

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In linguistic theories, there is a study on meaning in human language that study of words, phrases, and sentences which is called semantics. According to Saeed (1997: 140), semantics is the study of meaning communicated through language. “Linguistic semantics deals with the conventional meaning conveyed by the use of words, phrases, and sentences of a language” (Yule, 2006: 100).

In semantics, there are some ways which can be used to identify the meaning of words and sentences by using instruments such as paraphrase, tree diagram, and thematic roles. According to Flawley (1992: 197), thematic roles are semantic relations that connect entities to events (more particularly, arguments to predicates). “The term thematic role is used to describe the part played by a particular entity in an event” (O’Grady and Dobrovolsky, 1997: 262). O’grady and Archibald (2016: 200) also explained that thematic role is used to categorize the relation between a sentence’s parts and the event that it describes. Thematic role is a concept to categorize role played in each NPs, which can be implemented in simple declarative sentences that can be found in various source materials. Thematic role is also called semantic cases and thematic relations by other linguists. In thematic role, there are some components according to some experts namely agent, patient, theme, goal, source, instrument, beneficiary, experiencer, stimulus, location, reason, recipient, author, purpose, associate, and time. Simple sentence also can be found in the magazine.

Magazine is one information media, which is created to give information for large audience. Magazine is generally published periodically. It contains various contents such as some issues, fact, and articles with some illustration from various authors. There are two types of magazine namely print magazine that can be read on the paper and

electronically magazine or sometimes referred to as an online magazine that can be read online via internet on certain websites. Online magazine usually is equipped with some features. There are magazines specially designed for children, teenagers, and for adults.

TIME for Kids magazine is a weekly news online magazine of the United States and it is one of online magazine, which is designed for children that can be read online via internet especially on smart phone. In the meantime, smart phone is becoming commonplace for children to have their own mobile device. Children can access many features on smart phone like *TIME for Kids* online magazine and it can be accessed by children around the world. *TIME for Kids* is a safe and wonderfully eye-opening place for children to hang out online. The site teaches children to be aware of what is going on in the world because reading magazine can make children understand current events and issues that happen around them and it is also help children to build social awareness. *TIME for Kids* online magazine is equipped with many sections such as *United States, World, Science, Technology, Health and Fitness, Arts and Culture, Newsmaker, and Opinion*. It can not only inspire children to take an active part in making the world a better place, but also can help children to add English vocabularies that do not use English as their native language.

One thing that always makes children interested in reading *TIME for Kids* online magazine is that all sentences are made in short and simple form, so children can easily understand what they read while thematic roles can also be implemented in those short sentences based on O'Grady, Kearns, Frawley, and Saeed theories.

Based on the phenomena above, the researcher is conducting to analyze thematic role use in sentences in the *Time for Kids* online magazine under the title of **THEMATIC ROLES ANALYSIS OF SENTENCES IN THE TIME FOR KIDS ONLINE MAGAZINE.**

B. Limitation of the Study

The researcher uses the thematic roles theory of O'Grady (1997), Kearns (2002), Frawley (1992), and Saeed (1997). Using the online magazine as the media, the researcher will analyzes the roles played by the NPs and the patterns of the simple declarative sentences found in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine. The sections that will be analyzed is "World", especially for 5-6 grade level which is published in January-April 2018 to limit this research in order to make this research more focus.

C. Problem Statement

In relation to the research focus above, the problems are formulated into two main questions below:

1. What are the roles played by the NPs in the simple declarative sentences in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine?
2. What are the patterns of the simple declarative sentences found in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the research problems above, the objectives of this research are intended:

1. To describe the roles played by the NPs in the simple declarative sentences in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine.
2. To describe the patterns of the simple declarative sentences found in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine.

E. Benefit of the Study

After doing the research, this research is expected useful for other researcher. Therefore, there are some benefits of this research which namely theoretical and practical benefit.

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research has theoretical benefit for escalating knowledge about semantics especially to analyze sentence's parts using thematic roles that can be learned with using online magazine such as *TIME for Kids* as the instrument. This way is very effective to help researcher to learn and know the part of linguistic easier. Using online magazine as the data source is the interesting way to do analyze and research.

2. Practical Benefits

This research also has practical benefit which is expected to bring some benefits to:

a. Writers and Readers

It is expected that this research can inform to the writers especially the magazine writers that every magazine which is designed for children and made in short and simple form contain thematic roles. It is also increasing knowledge about linguistics work especially thematic roles to the readers.

b. Students

The result of the research is expected to be useful to students especially students English Department who like study about linguistics. It is also can help them to learn thematic role easier and improving their knowledge to open the next research in the field of semantics especially thematic roles.

c. Lecturers

The research is expected to help the lecturers to give more attentions to the linguistics field by giving more thematic roles knowledge to the students, especially English Department students.

d. Researcher

The research is expected to give an inspiration and help the other researcher as reference to develop the next research about thematic roles using another data.

F. Research Paper Organization

To make research paper organization of this research easily understood, the researcher divides five chapters as following:

Chapter I is Introduction. This chapter consists of background of the study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, and benefit of the study.

Chapter II is Theoretical Framework. It consists of underlying theory and previous study. In underlying theory, it explains semantics, thematic roles, sentences, noun phrase, and online magazine.

Chapter III is Research Method. This chapter applies type of research, object of research, data and data source, method of collecting data, data validity, and method of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is Finding and Discussion. This chapter deals with the analysis of the roles played by the NPs and the patterns of the simple declarative sentences found in the *TIME for Kids* online magazine.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.