CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Study

Human beings have a tool in communicating one to another. This tool is called language. The language itself is used in every human activity. However, the function of the language in every activity can be different. The language may be the whole activity, like news report, or it supports the activity, like playing sports.

Sport is an activity which the doers do as an individual or as a team. Some instances of the individual sports are Chess, Golf, Archery, and Racing. Though the athletes of the individual sports have team members, like racing team, they may have to defeat their rivals, including team members, by themselves and collect points for themselves. On the other hand, the team sport, as its name, requires teamworks in order to win the game. The team sports are the sport where the players are working together to win the game. The examples of this kind of sport are basketball, baseball, rowing and football.

In a discussion of sports, the discussion of football is almost inevitable. Football is widely known as the most famous sport in the world. This notion has been supported by the fact that a lot of people in the world play football. In every corner of a country, football sport is easily found. This type of sport has been played by children to nearly middle-aged people.

Football is game that is played by 2 (two) teams. Each team has 11 (eleven) players in the field. This game requires referees as the in-charge men to control the flow of the game. The winner of the game is determined by the number of goal each team scored, so the team with the higher number of goal wins the game.

In a football match, like other sports, there are commentators of the match. These commentators have the job to report what is happening in the field. Their reports are called commentary. Commentaries are activities in which one or two people are reporting or telling to the audience about events that are

happening. Football commentators are usually consisting of two different types of commentary; Play-by-Play commentary and Colour commentary. These two types have different function. In play-by play, the commentator is reporting the happening events or real time events. And the Colour commentary is giving opinion or evaluation to the event that is worth to be evaluated.

The types of the commentaries are various. They are Radio Commentaries, TV Commentaries, and the Online Commentaries. Each type has its own characteristic. The radio commentator's duty is more in describing all of the events happening in the field. This is because the radio commentator is maintaining the flow of speech and keeping the audience entertained. Meanwhile, the TV Commentary is less descriptive than the radio commentary. In the TV commentary, the visual helps the audiences see what is happening, so the commentators do not need to describe every action of the events. The TV commentary tends to give more color commentaries or evaluations of the teams' or players' performance. The next type is the Online or written commentary. This type is more like a hybrid of the radio and TV commentary because it describes the important events and giving evaluation.

Football commentaries are unique. The commentators of the football commentaries cannot predict what will happen, but they have idea of what is happening. Though they do not know what will happen, they can anticipate the upcoming events with formulaic language or football vocabularies. These vocabularies are mostly in forms of clauses. An example of a formulaic language:

> *23":"They get a corner kick"*
>
> *23":"… **takes the corner**"*
>
> *23":"Great header from the defender"*

The example above is in form of a clause. The blank spaces are for the name of a player (who takes the corner). The name of the player can be any player in any football match. The clause 'takes the corner' is the formulaic language. This is

why it is called formulaic language; the name can be any player's name with the same action.

The commentaries of football matches draw linguists to study their language when commentating the match. The language they are using is unique. The linguists found out that the language or register of the football commentaries are different with that of daily conversations. It is because football is a fast sport.

The most remarkable study of sport commentaries is the study of Ferguson in 1983. He came out with the notion that those commentators are Sport Announcer Talks (SAT). In his study, Sports Announcer Talk: Syntactic Aspects of Register Variation (1983), He tried to find the register of the sport commentaries. He then did it with some register markers that made the sport commentaries different from the daily conversation. Although the study was conducted in the nature of baseball commentaries, some of the register markers are applicable in football commentaries. Those registers markers are; Simplification, Inversion and passiveness, result expressions, heavy modifiers, tense usage, routines, and it-clefts.

Ferguson's study initiated other linguists to study the register of football commentary. Those studies were based on the Ferguson's register. Those are Lewandowski 2012, Nowson 2001, and Humpolik 2014. These studies dealt with the register which Ferguson proposed, so, these studies are all in the perspective of sociolinguistics. Not only in the sociolinguistics, has the study of register also existed in linguistics.

Butt *et al*(2001) have discussed the method of finding the register of texts. They compiled the book with the theory based on Halliday's SFL. SFL stands for Systemic Functional Linguistics, or also known as Systemic Functional Grammar. SFL/SFG "is a way of describing lexical and grammatical choices from the systems of wordings so that we are always aware of how language is being used to realize meaning", Butt *et al* (2001). With this in mind, they provided the step by step explanation in finding the register of a text.

The studies involving SFL as the approach are quite easy to find. In 2010, Abid (2010) conducted a research in a standup comedy using SFL as the approach. He tried to figure out the register in the standup comedy. The other study of SFL, which is almost the same with current study, is the register analysis in football match by Prasetyo (2014). In his study, he figured out the register markers like that of Ferguson's but in form of word or noun phrase. The analysis of the Field, Tenor, and Mode is unavailable since he used only some words/terms that easily known as the words/terms that only exist in football.

The absence of the SFL analysis in football commentaries is quite clear. Thus, this study is conducted to find the register of football commentaries in SFL's perspective. To do so, this research is based on Butt *et al* (2001) framework in finding the register of the football commentary. Thus, this research is entitled *Register of Football Commentary: Systemic Functional Linguistics Analysis*.The data of this research is the final match of UEFA Champions League between Juventus versus Barcelona. The match was considerably the biggest match in 2015.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

As the background in conducting this research has been discussed, so the statements of the problem are:

1. What is the Field, Tenor, and Mode realized in the football commentary?

2. What are the contextual descriptions of the football commentary?

1.3 Scope of the Study

To make a clear study, this study is limited on the register analysis on the perspective of Systemic Functional Linguistics. The analysis is based on Butt *et al* (2001).

1.4 Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem stated earlier, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the Field, Tenor, and Mode in football commentary.

2. To describe the contextual description of the football commentary.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that the result of this research will be valuable contribution to the Faculty of Humanities, Dian Nuswantoro University, and also everybody who reads this thesis at future. In detail it is hoped that the result could:

1. Enrich the researcher's knowledge, especially about Systemic Functional Linguistics.

2. Become an additional reference, especially for the students of English Program, Faculty of Humanities, DianNuswantoro University.

1.6 Thesis Organization

This thesis is organized into five chapters as follows:

Chapter 1 is introduction covering background of the study, statement of problem, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, and thesis organization.

Chapter 2 is review of related literatures that consist of systemic functional linguistics, three meanings (metafunctions), contextual description and all about football commentary.

Chapter 3 is research method which comprises research design, source of the data, unit of data analysis, technique of data collection and technique of data analysis.

Chapter 4 discusses the analysis in writing up the contextual description of football commentary.

Chapter 5 consists of conclusion and suggestion.