

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it has an important role in our daily lives. Language in a broader sense is used as tools of communication for people to communicate from one to another in all over the world. People use language in order to share their opinions, feelings, and experience in many ways. Human beings need language to communicate and interact with other people to fulfill their needs as social people, which mean that they will keep communicating through their daily lives. In other words, language cannot be separated from communication as well as communication that cannot be separated either from language. In their forms, languages can be divided into spoken and written languages.

Written language is the written form of communication which includes both reading and writing. Written language, whether reading or writing, requires basic language abilities. These include phonological processing (understanding that words are made of discrete sounds, then associating letters with these sounds), vocabulary, and syntax (grammar). Skilled reading and writing further require an awareness of what is being read or written in order to construct meaning. That awareness which has been mentioned earlier is sentences. Writing sentences is very important and fundamental for people in order to communicate well to others.

In written languages, especially in written English, sentences are the largest unit of the language and they are quite easy to be recognized, they typically begin with a capital letter and end with a period or its equivalent. Sentence itself is a set of words that is typically containing a subject and predicate which is conveying a statement, question, exclamation, or command, and consisting of a main clause and sometimes one or more subordinate clauses. Ideally, a sentence requires at least one subject and one verb. Sometimes, the subject of a sentence can be hidden but the verb must be visible and present in the sentence. Therefore, a verb is called the heart of the sentence.

In forming a sentence, a verb becomes the main focus. Not only becoming main focus, it also has a vital role in English sentences. A verb is the central component of a sentence since it determines the other components in sentences. It defines the relationship among those components as well. The verb can tell us whether certain phrases functions as subjects, objects, or complements. In other words, verbs are very important in every sentence since they provide the explanations of what is done by the subject and show the events or situations. Therefore, the existence of a verb is very important or fundamental in making sentences.

Traditionally, there are two kinds of verb in English and they were divided into lexical and auxiliary. Lexical verbs are the ones that belong to the indefinitely large general vocabulary of the language (e.g. *run, eat, seem, explain, recycle, shatter, prepare, depend*), and they typically express action,

state, or other predicate meaning. The auxiliary by contrast, are a special and very restricted set of verbs. They are used together with a main verb to show the verb's tense or to form a question or negative and they typically express grammatical meaning. Auxiliary verbs or also called helping verbs, can be distinguished among other auxiliaries including *have* and *be*, and the class of *modals*, such as *may*, *might*, *can*, *could*, or *will*.

Verbs then can be divided again into finite and non-finite. Finite verbs are verbs that have subjects and indicate tenses (present and past), person, and number (singular and plural). In the structure of a clause, finite verbs are functioning as the main verb of a clause since they can stand alone by themselves. In finite clauses, the first or only verb in a clause is finite, and the other verbs (if any) are non-finite.

On the other hand, non-finite verbs are verbs that do not have tenses or subjects that they correspond to. It implies that the non-finite clauses cannot stand alone and occur as the main clauses. In other words, they are always embedded to the main clauses as subordinate clauses since they lack subjects to be attached to. In its form, non-finite verbs are traditionally divided into bare infinitive, *to*-infinitive, passive participle, and *-ing* participle.

For instance, an example is given by the writer in order to give a brief insight of this research: Those calls *have come* from climate scientists, international groups such as the United Nations - and kids and teens.

The above sentence shows two kinds of verb that can be divided into finite and non-finite clauses, they are the auxiliary verb "*have*" and the verb "*come*".

The verb “*have*” in the sentence above is considered as an auxiliary which also described as the “perfect” auxiliary. In the sentence, the auxiliary “*have*” is positioning as the very first verb in the sentence and showing the tense of present time which refers to an overt and plural subject “those calls”. On the other hand, the verb “*come*” in the sentence is non-finite because the verb “*come*” does not determine the time or tenses of the sentence, the verb “*come*” is only the perfect participle form from the perfect “*have*” which follows after the lexical verb. Therefore, from the above explanations, it can be concluded that from the above sentence, the auxiliary verb “*have*” is the finite verb while the verb “*come*” is the non-finite verb of the sentence.

A kind of literature where we can classify, analyze, and determine whether the verbs are finite or non-finite is newspaper. For centuries, newspapers have delivered news to the reading public informing them of important events of a day. Using newspaper can provide useful source of information, serving as primary source of information about historical and current events. Newspaper also serves a valuable and factual record of the past and information source for the present. According to *Indopos* (2017), the survey which was done by Nielsen Indonesia in 2017 informed that there were 4.5 million printed media readers and 83 percent of them are newspaper readers. This survey was made through 11 big cities in the inside and outside Java with the total of 17,000 respondents. Through *Jogjapolitan* (2018), Nielsen Indonesia also added that the main reason why Indonesian people love reading newspaper was because newspapers are more credible and reliable in delivering the news. The

previous survey showed that there were many readers which still read and have interests in newspaper.

The newspaper which was chosen and used by the writer in this research is “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper. “*The Jakarta Post*” is an English-language daily newspaper in Indonesia. This daily newspaper is owned by Bina Media Tenggara Company which headquartered in Jakarta. It was first published on April 25, 1983. “*The Jakarta Post*” is also an English-language Indonesian newspaper that has a circulation of 40,000 copies. “*The Jakarta Post*” also has an online edition that contains news from newspapers and other news. The target audience of “*The Jakarta Post*” is foreigners and educated Indonesians as well. According to *Tempo* (2009), “*The Jakarta Post*” has won a number of awards, one of them was Adam Malik Awards which “*The Jakarta Post*” received in 2009 from Hassan Wirajuda, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Indonesia for giving and providing “The Best Foreign Political News”.

Due to its title as “The Best Foreign Political News”, the news’ section of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper which was used by the writer as the main source of data for this research is the section of political news. According to *Geotimes* (2018), people love political news. The first reason behind it was because political news is the mean or place for people to express and assert their political identities and views towards others. Secondly, Indonesian people like anything that related to competition which does exist in political news (*i.e. presidential election*). Lastly, political news nowadays is more relaxed and popular than other sections, not to mention that it is also presented

in an interesting and serious manner.

The writer analyzed political news in “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper because the uses of finite and non-finite clauses are so common in the articles of the newspaper since the journalists wrote their reports and articles into grammatical sentences. Because of that, the writer has found so many finite and non-finite verbs in the articles of the newspaper. Not only the headline news but also the entire articles use grammar in order for people to read it clearly so that the news can be delivered well to the readers and can be understood perfectly.

Determining and finding the finite verbs in a phrase and in a clause is an easy thing to do since it is previously stated that finite verbs are the first verbs in a phrase and clause. On the other hand, in the case of sentences, it will be more confusing for us as a learner to classify and determine the verb which found in a sentence consisting of several clauses. Having more than one clause in a sentence means there will be more than one verb. Classifying and determining more than one verb in a sentence will be more confusing and harder than determining a phrase and a clause, especially in an article of a newspaper that consists several long clauses in one sentence.

By learning finite and non-finite verbs in newspapers, we can also learn about main and subordinate clauses which is very important to be learned since it can help us to understand about the main idea of the sentence that the journalists wanted or intended to be read by the readers. As an English learner, studying finite and non-finite verbs is very fundamental considering it is one

of the most important basic in written English. Not only learning sentences, we can also learn about tenses and their use grammatically. Based on those reasons, the writer chose to analyze political news in “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper and used it as its source data.

Based on the writer’s observation, it is very rare to find a research which contains both of finite and non-finite clauses. It is always focusing only on the non-finite verbs or clauses. If we find it, they will explain the finite part in a short explanation like an introduction and as a part of theoretical framework, but in analyzing the data, they will be focusing on non-finite clauses. The lacks of information and research in this kind of topic is one of the main reasons why the writer chose this topic.

Therefore, from the above problems and explanations, this research is given a title “**Finite and Non-finite Verbs in Political News of *The Jakarta Post* Newspaper**” and it focused on how to classify and determine the verbs whether the verbs are finite or non-finite which found on sentences in political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper.

B. Questions and Scopes of the Research

1. Questions of the Research

This research is a tool to classify and determine the verbs found on sentences whether the verbs are finite or non-finite. Based on the background of the research which has been explained before, it is a hard and confusing matter for us as a learner to classify and determine the verbs

whether the verbs are finite or non-finite which found in a sentence because it can be consisted of more than one clause. Having more than one clause in a sentence means there will be more than one verb. Therefore, the previous problems can be formulated into two questions as follows:

1. What are the classifications of verbs that make them considered as finite and non-finite verbs?
2. How many finite and non-finite verbs did appear on sentences in political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspapers published on Monday, January 27th, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28th, 2020?
3. Which form of non-finite verbs did mostly exist on sentences in political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspapers published on Monday, January 27th, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28th, 2020?

2. Scopes of the Research

The discussion of this research is related to the syntactic structure of finite and non-finite verbs. It focused on classifying and determining the verbs whether the verbs are finite or non-finite which found on sentences of the newspaper. Not only that, this research is also focusing in finding the amount of finite and non-finite verbs, and concluding which form of non-finite verbs that mostly existed on the newspaper. The verbs that were classified and determined in the research are not only lexical verbs, but also auxiliary verbs, and modals. The verbs were classified according to their classifications, positions, and tenses that a verb shows and carries in a

sentence.

The data of this research are the political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper which were taken and collected from two articles published on Monday, January 27th, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28th, 2020 edition to give various data and samples. It also focuses on the news related to “Donald Trump’s issues between Israeli and Palestinians” in order to make it more specific and differentiate this research with other research.

The research also takes theories from the books of Greenbaum and Nelson (2009), Burton-Roberts (2011), and Lobeck and Denham (2014) as its main theories because the theories about finite and non-finite verbs and clauses which were explained in those books are more complex, clearer and easier to be understood. By classifying and determining the verbs whether the verbs are finite and non-finite, the readers will be able to understand about tenses and they also will be able to distinguish the verbs into finite and non-finite verbs correctly.

C. Objectives and Significances of the Research

1. Objectives of the Research

The questions of the research which have been proposed before become the base to achieve the objectives of this research. They can be formulated as follows:

1. This research is to know the classification of verbs that make them considered as finite and non-finite verbs.

2. This research is to know the amount of finite and non-finite verbs which were appeared on sentences in political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper published on Monday, January 27th, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28th, 2020.
3. This research is too know which form of non-finite verbs that mostly existed on sentences in political news of “*The Jakarta Post*” newspaper published on Monday, January 27th, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28th, 2020.

2. Significances of the Research

Through this research, the writer hopes that the results of this research paper can provide a valuable contribution and be useful for readers to give a further insights and knowledges about English Syntax. The writer also hopes that this research will benefit and give abundant information to the readers, especially to the students, related to tense, verb and its function in a sentence in order to help them in identifying and using main and subordinate verbs in complex sentences. Furthermore, the writer wished that it will give further elaborated information on how to make a proper and grammatically correct sentence.

Theoretically, this research is expected to provide a good explanation and understanding about finite and non-finite verbs, so that it can enrich the knowledge of the readers in the syntax field of verbs, especially in finite and non-finite verbs.

Practically, this research is not only providing additional insights but also new experience that is very useful for the writer. For readers, this research can provide information, enlightenment, and inspiration that can be used as a reference to make a future research related to finite and non-finite verbs.

D. Operational Definition

In this part, several terms or theories which are used in the research are explained. It is necessary to define them since they are the key words of the research. The definitions are as follows:

1. Syntax

Syntax is the study of the structure and formation of sentences which explains how words and phrases are arranged to form correct sentences.

2. Simple Sentence

Simple sentence is a sentence that consists of just one main or independent clause and has no dependent or subordinate clauses.

3. Complex Sentence

Complex sentence is a sentence which has two or more clauses in which one clause is functioning as a subordinate or dependent clause which attached or embedded to a main or independent clause.

4. Tense

Tense is a grammatical category which a verb carries and shows in a clause or sentence and it refers to the time of the situation.

5. Finite Clauses

Finite verb is one that carries a contrast in tense between present and past, and may also be marked for person and number. In a finite verb phrase, the first or only verb is finite since it determines the tense in a clause or sentence. In the sentence, it is functioning as the main clause.

6. Non-finite Clauses

Non-finite clause is a clause in which there is no tensed verb (tenseless clause). In the sentence, it is functioning as the subordinate clause. There are three types of non-finite clauses, they are infinitives, passive participles, and -ing participles.

7. Infinitives

Infinitives can be further divided into bare infinitives, and -to infinitives. Bare infinitives are just consist of the (untensed) stem of a lexical verb while -to infinitives appears in its uninflected form after particle to.

8. Passive Participles

Passive participles are like bare infinitives in consisting of just a lexical verb, but in the passive participle form with a passive meaning.

9. -Ing Participles

-Ing participles as with to-infinitive clauses, auxiliaries can figure in -ing participle clauses. Instead of the verb being preceded by to, it takes the -ing affix.

10. Auxiliaries

Auxiliaries or helping verbs come before the main verb in a verb phrase differ from main verbs in a number of ways. Auxiliaries can be divided into be, have, and do. Be, have and do are sometimes called primary auxiliaries since they can transform as lexical and auxiliary verb.

11. Modal Auxiliaries

Modals are auxiliary verbs (such as can, must, might, may) that are characteristically used with a verb of predication and expresses a modal modification and that in English differs formally from other verbs, both lexical and auxiliary.

12. Newspaper

Newspaper is a publication printed on paper and issued regularly which gives information and opinions about current events and news

E. Systematization of the Research

The paper is composed systematically in order to make the readers read and understand easily. Generally, this paper consists of five parts in the form of chapters. The description of each chapter is described in following points as follows:

1. Chapter I: Introduction. This section contains the introduction of the research. The background of the research is the reason why the writer conducted this research. The questions and scopes of the research give the focus and border of this research, so that it will not be too wider and out

of topic. The objectives and significances of the research tell about the reasons and benefits which are aimed in order to find the solutions of the questions and scopes of the research. The part systematization of the research explains the structure of this research.

2. Chapter II: Theoretical Description. This section explains about the theories which are used in the research. It also mentions the references that used to explain all of the theories. And in some parts, it also mentions various types, kinds or the terms of classification and categories.
3. Chapter III: Research Methodology. This section explains about the method which is used in this research. It also tells about the time and place when the research was conducted, the procedure of the research, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis and the sources of the primary and the secondary data.
4. Chapter IV: Research Findings and Discussion. This chapter explains, analyzes, and interprets data, before the result of the research is reported.
5. Chapter V: Conclusion and Suggestion. This section describes the conclusion of the result from the research and suggestion for further research.