TRANSFORMATIONAL ANALYSIS OF AUXILIARY ON THE MAIN ARTICLE OF THE JAKARTA POST PUBLISHED ON JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2008

RESEARCH PAPER
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by

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Auxiliary as a constituent within verb phrase plays a very important role in building up a sentence. Its existence does not only complete a sentence structurally but also gives an important contribution in telling the meaning of that sentence. Auxiliaries which are usually called “helping verb” in traditional grammar are defined as verbs combined with other verb to tell the meaning regarding time, possibility, obligation, and other meanings (Bornstein, 1977:65). This existence of auxiliary makes English different from any other languages.

Some studies on English Modal Auxiliaries had been presented by James W. Ney in his book entitled *Semantic structures for the syntax of complements and auxiliaries in English* (1981). One of the studies was conducted by F.R. Palmer (1974). He suggested some meanings for the individual modal, for instance, the use of “can” which Palmer calls ‘sensation’ (1974:117). In his study, he gives the following examples:

1. Bill can run a mile in four minutes.
2. Bill may go now.

In the first sentence *Bill can run a mile in four minutes*, it is Bill who has the quality that permits him to run a mile. In the second sentence *Bill may go now*, it is speaker who permits him to go. In the first sentence, “can” is used to express the
ability of the subject, meanwhile in the second sentence; “may” is used to express the possibility (1974:100).

However, besides revealing auxiliary semantically, there is something that the writer thinks important to be discussed. That is, the existence of auxiliary syntactically especially how it transforms within sentence.

Talking about the existence of auxiliary, there are different assumptions viewed from different approaches of grammar. Traditional grammar assumes that auxiliary “do” in present tense only emerges in negative and interrogative construction and auxiliary “did” does too in past tense. On the other hand, transformational grammar somehow has different assumption. It assumes that auxiliary can emerge in every type of sentence. By this difference, the contrast between traditional and transformational grammar sharpens.

The discussion of auxiliary in this paper will automatically support the idea of transformational grammarians which was discovered by Noam Chomsky that auxiliary emerges in all sentences. Transformational grammarians assume that there are two levels of structures in language, surface structure and deep structure. Auxiliary is always present in deep structure of sentence (Bornstein, 1977:66).

Starting from the point that auxiliary is always present in the deep structure of every sentence; the writer finds phenomena of auxiliary in the main article of The Jakarta Post. These are the example of the sentences; (1) they would have brought themselves down too, (2) Soeharto has died after more than 20 days of being hospitalized, and (3) He escaped a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000
for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health. (Jennie S. Bev, The Jakarta Post Monday, February 4, 2008)

If those three sentences are seen from traditional grammar, the sentences which contain auxiliaries are the first and the second sentence. Sentence one contains auxiliary *would* and *have*, as in *they would have brought themselves down too*, sentence two contains auxiliary *have*, which transforms into *has* because of agreement of third singular subject, as in *Soeharto has died after more than 20 days of being hospitalized*. While sentence three does not contain auxiliary, as in *He escaped a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000 for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health*. However, based on transformational grammar, the three sentences contain auxiliaries. The following tree diagram is to support the existence of auxiliary in transformational grammar.

To describe the existence of auxiliaries from three sentences above, the writer uses tree diagram. These are the description:

Diagram 1:
They would have brought themselves down too

Diagram 2:
Soeharto has died after more than 20 days of being hospitalized

Diagram 3:
He escaped a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000 for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health
He escaped a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000 for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health.

All tree diagrams above describe the deep structure of those three sentences. The first diagram shows that the sentence constitutions are they + would + have + brought + themselves + down + too included as surface structure of the deep one: They + past + will + have + en + bring + themselves + down + too. It is clear from that deep structure that there are two auxiliaries there, modal auxiliary will (which because of the influence of the tense past transforms into would) and auxiliary have.

The second diagram shows that the sentence constituents are Soeharto + has + died + after + more + than + 20 days + of being + hospitalized contain auxiliary “have” (transform into has because of agreement with the subject) in its deep structure Soeharto+ have+ en+ die+ after+ more+ than+20 days+of being+hospitalized. The last diagram also shows the existence of auxiliary denied by traditional grammar. It shows that the sentence He escaped a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000 for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health contain auxiliary “past” as described in its deep structure He past - escape.
a series of Indonesian criminal lawsuits since 2000 for his alleged grand corruption acts, on the grounds of ill health.

Although those three sentences have auxiliaries, the forms of the auxiliaries are different. Auxiliary in each sentence also transforms differently. This transformation and forms of the auxiliaries make auxiliary interested to be studied.

Three diagrams 1, 2, and 3 above do not only show how an auxiliary transforms but also show what are the aspects involved in its transformation. For example diagram number 1 and 3, there is an involvement of tense in the transformation. It is agreeable that every auxiliary contains tense (see Liles Bruce L, *an introductory transformational grammar*, 1971:19). Furthermore, if the auxiliary is pulled back to verb phrase, Francis W. Nelson in his book “The structure of American English” mentioned that English verbs exhibit formal distinctions which can be classed under seven heads: person, tense, phase, aspect, mode, voice, and status. As the result, it is interested to know how this discussion goes later on.

It is also interested to know what are the types of auxiliaries used by the writer on the main article of *The Jakarta Post* because it is an English daily newspaper with national coverage that has a good reliability in putting article, moreover its main article. However, there are still many things that have not been studied from auxiliaries. It shows that auxiliaries are still interested to be studied. Focusing on the syntactical point of view, or even more especially dealing with transformational process, there is still a big question ‘what are the types of auxiliary’ and how it transforms in the sentence. These are the starting point for the writer to
conduct this research. Hopefully, this research will give benefit to students who study a transformational grammar especially in transformation process of auxiliary.

B. Previous Study

Research focusing on the auxiliary only is still rarely done. Since the auxiliaries are considered as part of verb phrase, like in some models of transformational grammar, the writer takes several researches dealing with verb phrase.

First, research paper entitles “Syntactic Analysis of Verb Phrase in The Jakarta Post Headline Using X-Bar Approach” written by Rodliyah (UMS, 2006). It identifies the constituent of Verb Phrase in the Jakarta Post Headline. In this research, she finds out 4 types of Verb Phrase (VP). 1) VP $\rightarrow$ V + NP (complement) 2) VP $\rightarrow$ V + NP + PP, 3) VP $\rightarrow$ V + PP + PP, 4) VP $\rightarrow$ V + V (complement).

The second research dealing with verb phrase is written by Ruswanti (UMS, 2002) entitle “Sapardi Djoko Damono’s Translation of Verb Phrase in Hemingway’s ‘The Old Man and The Sea’”. This research only discusses the translation of verb phrase. Ninik finds that verb phrase (VP) can be followed by Noun Phrase (NP), Prepositional Phrase (PP), and NP + PP. For example, the old man drank his coffee slowly.

Taking into consideration of two researches above, the writer are curious to study about verb phrase because the previous works did not mention the position of auxiliary within the verb phrase. This study will be specified into the study of
auxiliaries as they occur within the verb phrase. It is similar to previous researches because auxiliary is part of verb phrase. It is different because it does not deal with the whole verb phrase but it only focuses on the auxiliaries.

C. Problem Statement

The writer states the problems:

1. What are the types of auxiliary used in the main article of The Jakarta Post?

2. What transformational process occurs on the auxiliary used in the main article of The Jakarta Post?

D. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the types of auxiliaries used in main article of The Jakarta Post.

2. To explain the transformational process of auxiliaries.

E. Limitation of the Problem

The writer focuses his analysis on the main article of The Jakarta Post published on January 1st until February 28th 2008. He only takes The Jakarta Post published on Monday and Tuesday to represent the analysis. The discussion of auxiliary in this paper is viewed from the theory of transformational grammar.
F. Benefit of Study

1. Practical Benefit

To help the students of English Department who are interested in studying transformational grammar especially focusing on the transformational process of auxiliaries.

2. Academic Benefit

The writer hopes that this research will become a contribution to linguistic study and make other researcher interested in conducting research about the notion or the feature of transformational grammar which is interested to be analyzed.

G. Paper Organization

The organization of research paper is given in order to make the readers understand the content of the paper as follows:

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

Chapter II is the underlying theory. It includes the notion of transformational grammar, phrase structure rules, kernel sentence, verb which contains auxiliary, and affix hopping.
Chapter III is the research method. It consists of type of the research, object and data of the research, source of data, the method of data collection, and the technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV is research result. In this chapter, the writer presents the data analysis, the discussion of research findings.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.