CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. **Background of the Research**

Words play a crucial role in communication as they serve as the basic units of expression. By arranging letters in a specific order, words are constructed, allowing them to form phrases, which work together to convey more complex meanings. Additionally, words contribute to the formation of clauses, which consist of groups of words containing a subject and verb and finally form a complete sentence to comprehend the meaning of language in communication.

To communicate effectively, it is crucial to have a comprehensive understanding of how sentences are structured. The structure of a sentence is formed by various components, including the subject, verb, and complement. These components work together to convey a complete thought. By understanding how these components fit together, people can construct clear sentences that are easy to understand. This is crucial for effective communication both in written and spoken form.

Moreover, this understanding of how sentences are structured applies to the meaning of a word in general. The intentions of the speaker or writer play a significant role in determining the meaning of language. Additionally, cultural and social factors also contribute to shaping the meaning of language. Different cultures and societies may assign distinct meanings to certain words.

 This knowledge is essential for navigating the complexities of language and fostering clear understanding in various contexts.

Besides navigating the complexities of language, the role that each word and phrase plays in a sentence is also critical to creating clear and effective communication. Saeed (2016) divides the roles of participant, object, and people into 10 roles: patient, agent, instrument, experiencer, beneficiary, theme, location, source, goal, and stimulus. The patient exists in a role that does not act or is involved and influenced by an agent.

An agent lives as a person who performs some action by affecting another entity. In acting, tools are needed, commonly referred to as instruments. Instrument refers to a tool or something that assists the task that the agent will perform to act. It's usually an inanimate object that an agent uses to implement an event. The experiencer acts as the entity that is aware of the action described by the predicate but is not in control of the action or state.

Every action experienced will certainly have an impact on the beneficiaries. Beneficiary refers to the person for whose benefit or to whose detriment the action described by the sentence is carried out. The theme serves as causally affected by another participant only in terms of location and it is also an entity whose location is referred to, it can be abstract and also static.

The location serves as the place in which something is situated or takes place. Source exists as the place from which or person from whom an action emanates, usually used as a preposition *from*. Goal serves as the place to which or person to whom an action is directed, usually used as a preposition *to*.

Stimulus functions as the entity that produces a (generally psychological) effect in the experimenter.

In addition, a word's position within a sentence is also an important factor for effective communication. A word's position can affect its relationship with other words in the sentence. The position of a word can also create emphasis or provide clarity in a sentence, such as placing a word at the beginning of a sentence can highlight its importance in the sentence.

Align with the importance of a word's position, semantics plays a fundamental aspect of linguistics. Semantics seeks to understand how words and their meanings are used in communication. By analyzing the meanings of words and the relationships between them, linguists can better understand how language is used to convey information. Semantic analysis can also help identify ambiguities in language use, leading to misunderstandings.

Furthermore, semantic roles are a key concept in linguistics that refers to the underlying relationships between the participants in a sentence and the actions or events that the sentence describes. Analyzing semantic roles can provide valuable insights into how language is used. Speakers and writers can clearly and accurately convey their intended message using words and phrases in their appropriate semantic roles.

Different words and phrases can play different roles in a sentence, such as subject, object, verb, or modifier. The verb is an essential part of the clause or sentence and must be present. It aids in defining the utterance's full meaning. The interactions between words in phrases and clauses are governed by

grammar. Grammatical relations serve as a way to describe the hierarchical and syntactic connections between words in a sentence.

Payne (2006) divides the grammatical relation into several parts which are subject, direct object, indirect object, ergative, absolutive, genitive, and oblique. The subject is typically the agent or doer of the action in a sentence, while the direct object is the recipient or target of the action. The indirect object indicates the recipient or beneficiary of an action, and the ergative and absolutive are commonly used in languages with ergative-absolutive alignment, highlighting the roles of subjects and objects in transitive and intransitive verbs.

Every argument in grammatical relations is strictly permitted to engage in a particular syntactic activity. For example, the subject always preceded the predicate. However, in semantic roles, the argument's lexical meaning serves as the sole yardstick for determining the role. There may be perfectly acceptable grammar in a sentence. But eventually, even those supposedly grammatically sound statements could have irrational meanings.

For instance, (a) John baked a cake (for Maria), (b) A cake baked (for Maria). These two examples are both grammatically acceptable. They both satisfy the criteria since they both have a subject, predicate, and object or oblique argument. However, if the reader does not carefully analyze the meaning, (b) may result in misunderstanding. This would suggest that Maria's cake baked itself.

Based on the explanation above, the writer can perform an analysis of semantic roles and grammatical relations in the online news of The Jakarta Post.

The study of the semantics and grammatical relations in online news can provide insight into how language is used to convey news to the public. So that the news delivered can be clear and accurate to understand.

The author chose The Jakarta Post as a source of research data because The Jakarta Post is one of three Indonesian newspapers honored by the Reporters Union of Indonesia in 2006 for upholding journalistic ethics and standards. The newspaper won the Adam Malik Award in January 2009 for its coverage of international politics, which was praised for being factual, informed, and well-analyzed. On October 29, 2019, The Jakarta Post won the gold medal for Best of Investigation Reporting.

The research data was taken from the Indonesia column in The Jakarta Post published from June 21st to July 7th 2023. This research chose Al Zaytun as the object of research because this boarding school is the grandest and most luxurious boarding school located in Indramayu, West Java. This residential school has strong ties to the ideologies, associations, and religious ideas it comprehends. From the background of research mentioned above, the writer chose to write a thesis entitled "The Semantic Roles and Grammatical Relations in The Jakarta Post related to Issues of Teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic Boarding School".

B. **Question and Scope of the Research**

1. **Question of the Research**

   Based on the explanation above, the questions of the research are:

a. What kind of semantic roles are in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school?

b. How are the semantic roles of a word related to grammatical relations in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school?

2. **Scope of the Research**

This research focuses on the word in types of semantic roles and grammatical relations. The discussion of this study covers identifying, analyzing, and studying the semantic roles and grammatical relations. In this research, the writer limits the problem by focusing on complex sentences in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school.

The theory in this study used semantic roles proposed by John Saeed (2016) and grammatical relations proposed by Thomas E. Payne (2006). The writer uses the theory from Saeed (2016) to classify the types of semantic roles dan the theory from Thomas E. Payne (2006) to identify grammatical relations.

C. **Objectives and Significance of the Research**

1. **Objectives of the Research**

Based on the research above, the objectives of the research are:

a. To identify the semantic roles in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school.

b. To know the semantic roles of a word related to grammatical relations in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school.

2. Significance of the Research

Theoretically, this study will enrich research on the analysis of semantic roles and grammatical relations, especially in The Jakarta Post related to issues of teaching at Al-Zaytun Islamic boarding school. The result of this study hopefully can give useful benefit to someone who wants to learn semantic roles and grammatical relations and also can be a good reference for further research, especially to those who take the topic related to semantic roles and grammatical relations.

Practically, the results of this research are expected to give useful inputs for researchers who are going to do research in the same field but in a different subject or theory and beneficial to the readers in general, in improving their knowledge of semantic roles and grammatical relation. Especially to the student whose major is in linguistics. This research hopefully can contribute more knowledge about semantic roles and grammatical relations, complement the theories, and give English students an understanding of semantic roles and grammatical relations. Moreover, those who are interested and to increase their knowledge of the research

about semantic roles and grammatical relations in the linguistic field. This study contributes to other researchers developing this research.

D. **Operational Definitions**

There are several terminologies in this discussion described as the following:

1. **Semantics**

Semantics is one linguistics subfield that explains the meaning of words and sentences. Meaning is always used in language. Knowing the meaning of the sentences or words is important. In Semantics, although the structure of a sentence can change, but cannot change the meaning and the position of roles.

2. **Semantic Roles**

Semantic roles (also known as thematic roles or participant roles) attempt to categorize concepts. Semantic roles capture similarities and differences in verb meaning that are mirrored in argument expression, with emergent generalizations that will help to link semantics to syntax. So, the semantic role is a participant's underlying relationship with the main verb in a clause.

3. **Grammatical Relations**

Grammatical relations refer to the specific linguistic relationships that exist between words or elements within a sentence. These relations

provide a framework for understanding how words function and interact with one another in a sentence.

4. **Sentential Contexts**

Sentential contexts refer to the words that co-occur with a word in a sentence, providing clues and information about its intended meaning. Words are part of a larger sentence, and their relationships with the target word, such as subject-verb, object-verb, and modifier-noun relationships, are crucial for understanding the target word's meaning.

5. **Complex Sentences**

Complex sentences are sentences that have more than one idea that is followed by one of the subordinate conjunctions. Example: She was reading a book while I was taking a bath.

6. **Digital Newspaper**

A digital newspaper is a newspaper that is published digitally. The Jakarta Post belongs to a digital newspaper that is published daily. It can be a stand-alone publication or an online version of a print magazine. It provides news and information that is current and factual, people may learn about national and worldwide events on a daily basis. Online publications can occasionally provide their readers with issues as well. A section of an online newspaper could include editorials, articles, announcements, and ads. These sections include information that readers may use.

E. **Systematization of the Research**

Systematization of the research means presenting the paper in a well-edited composition. This paper is divided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I is Introduction explains the background of the research, the question and the scope of the research, the objective and the significance of the research, operational definitions, and the systematization of the research.

Chapter II is Theoretical Description consists of the definition of the semantic, semantic role, grammatical relation, and movie.

Chapter III is Methodology of the Research presents the setting of the research, the subject of the research, the method of the research, the instrument of the research, the technique of data analysis, and the procedure of the research.

Chapter IV is Data Analysis depicts the data description, the data analysis, the data interpretation, and the discussion.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion give the summary of all chapters and some suggestions relating to the result of the research.