

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Language is cultural product as system of human communication which has its own features and function for human to communicate each other. The features of language as Hockett quoted by Wardhaugh (1998) has pointed out that human language has certain design features; one of important design features of human language is that of semanticity. Language is about something—it is not just “sound and fury” but has content. People in the world use language for different purposes; this is why the language serves important functions in human life. For conveying of information, especially in writing, text should be understood by considering some elements which can make the writing understandable and meaningful.

Functional grammars view language as a resource for making meaning. This view attempts to describe language in actual use and so focus on texts and their contexts. In systemic functional grammar, the term ‘clause’ is referred to ‘sentence’. A sentence is a unit of written language; it does not apply to spoken language and a clause is the largest grammatical unit (Gerot and Wignell, 1994:82). A clause will be considered as a message, which is in turn part of a larger messages, the text. The element which comes first in the clause is identified as Theme. This represents the point of departure of this message from the previous one. The rest of the clause is called Rheme. New information is typically contained in the Rheme (Gerot and Wignell, 1994:103).

According to Halliday (1994:64), Theme is the element which meaning is significant and serves as the point of departure of the message; it is that with which the clause is concerned. The theme can be identified as that element which comes in first position in the clause. Theme is one element in a particular structural configuration which, taken as a whole, organizes the clause as a message; this is the configuration of Theme and Rheme. A message consists of a Theme combined with a Rheme. In order a written expression conveys complete meaning or content.

Meaning can be created anywhere. Not only on standard written texts but also in written art or literature work such as poetry and song lyrics. Nowadays songs are such an interesting entertainment for everybody. In various genre music with singing, song can be enjoyed by all people around the world. The writer's feelings can be represented in song lyric. For example, emotions and moods for precious ones and nature have been written in ancient song as well as pop music. When people listens to song, the acoustic features, lyrical features and combination of the both features influence human impression for the song. Language not only has communicative function but also has imaginative function. It is happened when language is used for composing poetry, in rhyming, song or other kinds of creative work. Here, simple structure of song lyric may transfer more complex meaning than the structure. Based on the elaboration above, the researcher is interested to analyze the ideational meaning beyond the song lyrics.

The previous research related to this study are the work of Dewi Andrianie Eva Tuckyata and Heriyanto (2014), Heri Kuswoyo (2016), Yulia Esti Katrini and Farikah (2015) and Tri Kusuma Wijayanto (2013).

Song lyric as a means communication which has quality of being meaningful contains the element which serves as point of departure of the message called Theme. Based on the problem above, the writer conducted a study dealing with "*ANALYSIS OF THEME ON SELECTED TAYLOR SWIFT'S SONG LYRICS*".

## **B. Limitation of the Study**

With the purpose of making achievable, the researcher proposes to limit the study on types of Theme analysis as the object of the study. to know whether it belongs to Ideational (Topical), Interpersonal or Textual Theme. The types of Theme represent the meaning on each clause that realizes the messages. The clause-complex is beyond the researcher's scope. Therefore, the researcher limits the focus on realized meaning which concerns on Theme and Rheme analysis. The researcher takes the data source from English song written by American song writer, Taylor Swift, which are selected from

various albums. The 10 songs are selected from various albums because of to make it representative for all kinds of Theme mentioned in the theory.

The researcher limits the focus only on Theme analysis because of these following causes: 1) the researcher wants to analyze song lyric which has simple construction but may have complex meaning in realization; 2) the Theme analysis used in song lyric to know the meaning built in song as a complete text.

### **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background and limitation of the study, the researcher wants to show that there are some problems which are related to this study. The problem of this study is formulated as follows:

1. What are types of theme in Taylor Swift selected song lyrics?
2. What is the textual meaning realized in Taylor swift song?

### **D. Objective of the Study**

In the relation to the problem, the objective of the research is explained in following objectives of the study:

1. To identify the types of Theme in the Taylor Swift song lyrics.
2. To explain the textual meaning realized in Taylor swift song.

### **E. Benefit of the Study**

This research is expected useful for other researcher. Therefore, there are some theoretical benefit of this research:

1. This study can be a reference for the next researcher to study deeper about Functional grammar especially the notion, types and meaning of Theme in written text.
2. The result of this research can be used as an example when they teach functional grammar especially about Theme.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

In order to make this research can be read systematically, the researcher organizes this as following arrangement:

Chapter I is Introduction. It consists of background of the 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 includes previous study and theoretical review. It consists of Notion of Grammar, Systemic Functional Grammar, Metafunctions-Three Strands of Meaning, Ideational Meaning, Interpersonal Meaning, Textual Meaning, and Organizing Messages: Theme, Types of Theme, and a brief explanation about Taylor Swift's songs lyric.

Chapter III is research method. It covers types of research, object of the research, data and data source, technique of collecting data, data validity, and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. It concerns with the research finding and discussion.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion for the next researches.