CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language as a tool for people to communicate, to share ideas or experiences with other people. People speak or write by means of communication they produce text. According to Santosa (2003) language realizes the verbal behaviour. Therefore it always represented in the form of text. Language as a text brings social function.

The term “text” is orally or written form of language that is delivered in any medium and can be understood by someone who knows the language (Halliday, 2014). According to Santosa (2003) text is not about how long the clauses, sentences or paragraph, but it is important to note that text is the language unit exist in context and it represents a certain social function.

As a text, language is surrounded by its inseparable context. In learning text, people cannot be separated from its context, for example when people learn literature work such as short story. According to Santosa (2003) context determines the meaning of the language used. He classified two kinds of context, there are cultural context and situational context. Cultural context is a context that underlies the situational context occurrence (Santosa, 2003). According to Song (2010), situational context “refers environment, time and place, etc. in which the discourse occurs and also the relationship between the participants”. Therefore situational context deals with the environment where the text really works.

Systemic Functional Analysis (SFL) has been used widely by researchers in analyzing literary work. SFL focuses on how language making meaning. For Mehmood et.al (2014) SFL views language as a social semiotics. How language meaning used is from its context. As stated by Cunanan (2011, p. 71) “this framework treats language beyond its formal structures and takes the context of culture and the context of situation in language use”.

The meaning in the text can be realized through three meta functions. The three meta functions are Ideational Function, Interpersonal Function, and Textual
Function. Ideational Function is an experience function. It expresses the inner and outer of the speaker world (Halliday, 2014). Thompson (2014, p. 30) stated that “Interpersonal function using language to interact with other people; Textual function organizing language to fit in its context; and Ideational function to talk about the world”. Moreover, ideational meaning can be realized through transitivity.

The ideational meaning can be realized through process found in the text. Transitivity analysis is widely used to explore the ideology behind the text directed by the author, analyze the character or other elements beyond the sentence of the text. In this study, the researcher analyzes the selected clauses in the short story.

Transitivity analysis is very interesting to be analyzed. According to Nguyen (2012) transitivity analysis is conducted to find the relation between meanings and wordings that are organized as the linguistic features in a text. Most of researchers conducted transitivity to analyze the character of the story, to identify how words work in language structure, to identify the process in each clause of the story, etc. There are many researchers have conducted this analysis such as Jati (2016), Song (2013), Nguyen (2012), Rashid (2016), Cunanan (2011) and Azar and Yazdchi (2012).

From the phenomena above, the researcher conducted a different research entitled “Transitivity Analysis of “The Little Frenchman and His Water Lots” by George Pope Morris”. The short story by George P Morris entitled “The Little Frenchman and His Water Lots” is chosen since the researcher would like to analyze different object from the previous studies that is humorous short story. Moreover this study is aimed to find the transitivity elements which dominantly found to illustrate the main character in the story by George P Morris by using Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach by Halliday.

B. Limitation of the Study

The researcher limits the discussion of this research on independent clauses found in the text. The reason is independent clause represents the main idea of the
sentence. On the other hand, the researcher limits on independent clause is to ease the researcher in analyzing the data.

C. Problem Statements

Based on the background of the study, the researcher proposes problem statements as follows:

1. What are the elements of transitivity found in *The Little Frenchman and His Water Lots*?
2. Which elements have dominantly been found in the text to characterize Monsieur Poopoo?

D. Objective of the Study

The study has following objectives:

1. To identify the elements of transitivity in *The Little Frenchman and His Water Lots*.
2. To explain which elements have dominantly been found in the text to illustrate the characterization of Monsieur Poopoo.

E. Benefit of the Study

By doing this study, the researcher hopes it can give practical and theoretical benefits. Practically, this research gives benefits for the author, readers, and teachers. For the author, the study is hoped to add the body of knowledge in Lexico Grammar studies. For readers, this study is expected can add the body knowledge in Lexico Grammar studies concerning transitivity analysis in short story. For teacher, this study can be used as reference for future studies concerning transitivity analysis in short story. Theoretically, this research is expected to enrich the body knowledge of Systemic Functional Grammar related to research with different perspectives.

F. Research Paper Organization

This study consists of five chapters. Chapter I consists of Background of the Study, Limitation of the Study, Problem Statements, Objective of the Study, Benefit of the Study and Research Paper Organization. Chapter II consists of Previous Study and Underlying Theory. Chapter III consists of Type of Research, Data and Data Source, Object of the Study, Method and Technique of Collecting
Data and Technique of Data Analysis. Chapter IV consists of Analyzing and Discussion of Data. Chapter V consists of Conclusion and Suggestion.