
ANALYSIS OF VERB PHRASE STRUCTURE RULES IN THE SONG A DREAM IS A WISH YOUR HEART MAKES BY LILY JAMES

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Abstract

This study aims to demonstrate the phrase structure rule, specifically with attention to the structure and type of verb phrases. The author explains tree diagrams using the approach presented in Noel Burton-Rober's 2016 book *Analyzing Sentences*. The research revealed that the song lyrics contain a large number of verb phrases. Auxiliary, transitive, intransitive, distransitive, and intensive are the five categories into which verb phrase types are separated. The internal structure of verb phrase building is explained more clearly in this study by using a tree diagram.

Keyword: Verb phrase, diagram tree, phrase structure

A. INTRODUCTION

According to Francis (1958), the scientific study of language is known as linguistics. Hartman & Stork (1972) stated linguistics is the study of language. Linguists are people who study language as a communication skill, as an individual expression, as something that cannot be inherited from a community of speakers, as spoken sounds, as a written test, etc. Linguistics has varied field, including numerous branches. One such branch is

Syntax. Muin (2019) stated that syntax is the study of the arrangement of words into phrases, clauses, and sentences. Syntax constitutes a vital component of a language's grammar, as it encompasses the comprehensive set of regulations that govern sentence structure. Furthermore, syntax dictates the manner in which words and phrases are organized to convey meaning, thereby playing a crucial role in language communication and comprehension.

According to the Cambridge dictionary, phrases are short groups of words that are often used together and have a specific meaning. Phrases are defined as syntactic units that consist of two or more words that work together in a sentence without forming a perfect sentence because phrases lack of predicates, thus precluding their independent functioning. Typically, phrases possess a main word that is the most significance in terms of meaning. (Verspoor & Sauter, 2009).

The process of combining and organizing elements within a sentence to create a larger syntactic structure is referred to as phrase structure. This concept is employed to demonstrate the hierarchical relationship between words and phrases within a sentence. According to Greenbaum and Gerald (2009), various phrase structures can function as subject, verb, direct object, etc. The following five types of phrases are distinguished: (1) noun phrase (NP), (2) verb phrase (VP), (3) adjective phrase (AP), (4) adverb phrase (AdvP), and (5) prepositional phrase (PP).

In this research, the author utilizes tree diagrams as a theoretical framework to analyze verb phrases. According to Carnie (2000:31), a tree diagram can be defined as a sentence analysis tool that utilizes the internal hierarchical formation of a sentence, with this analysis being generated

by a set of rules. The utilization of tree diagrams in syntax can facilitate comprehension of sentence structure.

Several previous studies have been conducted on the utilization of phrase structure rules. The first previous research is "An Analysis of Phrase Structure Rules in Anneth Song Lyrics" written by (Parulian Lumban Gaol et al., 2022). In their study, the researchers employed Chomsky's theory of tree diagram theory. The second previous research, titled "English Noun Phrase Structure Found in Inclover Magazine," was conducted by (Kumbara Omar et al., 2009). This research employed the theory of Quirk and Greenbaum (1973) to examine the categories of noun phrase structures. It also utilized tree diagram theory from Veit (1986). The final previous research, "Syntactical Analysis of Phrases and Sentences Found in the Song's Lyrics 'The World's Smallest Violin' by AJR" by Raihan Islami & Ardila (2022), employed the concept of Yule (2010: 99) concerning tree diagrams.

A method of facilitating comprehension of phrases is through the investigation of song lyrics. A wide array of literary works finds its place within the art world, encompassing genres such as prose, poetry, and song lyrics. Among these, song

lyrics have captured the interest of the writer.

Song lyrics that selected for this study are the theme song from the Disney film Cinderella. Despite the film's longstanding popularity, it remains a subject of ongoing discourse among enthusiasts of the Disney franchise. Undeniably, Cinderella stands as a legendary Disney production, its theme song lyrics evoking profound inspiration in numerous individuals. The song *A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes* is widely regarded as the most iconic Disney song. This song is frequently utilized in Disney theme parks and various events organized by the Disney company. Walt Disney himself has a philosophy associated with this song, which is about the importance of dreams and determination to achieve dreams. The song analyzed in this study was written by Mack David, Al Hoffman, and Jerry Livingston. The investigation will not only examine the motivational meaning of the song's lyrics, but will also provide a thorough review of the structural features of the verb phrases employed in the composition.

B. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Method of Research

The present study employs the descriptive qualitative method as its research approach. This method, as delineated by Moleong (2005), involves the collection of data in the format of text or images. The present study will utilize qualitative data and employ a descriptive approach to analyze and depict the characteristics, relationships between elements, and context of the phenomenon under study. The objective of the research method is to provide a comprehensive description of a phenomenon.

2. Time and Place of Research

This research encompasses the entire sequence of stages, from the determination of the title to the procedure of receiving research. The investigation was implemented from November 2024 to January 2025, constituting a period of approximately three months. The study employed a qualitative research approach, thereby obviating the necessity for the author to be physically present at a specific location. The majority of these studies were carried out at STBA JIA.

3. Object of Research

In this paper, the object will be focus on the theme song for the motion

picture Cinderella, entitled "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes." The author employed a music application called Spotify to analyze the song's lyrics.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

In this paper, the author collected data using observation techniques and compiled with data collection techniques. In collecting data, the author categorizes each sentence into several phrases, then the author determines the phrases that are the problem and underlines the phrases to be analyzed.

5. **Technique of Data Analysis**

After the initial categorization of textual data, the subsequent step entails the formulation of a hierarchical representation, known as tree diagram, that illustrates the verb phrases employed for the verse of the song entitled "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes." Thereafter, the author will proceed to offer a description of findings derived from this data.

6. **Instrument of Research**

Since this is qualitative study, the author herself becomes the instrument. The author undertakes this

analysis by creating tree diagrams and providing descriptive explanations.

C. **RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The findings indicate the presence of thirteen data members in the context of the song lyrics consisting of auxiliary verb (Aux), transitive verb (Trans), intransitive verb (Intrans), distransitive verb (Distrans), and intensive verb (Intens). The following table provides a summary of the findings:

Types of Verb	Count
Aux	3
Trans	4
Intrans	4
Distrans	0
Intens	2
Total	13

Tabel 1. Types of verb

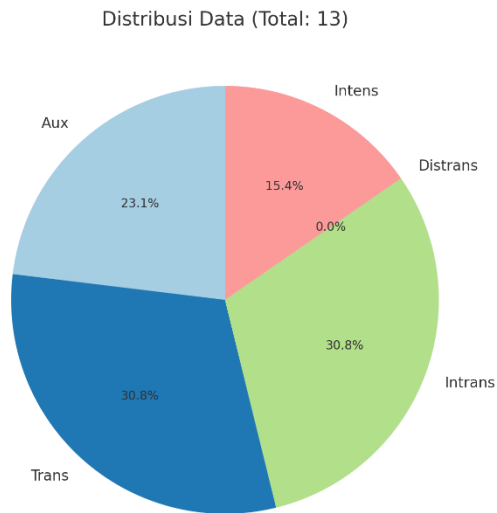
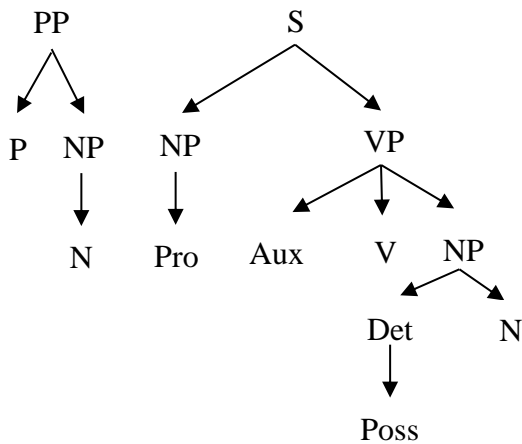


Figure 1. The verb that found

Datum 1: will lose your heartache

“In dream, you **will lose your heartache**”

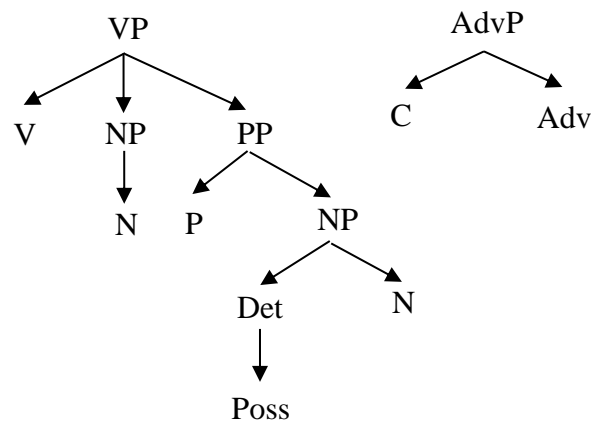


Depending on the tree diagram, the sentence under consideration includes verb phrase (VP). The verb phrase (VP) "will lose your heartache" consists of a verb "lose" in the act of its head. As defined by the Cambridge Dictionary, the word "lose"

is classified act a verb. It is important to note that the word "lose" in this phrase functions as a transitive verb. Transitive verb requires an object or noun phrase (NP) to clarify the context. The phrase "your heartache" acts as the direct object. The absence of an object in this instance renders the sentence incomplete. Meanwhile, the word "will" acts as auxiliary verb. It is employed to indicate the future tense.

Datum 2:

“**Have faith in your dream**, and someday”

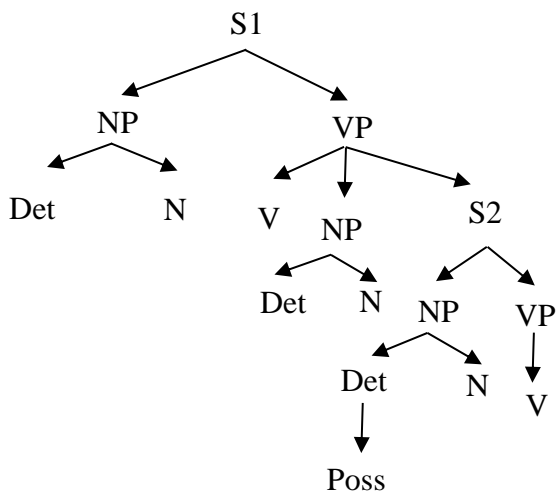


As illustrated by the tree diagram above, "Have faith in your dream" is the VP. The verb phrase (VP) "have" serves as the core or head of the verb phrase. The word "have" in this context means "to possess". Instead of acting as an auxiliary or past participle, the verb in question becomes a transitive verb. Transitive verbs are verbs

that need an NP to complete sentence and clarify the meaning. The direct object is this noun phrase. Here, the word "faith" serves as the imperative object.

Datum 3:

“A dream **is** a wish your heart **makes**”



The one shown in the tree diagram above is an instance of a complex sentence. In a complex sentence, the mother is represented by the first sentence (S1), and the daughter is represented by the second sentence (S2). This occurs because the fact that the first and second sentences are not of equal structural complexity. It is also possible to think of the second sentence (S2) as a subordinate to the first sentence (S1). Whereas the first sentence (S1) is referred to as the second sentence's superordinate (S2).

The datum in question is comprised of two verb phrases (VP), as evidenced by the following analysis. The term "is" serves as a head. The verb phrase's primary action is communicated by heads. "Is a wish your heart makes" is a verb phrase that has the verb "is" as the head in the first sentence. "Is" is classified as an intense verb, which may also be thought of as a copular verb that connects the sentence's subject and complement. Intensive verb here serves as a predicative, providing supplementary details regarding the topic. Additionally, there is a transitive verb in the second sentence. This verb need noun acts an object. A sister relationship exists between the verb phrase and the noun phrase in the second sentence. It is evident from the tree diagram that the word "makes" is in the verb position. Since this, "makes" in this context refers to "a wish," even though the verb phrase is followed by no complement.

D. CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION, RECOMMENDATION

After analyzing the verb phrase structure rules utilize tree diagram of song "A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes" as a data source, the author concluded that transitive verbs occur in 30.8% of cases. Intransitive verbs also occur at a similar rate, 30.8%. Auxiliary verbs occur in 23.1% of

cases. 15.4% of intensive verbs were discovered. Preliminary research indicates that the distransive verbs are not present in the song lyrics.

The song "A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes" contains a variety of verb phrase patterns. There were twelve verb phrases pattern discovered. The author found twelve verb phrase patterns, namely:

NO.	Patterns of verb phrase	Total
1	VP → V	2
2	VP → Aux+V+NP	2
3	VP → V+PP	2
4	VP → V+NP+S2	1
5	VP → Aux+V+Adj	1
6	VP → V+AP	1
7	VP → V+VP	1
8	VP → Aux+V	1
9	VP → V+NP+PP	1

Table 2. Patterns of verb phrase

The verb itself is the key component of a verb phrase, corresponding to the chart above. In actuality, verb is equivalent as a verb alone.

The application of phrase structure rules extends beyond the domain of literary analysis to encompass daily life as well. For instance, in the context of legal issues related to hate speech, these rules can be utilized to assess the pertinent

speech. This study will be helpful in performing a more thorough linguistic examination of other songs. This will enhance the understanding of how verb phrases influence the interpretation of lyrics. Furthermore, this paper is possible used as a beneficial teaching tool to improve students' comprehension of verb phrases and their meanings, especially in language learning environments. Including well-known songs in the classroom shall assist students understand the subject matter better.

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