

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Human language, a unique characteristic of our species, has attracted attention throughout history. Language is not just a means of communication; this is the key to understanding and embracing the diversity in our world. The science that studies human language is called linguistics (Fromkin,2000). Linguistic knowledge as represented in the speaker's mind is called a grammar. Linguistic theory seeks to reveal the nature of mental grammar, which represents speakers' knowledge of their language. If grammar is defined as a mental representation of one's linguistic knowledge, a general theory of language is also a grammar theory. A grammar encompasses everything one knows about the structure of one's language, including its lexicon (the words or vocabulary in the mental dictionary), morphology (the structure of words), syntax (the structure of phrases and sentences, as well as the constraints on well-formedness of sentences), semantics (the meaning of words and sentences), and phonetics and phonology.the (sounds and the sound system or patterns).

The use of English as an international language has increased rapidly, especially in the context of mass media. One of the most influential English-language media is The Jakarta Post, an English-language newspaper published in Indonesia. As a media that presents the latest news and information, The Jakarta Post reflects the variety of languages and writing styles used in English.

In English, a noun phrase is an important unit used to express ideas, objects or concepts. Analyzing noun phrases is important to understand the sentence structure and writing style in a text. Therefore, research that examines the structure of noun phrases in a particular context, such as in The Jakarta Post editorials, has an important value in understanding the use of English in mass media in Indonesia.

Through this research, the researcher will analyze the noun phrases used in The Jakarta Post editorials published from 3 to 5 June 2024. This research is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the syntactic structure of noun phrases in the context of English media in Indonesia. Thus, this research will make a valuable contribution to the field of applied linguistics, especially in understanding language structure in the context of mass media.

Syntax is the main study in this research. Syntax is branch of linguistics that studies language. Fromkin et al(2000:174) states that syntax is the structure of phrases and sentences; the system of rules in the syntax of language that determines the way in which words are combined to form meaningful phrases and sentences. Syntax explores the grammatical structure of sentence forming (Yenita 2023). It means syntax has an important role in forming phrases and sentences. However, this research will reduce the scope by only research noun phrase. In general noun phrase is a group of words with a noun as the head and other word as modifier.

1.2 Statement of the Study

This study aims to answer the following research questions:

1. What types of syntactic structure of noun phrases are found in The Jakarta Post editorials?
2. What types of syntactic structure of noun phrases are most frequently used in editorial published in The Jakarta Post?

By answering these questions, this research seeks to provide a comprehensive analysis of the syntax of noun phrases in The Jakarta Post, thereby contributing to a better understanding of English usage in the Indonesian media.

1.3 Objective of the Study

This research aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To analyze the types of syntactic structure of noun phrases found in The Jakarta Post editorials, including their constituent elements and ordering patterns.
2. To identify the most frequently types of syntactic structure of noun phrase used in editorials published in The Jakarta Post.

By fulfilling these objectives, this study aims to improve our understanding of noun phrase syntax in English-language media, particularly in the Indonesian context, and to contribute to a wider discussion in applied linguistics.

1.4 Scope of the Study

This research mainly focuses on the analysis of noun phrases contained from 3 to 5 June 2024 edition of the Jakarta Post newspaper and only focuses on the editorials contained in the newspaper. The research will identify, categorize and analyze noun phrase in various article contexts, with the aim of understanding the use and contribution of nouns phrase in journalistic language in the newspaper.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This research is expected to produce several benefits:

1. Academic Contribution

By providing a detailed analysis of the syntax of noun phrases in The Jakarta Post, this study will contribute to the academic literature in the field of applied linguistics, particularly in the area of English usage in media contexts.

2. Media Professionals

Media professionals, including journalists and editors, can benefit from these findings by gaining a deeper understanding of the syntactic structures used in The Jakarta Post editorials, potentially resulting in more effective communication strategies.

By highlighting these benefits, this research aims to demonstrate the relevance and practical significance of studying noun phrase syntax in English-language media.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 An Overview of Syntax

Syntax is one of the most important part of grammar. Specifically, it refers to grammar, and grammar is the most difficult part of studying and learning English. In linguistic, syntax is the study of the rules that govern the ways in which words combine to form phrases, clauses, and sentences (Uswar, 2023). Syntax is the study of the principles and processes by which sentences are constructed in particular languages (Chomsky, 2022). And (Fromkin, 2000) states that syntax is the structure of phrases and sentences; the system of rules in the syntax of language that determines the way in which words are combined to form meaningful phrases and sentences.

In other words syntax is the science of breaking down sentence structures grammatically. Syntax is analysis of sentence structure and its clause compared to the other languages (Ezir, 2019). Syntax is frequently considered as a mathematical subject because it contains analyses (Junaidi, 2018). The most well-known analyses include bracketed, immediate constituent, and tree diagram analyses. Each of these analyses has a defined purpose to help the reader understand how to identify and classify syntactic categories according to their function.

It means syntax is a fundamental aspect of linguistics, playing a crucial role in both spoken and written communication. Without proper syntax, sentences can become

confusing or ambiguous, leading to misunderstanding. Here, writer will discuss more deeply about syntactic structure of noun phrase and its function in the sentences.

2.2 Noun Phrase

A noun phrase may consist of one headword preceded by two or more modifiers of the same or of different word classes (Junaid 2018. Sharma (2020) stated that noun phrase is a group of words with a noun as its head. Junaid (2018) classified the patterns of noun phrase as identifier, adjective, noun modifier, quantifier, preposition phrase, participle phrase, using conjunctions, and indefinite clause that all of the patterns were headed by noun. Noun phrase normally consists of a head noun, which typically a noun, and element (either obligatory or optional) determiner the head and (optionally) modify the head, or complement another element in phrase; adjective phrase, adverb phrase, prepositional phrase (Quirk & Greenbaum 1985). According to Wren & Martin (1989), noun phrase is a group of words that does the work of a noun.

The structure of noun phrase can be stated as follows: (determiner[s] + modifier[s]) + head + (modifier[s]) where brackets represent optional element (Omar 2022). It can be concluded that a noun phrase is a group of words centered around a noun, which include modifiers, determiners, and other elements that describe or qualify the noun for example, "the big red apple" is a noun phrase, where "the" is determiner, "big" and "red" are adjective, and "apple" is the noun. According to Jackson (1988), the English noun phrase is potentially constructed by pre-modifier, a

head, and post modifier. It means there are two modifications of noun phrase: pre-modification and post-modification.

Pre-modification noun phrase denotes that the head is modified by a variety of pre-modifications, such as adjective, article, participle, and so on, and is inserted before the head that is not determinative. A post-modification noun phrase, on the other hand, indicates that the head noun has undergone a variety of modifications and is placed after it. But Omar (2022) in his research added that there are 3 types of modification noun phrase and the 3rd is multiple-modification noun phrase. This type covers noun phrases with more than one pre-modification or post-modification. The following is the example of pre-modification, post-modification and multiple modification noun phrase:

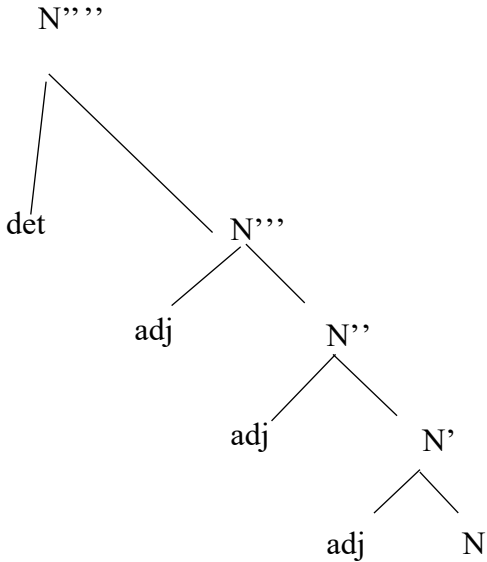
Pre-modification Noun Phrase

“My father bought the beautiful old wooden house”

Example above the phrase “the beautiful old wooden house” is noun phrase with some pre-modifier. It calls noun phrase because the head is noun. “the” is determiner. While not technically a pre-modifier, determiners (like “the”, “a”, “an” etc) come at the beginning of noun phrases and help specify which noun is being referred to. “Beautiful” is the adjective as pre-modifier. This adjective describes the house, adding information about its appearance. It tells us that the house is aesthetically pleasing. “Old” is adjective as pre-modifier. Another adjective, “old” provides additional detail about the age of the house. “Wooden” is adjective as pre-modifier. This adjective specifies the material of the house, giving us more detail about its

composition. “House” is noun as head. The main noun that the pre-modifiers are describing. All the pre-modifiers are providing additional information about this noun.

The structure of the phrase can be constructed by using tree diagram, as follow:

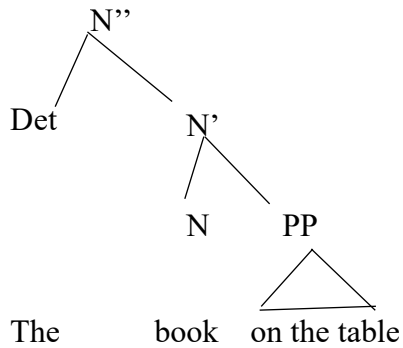


A beautiful old wooden house

Post- modification Noun Phrase

“I took the book on the table”

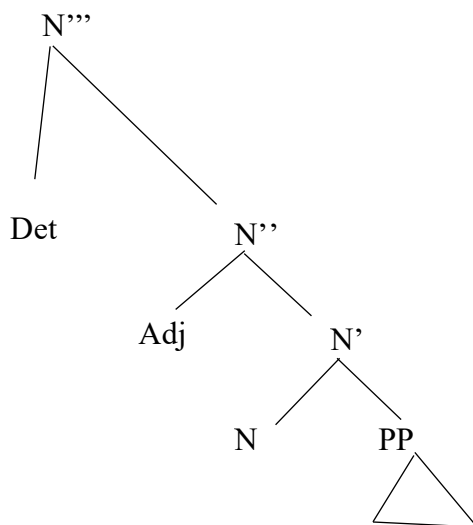
Example above the phrase ”the book on the table” is noun phrase with postmodifier. “The” is article as determiner. Indicators which specific book is being refereed to. “Book” is the noun as head of the phrase. The main noun being described. “On the table” is prepositional phrase as post-modifier. This prepositional phrase modifies “book” by specifying its location. The structure of the phrase can be constructed by using tree diagram, as follows:



Multiple-modification Noun Phrase

“Every morning I see *a big dog in the yard*”

From example above the phrase “a big dog in the yard” is noun phrase. “A” is article as determiner. Indicates any single dog, not a specific one, “Big” is the adjective as pre- modifier. It describes the size of the dog. “dog” is the noun as head. The main noun being described. “in the yard” is the prepositional phrase as post-modifier. It provides information about the location of the dog. The phrase's structure can be contracted using a tree diagram, as seen below:



A big dog in the yard

The example above are types of noun phrase. Noun phrase is a phrase which (typically) has a noun or a pronoun as its head, and which can have various functions in the sentences, notably that of subject, object, complement, or prepositional complement (Leech 1992). Next, this study will discuss the syntactic structures of noun phrase and its functions.

2.2.1 Syntactic Structure of Noun Phrase

A. Determiner + Noun

The most potential type of noun phrase is noun which is modified by a determiner. A determiner is a word that introduces a noun and specifies it in terms of definiteness, quantity, possession, or other aspects. Determiners include articles (a, an, the), demonstratives (this, that, these, those), possessives (my, your, his, her, its, our, their), quantifiers (some, many, few, several), and numbers (one, two, three).

1. Franky washed *his car* in the morning.

2. Tomy bought *ten laptop*.

B. Adjectives + Noun

An adjective is a word that describe or modifies a noun. It provides more information about the noun characteristic or qualities.

1. There are *Beautiful flower* in my room.

2. They enjoyed a *delicious meal* at the new restaurant .

C. Determiner + Adjectives + Noun

A noun combined with a determiner and modifier is also a potential form of a noun phrase.

1. I went to market and there were *many colorful balloons*.

2. My uncle invited me party. When I arrived in the party, I looked *some delicious cookies*.

D. Determiner + Quantifiers + Noun

Words or phrases that indicate quantity.

1. I have a few suggestions for the project."
2. There are many opportunities for growth in this company.

E. Determiner + Participles + Noun

Present or past participles that function as aadjectives.

1. *The running water* created a soothing sound.
2. He fixed *the broken lamp* on the table.

F. Noun + Prepositional Phrase

1. *Tree in the garden* , “tree” is the noun, and “in the garden” is a prepositional phrase.
2. *House on the hill*, “house” is the noun, and “on the hill” is the prepositional phrase.

G. Noun + Adjective Phrase

1. The room, *decorated with elegant furniture* is mine.
2. The painting, *created by a famous artist* is my father

H. Noun + Relative Clauses

Clauses that begin with relative pronouns like "who", "whom", "whose", "which", or "that" and provide more information about the noun.

1. *The student who won the prize* was very humble.
2. *The author whom I met yesterday* signed my book.

In summary, the structure of a noun phrase can be represented as: NP→(Det) + (Pre-modifier) + N (Post-modifier). This notation indicates that a noun phrase can optionally start with a determiner, followed by zero or more pre-modifiers, then the head noun, and optionally followed by zero or more post-modifiers. If in the sentences having more than 1 pre-modifier and postmodifier, It called multiple-modifier.

2.2 Relevant Studies

Some writers have conducted the research about Syntactic Analysis of Noun Phrase. They are Junaidi and Yunita Uswar.

1. Junaidi's work

The first research has been conducted by Junaidi (University of Muhammadiyah Makasar). He conducted a research entitled "A Syntactic Analysis of the English Noun Phrase (A Study of Fifth Semester of English Department Faculty of Teacher Training And Education University of Muhammadiyah Makasar) in which discuss the structure of noun phrase, and the types of noun phrase.

The method which is used by the writer is descriptive method. The data source is taken from 40 students of the fifth semester of English Department of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of the University of Muhammadiyah Makasar which were selected by using a random.

In the end of the research, the writer concludes that the students used 32 forming pattern of noun phrase which were covered in accuracy and inaccuracy construction.

2. Yunita Uswar's work

The second research has been conducted by Yunita Uswar (University of Potensi Utama) entitled Syntactic Analysis of Noun Phrase in Analytical Exposition Text “ How Does Education Important to Children?”. This study aim to discuss noun phrase and analysis its structure.

The method which is used by the writer is descriptive method. The data source is taken from Exposition Teks entitled “How Does Education Important to Children?”. In the end, she concluded that all forms of noun phrase in the text above dominated by NP = Det + N and NP = Det + Adj + N. it show that the use of noun in the sentences is very important because it serves to determine the actor or object in the sentences.