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TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS ON WILLIAM B BUTLER YEATS’ SHORT STORY “WHERE THERE IS NOTHING, THERE IS GOD”

ABSTRACT

This thesis entitled Transitivity Analysis Of William Butler Yeats’ Short Story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”, has three objectives. The first is to find out the processes on every clause. The second is to find out the participants involved in the short story. And the third is to know how the field of the discourse is created.

This research uses documentation method to collect the data, which were downloaded from the internet. In analyzing the data, the writer used the following steps; first, reading the text. Second, segmenting the data in the form of clauses. Third, identifying the types of processes, participants, and circumstances. Fourth, classifying the clauses into the categories of transitivity process types. Fifth, concluding the field of discourse of the text. And then drawing the conclusions.

There are 246 clauses of transitivity found in the short story entitled “Where There Is Nothing There Is God”. Material process (47.56%) dominates over the other. It indicates that this is narrative story and concerned with actions and events. It is found that actor (25.00%) dominates over the other participants. This indicates that most process in the text have some actors to achieve something. For the circumstance, circumstance of place (38.56%) is more dominant than the other circumstances.

The field of discourse is realized by the experiential domains, short term goal and the long term goal. The experiential domain in this short story is telling about the miracle happened upon the boy named Olliol, who is known as the stupidest student among the scholar but one day received a miracle when he suddenly became cleverer than before. Meanwhile, the short-term goal of this text is giving message that God can do miracles and nothing is impossible for God. In addition, the long-term goal of this text is giving a moral message that if we believe in God, He can do miracles in our life.

Key words: Analysis, transitivity, processes, participants, circumstances, field of discourse
1. Introduction

Background

In interpreting and producing a text, we have to concern about the grammar. In fact grammar plays an important role in describing an explaining the language phenomenon. Thus, by learning a grammar, it will be an easy way to produce the text correctly. In general, English grammar can be categorized into formal grammar and functional grammar. In functional grammar, there are three strands of meaning. They are ideational (experiential) meaning, interpersonal meaning and textual meaning. Three of them are usually called Metafunctions. The ideational meaning is concerned with the clause as representation. Interpersonal meaning is concerned with the clause as exchange, while textual meaning is concerned with the clause as message.

A clause that has function to construe the world of experience is called a clause as representation. It is concerned by option of Transitivity. By examine the transitivity structure in the texts, someone can explained how the field of the situation is being constructed. There are many kind of process in the transitivity system, because process is central to transitivity.

In this research, the writer chooses to analyze William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”, because it contains various types of transitivity. The researcher conducts the research to find the
transitivity process and get the most dominant process which characterizes this short story.

In analyzing the data, the writer uses the Systemic Functional Linguistic (SFL) of Halliday as the basic of the analysis. The writer chooses SFL because this theory often appears in social situation or our daily lives, either spoken or written. This theory focuses on the purposes and the uses of language. This theory also claims that language is functional and language use is unique and can be explored.

The problem of the study can be stated as follows:

- What types of processes are found in William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”?
- What participants and circumstances are involved in William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”?
- How is the field of the discourse created?

The objectives of the Study

1. To find out what types of processes are found in William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”.
2. To find out what participants and circumstances are involved in William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”.
3. To know how the field of discourse is created.

2. Literature Review
The definition of Systemic Functional Linguistics is the study of the relationship between language and its functions in social settings. Systemic functional linguistics treats grammar as a meaning-making resource and insists on the interrelation of form and meaning. This language function is called as Metafunctions.

There are three types of meaning or metafunctions can be glossed as follows:

1. Ideational meaning : meanings about the world
2. Interpersonal meaning : meanings about roles and relationship
3. Textual meaning : meanings about the message

In the experiential meaning, as stated in An Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics (Eggins, 1994:228), “There is one major system of grammatical choice involved in this kind of meaning. This is the system of Transitivity (process type).”

The writer would explain briefly about the transitivity system and the components of the transitivity. There are three semantic categories which explain in general way, how phenomena of the real world are represented as linguistic structures. These are:

- The process itself
- Participants in the process
- Circumstances associated with the process.

Processes
The core or nucleus of the clause as representation of experience is the process. The process represents the happening or event which the clause is on about, whether is matter of a happening, doing, thinking, saying, being having. There are many kind of processes in the transitivity system, They are:

- Material process
- Mental process
- Verbal process
- Behavioral process
- Relational process
- Existential process
- Meteorological process

Participants

Participants represent thing or people involved in carrying out the process, or thing or people affected by the process. Each process in transitivity system has its key participants, but sometimes there are additional participants. The following table shows the key of participants and additional participant in each process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process of type</th>
<th>Participant</th>
<th>Key participant</th>
<th>Additional participant</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Material</td>
<td>actor</td>
<td>goal</td>
<td>initiator</td>
<td>beneficiary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental</td>
<td>senser</td>
<td>phenomenon</td>
<td>inducer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral</td>
<td>behaver</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal</td>
<td>sayer</td>
<td>verbiage</td>
<td></td>
<td>target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relational</td>
<td>carrier</td>
<td>attribute</td>
<td>Attributor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existential</td>
<td>existent</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Circumstances

Circumstances is any circumstancial information about the process. There are; time (temporal); place (spatial); manner which consist of means, quality and comparison; cause which consist of reason, and purpose; accompaniment; matter; and role.

3. Research Method

Research Design

In this research the writer uses the descriptive method to study the problem. This research has a purpose to describe the process types in Transitivity systems which are involved in the short story and to determine the function of the verbal clauses on the texts of the short story.

Unit of Analysis

Unit of Analysis in this research are the clauses in the short story and the transitivity of clause in the William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. The type of data requires by this study will be the William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. The data were analyzed by using Gerot and Wignell’s pattern of transitivity.

Source of Data
The data source of this research will be the William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. The short story was downloaded from http://www.readbookonline.net/readOnline/2110/ (18 March 2013).

**Techniques of Data Collection**

The data were taken from William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. In collecting the data, the writer used the following steps:

1. Searching the data in the internet.
2. Choosing the data in the internet which will be analyzed.
3. Downloading the data from the internet.

**Techniques of Data Analysis**

After the data were in the form of clause, then they were analyzed. In analyzing the data, the writer used the following steps:

1. Reading the text.
2. Segmenting the data in the form of clauses.
3. Identifying the types of processes, participants, and circumstances.
4. Classifying the clauses into the categories of transitivity process types.
5. Concluding the field of discourse of the text.
6. Drawing the conclusions.

**4. Data Analysis**

**Type of Processes**
The dominant process of the data is material process with 117 clauses or about 47.56% of the total clauses of the text. The second place is relational process with 41 clauses (16.67%), the third place is verbal process with 26 clauses (10.57%). Next is behavioral process with 23 clauses (9.35%), after that there is existential process with 20 clauses (8.13%). And then mental process with 19 clauses (7.72%). There is no clause which uses the meteorological process in this text.

Types of Participant and Circumstance

There are many kind of participants that involve in each process. Table 4.2 displays that the actor (25.00%) is the dominant over the other participants, then goal (13.92%) in the second place, after that there are range (7.59%), attribute (7.28%), carrier (6.33%), existent (6.33%), sayer (4.43%), token (5.06%), value (5.70%), senser (4.43%), verbiage (4.43%), phenomenon (3.80%), behaver (3.48%), receiver (1.27%), and beneficiary (0.95%).

There are many kind of circumstances that involve in each process. Table 4.3 displays that the circumstances of place (38.56%) is the dominant over the other circumstances, then circumstances of manner (20.26%) in the second place, after that there are circumstances of time (16.99%), circumstances of cause (8.50%), circumstances of matter (6.53%) circumstances of role (4.58%) and circumstances of accompaniment (4.58%).

The Field of Discourse
In this part, the researcher discusses the contextual description of William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. This description consists of field of discourse and its commentary. Field of discourse here is realized by experiential domain, short-term goal and long-term goal. Experiential domain is what the text is all about the processes, the participants and circumstances. Short-term goal refers to the immediate purpose of the text’s production. Meanwhile, long-term goal is rather more abstract and refers to the text’s place in the larger scheme of things.

5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

After analyzing the data in Chapter IV, the researcher concludes that:

There are 246 clauses in William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God”. The highest percentage is material process with 117 processes (47.56%). This is indicated that the narrative text William Butler Yeats’ short story “Where There Is Nothing, There Is God” is centrally concerned with action and events. The highest percentage of the participant is Actor with 79 participants (25.00%). This indicates that most processes in the text have some actor to achieve something. The circumstance of place, 59 circumstances (38.56%), it dominate the others. This indicates that this story happens in different places.

Suggestions

After concluding this study, the researcher suggests that:
1. The other researchers who are willing to conduct a transitivity system may analyze it through other texts, such as Recount, Explanation, Description, and other.

2. Everyone who wants to do the same research is suggested to analyze not only the written data but also spoken data.

Bibliography


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