of research is descriptive qualitative. Identifying modifier of noun phrase and describing the distribution of modifier of noun phrase in the *Pride and Prejudice* novel by Jane Austen is her objectives of her research.

The third research was conducted by Rodliyah (2006). She studied *Syntactic Analysis of Verb phrase (VP) in The Jakarta Post Headline Using X-bar Approach*. She found four types of verb phrase construction using X-bar theory. The first, $VP \rightarrow V + NP$ (complement) + PP (adjunct), the constituent of verb phrase are the head verb, the complement noun phrase, and adjunct of prepositional phrase. The second, $VP \rightarrow V + NP$ (complement), the constituent of verb phrase are the head V and the complement of noun phrase. The third, $VP \rightarrow V + PP$ (complement) + PP (adjunct). The last, $VP \rightarrow V + V'$ (complement), the constituent of verb phrases are the head of verb and the complement of verb.

The similarities to the first study are on the syntactic analysis and in the same phrase, Verb Phrases. The similarities to the second study are on the type of study, descriptive qualitative. The similarities to the third study are on the syntactic analysis, the same phrase and in finding out the constituents of verb phrase. On the other hand, the writer also finds differences between previous researches. The difference from the first previous study is she used Transformational Approach for describing VP construction. Furthermore, the differences from the second previous study are she used Chinese box to process data. Her data and data source were taken from *Pride and Prejudice* novel by Jane

Austen and she used N-bar theory. From the third study, she used different data source. Her data and data source are taken from the Jakarta Post.

C. Limitation of the Study

The writer limits this study to analyze easily. The writer analyzes positive constituent of Verb Phrase. The limitation is also on the head verb, to be the head verb included all the aspect of the verb. The writer uses Campus English Magazine by *Lembaga Pers Mahasiswa* Campus which is as an academic mass media at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. The problems above are analyzed using X-bar theory based on Transformational Grammar at First Course by Andrew Radford. It first published on 1988.

D. Problem Statement

Based on the phenomena mentioned on background of the study, the writer formulates the problems of the study as follows:

1. What are the constituents of Verb Phrases mostly found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013?
2. What are the functions of the constituents of Verb Phrases mostly found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013?

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement mentioned above, the objectives of the study are in the following:

1. To identify the constituent of Verb Phrases mostly found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013.
2. To describe the functions of the constituents of Verb Phrases mostly found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013.

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes that this study of Verb Phrases found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013 gives benefits for others. The benefits of this research will be distinguished into two benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit

a. Student

This research gives additional explanation about constituent of Verb Phrases that found in Campus English Magazine Vol.54/XII/2013. Thus, it can be used to develop student's ability in studying syntax especially in accepting X-bar theory.

b. Lecturer

This research is to enlarge the lecturer's insight by dealing with Verb Phrase in different perspectives.

2. Practical Benefit

a. Other Researchers

This research gives more explanation and stimulation to the next researcher who will conduct further research related to this research.

b. Readers

This research will enrich the knowledge around Verb Phrase and gives more information about Verb Phrase to the reader.

G. Research Paper Organization

To understand this research paper easily, the writer arranges this research paper systematically. The writer divides this research into five chapters. Each chapter has several sub-chapters.

Chapter I is introduction which consists of the background of the study, previous study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization.

Chapter II is underlying theory. It deals with syntax, kinds of phrase, verb phrase, phrase marker and phrase structure rule, Complement and Adjunct, X-bar theory, and the last one discuss about V-bar theory.

Chapter III is research method. It describes type of research, object of research, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. It focuses with data analysis and discussion of research finding.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.