

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is an important component in communicating to others in the world. Language makes it easy for us to interact with others. Without language, we can not convey our minds such as opinions, knowledge, information, ideas, etc. Johnston (2008), states that language is the process or set of processes used to ensure there is agreement between the sender and receiver for meanings assigned to the symbols and the schema for combining them used for each communication.

There are many different languages in the world. As stated in one of Al-Qur'an (Ar-Ruum: 22).

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتَلَفُ السِّنْتِكُمْ وَالْوَأْنِكُمْ
إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

This verse means “*and among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colours: verily in that are Signs for those who know*”. It describes that one of His signs of power is that He created various languages of the world. Every nation must have at least one language, maybe even more. As human beings, we should regard it as a knowledge we should learn.

One of language from the many languages in this world is English language. In this era, English becomes an International language which people can communicate with others who are not from their country. The way is by using English. In Indonesia, people have started to learn English. In learning the language deeper, we will learn syntax in linguistics.

Yule (2010, p. 96) defines syntax as an attempt to produce an accurate description of the sequence or ordering “arrangement” of elements in the linear structure of the sentence. In addition, Husin (2016, p. 43) states that syntax is primarily concerned with the ways in which words are put together in sentences. It is concluded that syntax is the study of a process in which words are put and combined together by using grammatical rules to produce an accurate sentence.

By studying syntax, of course it will ease us to get the intent and purpose of someone's sentence written or spoken. In this case, Putri (2016, p. 2) states that studying syntax is important since it is how sentence is formed and arranged based on the grammatical rule. Moreover, Isnawati (2014, p.1) states that learning syntax enables human beings to compose a complete sentence.

At English Education Department of UIN Antasari, there is a linguistics course in which students learn syntax. Based on the researcher's experience, most of students assume that syntax is one of the lessons of the course that is quite difficult. Moreover, Putri (2016, p. 3) states that most of

students translate native language directly into English without considering the word order that changes between languages. Therefore, researcher wants to conduct a research related to syntax. It is expected to add knowledge and understanding to students who want to learn about syntax further. On the other hand, it will help students who will be English teachers. Because by studying the syntax, it will provide a great benefit for them in the future.

When learning syntax, we will learn about Tree Diagram. Tree diagram is where we analyze sentences using hierarchical structure techniques such as trees, then from each word of the sentence is explained for the description of the words such as noun, verb, adjective, adverb, etc. Putri (2016, p.4) concludes that tree diagram is sentences analysis by using internal hierarchical structure of sentences as generated by set of rules. Finch (2003, p. 102) states that the advantage of tree diagram is to enable us to see at a glance the hierarchical structure of sentences.

The researcher use the Bornstein's Tree Diagram theory (1977) as a mean to analyze two translations of Al-Qur'an. The first translation is from Sahih international translated by Emily Assami, Amatulla Bantley and Mary Kennedy. The second translation is from Abdullah Yusuf Ali. The researcher wants to know the syntactic patterns of Al-Qur'an translated by them. And also, the researcher wants to know the differences of the syntactic patterns of the structure of the sentences of the two translations. Moreover, Al-Qur'an is the central religious text of Islam. It is the glorious book of

Moslems that is always relevant in all ages. Al-Qur'an is used as a fundamental view for every Moslems in doing their activities.

Furthermore, the language of Al-Qur'an is different with the others. It has special things. Al-Qur'an has a great grammar amazed everyone who reads or hears it even the non-Moslems. As Allah said in Al- Qur'an (Al-Baqarah: 2).

ذَٰلِكَ ٱلْكِتَٰبُ لَا رَيْبَ ۚ فِيهِ ۙ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿٢﴾

From this verse above, we can conclude that there is no doubt of Al-Qur'an from all aspect. It is guidance for Moslems.

Al-Qur'an consists of 114 chapters (*surah*) in different lengths of verses (*ayah*). Al-Qur'an has 6236 verses. Due to the many chapters and verses of Al-Qur'an, the researcher choose verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language. The researcher chooses the verses because students at the final semester are sometimes difficult to find verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Therefore, the reseacher chooses these verses as the subject of this research which will be useful for reserchers who want to conduct a reseach related to skills in language.

Based on the verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language, the researcher is very interested and eager to conduct research on these verses and use the Bornstein's Tree Diagram theory as a mean for analyzing the

verses (*ayah*) in two English translations by Sahih International translation and Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation. The researcher is interested in analyzing translation from Al-Qur'an using Tree Diagrams like Alfini conducted the research about that in her thesis about two years ago. The researcher knows this because she published her journal so the researcher can read and understand it. Her title is "A Syntactic Analysis in the English Translation of Surah Al-Qiyamah Using Tree Diagrams."

There are some differences of this research with Alfini's research. First, the researcher uses two English translation of Al-Qur'an by Sahih International translation and Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation. Sahih International translation has received recommendations by numerous well-known scholars, including Shaykh Muhammad bin Saleh al-Munajjid, Dr. Zakir Naik, Sheikh Yusuf Estes, Dr. Bilal Philips and Dr. Jamal Badawi. Sahih International is a translation of Al-Qur'an translated by three American women converts. They are Emily Assami, Amatulla Bantley and Mary Kennedy. Emily Assami spent the 1970s studying Arabic in Damascus, Syria, where the California-born woman had moved with her Arab Husband. She had arrived there as an atheist. But before long, she found meaning in the Qur'an and pursued language studies at Damascus University, eventually converting to Islam and moving to Saudi Arabia. Amatulla Bantley was born in Rochester, Minnesota in 1966 and holds a degree in Business Management. She embraced Islam at the age of 20 and moved to Jeddah a year later. In 1995 she founded The Path to Knowledge, the exclusive distributor for Dar Abul-Qasim publications in

the USA for five years. Mary Kennedy, the Orlando-born English major who serves as an editor for the publishing house, grew up in a Christian family in Florida. She converted to Islam and moved to Jeddah in early 1987. The second translation is Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation. Abdullah Yusuf Ali was a British-Indian barrister and scholar who wrote a number of books about Islam and whose translation of the Qur'an into English is one of the most widely known and used in the English-speaking world. While Alfini (2016), she used an English translation of Al-Qur'an translated by T.B Irving. She said that T.B Irving is an English native speaker who was born in Cambridge, Ontario (Canada) in 1914. Besides that, Irving (1930) declared himself as a native-born Muslim causing Alfini chooses T.B Irving's English translation. Second, the researcher chooses the verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language because the verses have important things for someone who wants to conduct a research related to skills in language. While Alfini (2016), she uses *surah Al-Qiyamah*. It tells the story of the dreadfulness of the Judgment Day (Resurrection). The last, our objectives of study are a little different. The researcher has two objectives of study. First, it is to find out and describe syntactic patterns in the English translation of verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali. Second, to find out the differences of syntactic patterns in the English translation of verses of Al-Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali. While Alfini (2016), she has one objective of study. It is to find out and describe the syntactic patterns in the

English translation of *surah Al Qiyamah* translated by T.B Irving. Here the researcher is not comparing the research that the researcher will conduct with the research that Alfini conducted. But, the researcher just emphasizes that this research is different with what Alfini conducted.

The reason why the researcher takes two translations is to know the differences of the syntactic patterns of the two translations. Because when the researcher look and read the two translations, there are differences in syntactic patterns of the two translations. For example, in verse number 4 of *surah Ar-Rahman*.

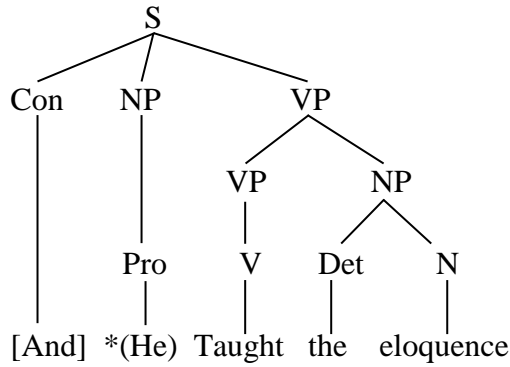
عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ

The translation of Sahih International translation is *[And] Taught him eloquence*. While the translation of Abdullah Yusuf Ali is *He has taught him speech (and intelligence)*.

In this verse, Ibn Kathir (2003, v. 9, p. 377) interprets that eloquence (Al-Bayan) refers to Allah teaching the servants how to recite it by making it easy for them to speak and pronounce letters with the various parts of the mouth, such as the alveolar bridge, the tongue and the lips. It is concluded that when we teach to read something to people, we should make it easy for them to speak and pronounce it.

This is Sahih International translation by using tree diagrams:

[And] Taught him eloquence.

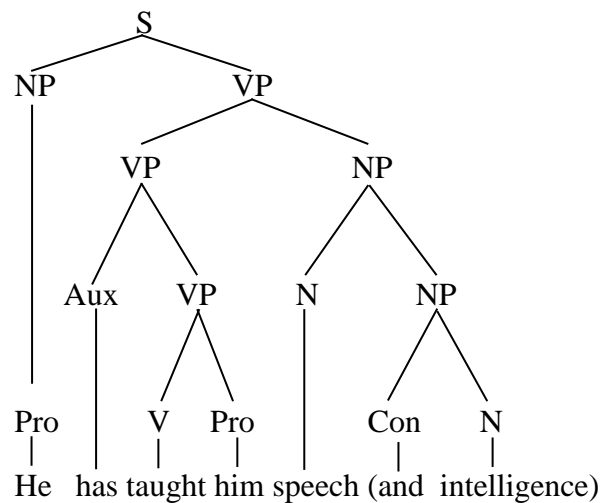


The formula of the diagram: $S \rightarrow \text{Con} + \text{NP} + \text{VP}$

This *ayah* is as a verb phrase if it is seen with the translation. But it is a sentence if it is seen by using the meaning of the verse. The subject *(He) does not exist in the translation. But it exists in the previous verse.

This is Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation by using tree diagrams:

He has taught him speech (and intelligence).



The formula of the diagram: $S \rightarrow \text{NP} + \text{VP}$

From the two translations, there are differences in syntactic patterns of the verse (*ayah*) number 4. In Sahih International translation, the formula of the diagram is: $VP \rightarrow Con + VP + NP$ if it is seen with translation. But it is: $S \rightarrow Con + NP + VP$ if it is seen by using the meaning of the verse. While in Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation, the formula of the diagram is: $S \rightarrow NP + VP$. There are some strategies from the translators to translate Al-Qur'an into English that make the translations have differences in syntactic pattern. Therefore, the researcher wants to know more about the differences of syntactic patterns of all the verses of the verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language.

Based on the phenomenon and explanation above, the researcher is interested in conducting the research related to Syntax and Tree Diagrams. This research is expected to identify the syntactic patterns and to find out the differences in the English translation of verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali. This research is entitled **“A SYNTACTIC ANALYSIS ON SAHIH INTERNATIONAL AND ABDULLAH YUSUF ALI'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF VERSES AL-QUR'AN RELATED TO SKILLS IN LANGUAGE BY USING TREE DIAGRAMS”**.

B. Statement of Problems

The statement of the problems in the thesis is formulated as follows:

1. What syntactic patterns are found in the English translation of verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali?
2. What are the differences of syntactic patterns found in the English translation of verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali?

C. Objectives of Study

Based on the statement of problems above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out and describe the syntactic patterns in the English translation of verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali.
2. To find out the differences of syntactic patterns in the English translation of verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language translated by Sahih International and Abdullah Yusuf Ali.

D. Significance of Study

The result of this research is expected to give contribution as follows:

1. Enriching the researcher's knowledge and experience in this specific research.
2. Information and comparison for the next researchers.
3. It is hoped that this research can give contribution and additional about syntax field especially in analyzing syntactic patterns of sentences using tree diagrams.
4. Assisting English department students understanding and appreciating linguistics field.
5. To give contribution to English department about verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language.
6. The readers can distinguish between syntactic patterns of Sahih International translation and syntactic patterns of Abdullah Yusuf Ali's translation.

E. Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding about the title, certain terms should be explained as follows:

1. Syntax

Syntax is the study of a process in which words are put and combined together by using grammatical rules to produce an accurate sentence.

2. Analysis

Analysis is the practice of looking closely at small parts to see how they affect the whole. Literary analysis focuses on how plot/structure, character, setting, and many other techniques are used by the author to create meaning.

3. Syntactic Analysis

An analysis of data which are taken from the verses of Al Qur'an related to skills in language by using tree diagrams.

4. Tree Diagrams

Tree diagrams is where we analyze sentences using hierarchical structure techniques such as trees, then from each word of the sentence is explained for the description of the words such as noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, etc.

5. Verses of Al-Qur'an Related to Skills in Language

In listening skill, there are nine verses. In speaking skill, there are ten verses. In reading skill, there are ten verses. In writing skill, there are nine verses.

6. Sahih International

Sahih International is a translation of Al-Qur'an translated by three American women converts. They are Emily Assami, Amatulla Bantley and Mary Kennedy. The translation uses modern English that make it easy to understand.

7. Abdullah Yusuf Ali

He is one of translators who translate the Holy Qur'an into English. He is an Indian muslim. His translation is considered to be the most faithful rendering available in English.