

PROCESSES AND CIRCUMTANCES IN SHORT STORIES OF *GOOD HOUSEKEEPING* MAGAZINE

Oleh : Juli Rachmadani Hasibuan

(English Language and Literature Department-State University of Medan)

ABSTRACT

The study deals with the Analysis of Processes and Circumstances in short stories of *Good Housekeeping* Magazine. The data were collected from publications monthly magazine, *Good Housekeeping* Magazine, in its edition of January 2003, May 2003, August 2003, and December 2003. There are four Short stories used as the sample. The texts of short stories were analyzed and classified with reference to the types of Processes and Circumstances according to the Systemic Functional Grammar theories. This Study used descriptive method. The Findings indicate that the Material Process (1283, 44.66%) is dominantly used in the short stories as the representative of Process and Circumstance of Location (771, 66.07%) is dominantly used in the short stories as the representative of Circumstances. This implies that short stories are mostly written in Material Process and Circumstance of Location because both of these aspects have high numbers of using if compared with the others.

Keywords: Processes, Circumstances, Short Stories, Good Housekeeping Magazine

Introduction

Today information must be shared as largely as possible in order people will aware with the changging of the situation now and future. They also can preapre them selves to receive such new discoveries, so they do no stuck in one opinion for one discovery. Today english is used as the medium of communication for international relation in tourisme, trade and diplomacy. Information and technology have a very important role in the development of a nation, thus, it is imporant for us human resources of our nation to get as much as possible to stay always 'in tune' with what is happening around the world.

One of the several ways to get information as much as possible is throught reading mass media, like megazine. Megazine as the most important media in conveying news to the reader provides a lot of information and entertainments.

Today, in Indonesia, some magazines written in English are *Good Housekeeping* magazine, Reader Digest magazine, Hello magazine, C'Ns magazine. Etc, and many more maybe to come. *Good Housekeeping* magazine as one of the English magazines which issues monthly news, consists of sections such as departments and columns, food and home, fashion and beaut, fiction, and etc.

In conveying yhe messages from the writer to the readers, the readers have to apperiate how the sentences or clauses plays a central role, because it embodies a general principle for modelling experience. Our most powerpul impression of experience is that it consists of goings-on, happening,

doing, sensing, meaning, being and becoming. All of these goings on are found in the grammar of the clause. The grammatical system by which this is achieved is transitivity.

The Transitivity System construes the world of experience into a manageable set of Process types, Participant types and Circumstance types. In Transitivity, language is described as experience. In this sense, clauses, phrases, words are interpreted as functional with respect to the whole. Saragih (2002 : 3) elaborates that the realization of language as experience is seen in clause. Bloor (1995: 110) elaborates that process centres on the part of clause that realized by the verbal group, but it can also be regarded as what 'goings on' are represented in the whole clause. The participant is the entities involved in the ground against which the process takes place. In this thesis, there will only be discussed two aspects from three aspects of Transitivity System, Process and Circumstance. The Participants will not be discussed because Participants are involved in a Process and wherever Process takes place, Participant must be there.

Process

Bloor (1995:110) elaborates that the process centres on that part of the clause that realized by the verbal group, but it can also be regarded as what 'goings-on' are represented in the whole clause.

Halliday (1994:107) elaborates that a clause consists in principle of three aspects, namely :

- 1) The process itself
- 2) Participants in the process and
- 3) Circumstance associated with the process

The components provide the frame of reference for interpreting our experience of what goes on. From the quotation above, it can be concluded that process is the interpretation of what is going on in the whole clause.

When we come to interpret the grammar of the clause, however, we do not use these concepts as they stand because they are too general to explain very much. We shall need to recognize functions that are more specific than these and which may differ according to the types of process being presented. In the following sections we shall explore the types of process that are built into the grammar English.

The Types of Process

Processes are specifically categorized into six types, namely material, mental, relational, behavioural, verbal and existential process,(Saragih, 2003:3). These categories are based on semantic or syntactic criteria or both.

Based on the explanation above, each type of processes tries to be explained as the following.

1. Material Process

Egins (1994 : 231) elaborates that material process is that some entity does something, undertakes some action. So material are processes about doing, about action.

One identification criteria for material processes are that they can be probed by asking : what did x do?

For examples :

- 1)What has Jhon done?

- John has *won* competition.
2) What did John do?
John *washed* the car.

From all quotation above, it can be concluded that material processes are action, activities, events and behaviours which occur in the outside of the world. People easily can identify whenever it is material process or not in sentences by asking: *what did x do?*

2. Mental Process

Actually people are not only always talking about concrete process of doing, what we are doing, but also what they are thinking or feeling. Mental process refers to verbs indicating perception, cognition and affection (Saragih, 2002 :3).

For examples :

- 1) I *know* his father
- 2) Do you *like* the new computer?
- 3) I *heard* your voice.

Egins (1994:240) elaborates that Halliday calls process which encodes meanings of thinking or feeling are mental process.

In other words, people very often talk not about what they are doing, but what they think or feel. When they probe, they find they are not asking about actions or doings in a tangible, physical sense; but about mental reaction: about thoughts, feelings, perception. We can recognize that these are different from material processes because it no longer makes sense to ask *what did x do to y?*

For examples :

- 1) What did you do to the washing ? I *hated* it.
- 2) What did she do to her permission? She *believed* them.

2.1. Cognition

Cognition is verbs of thinking, knowing and understanding.

For examples :

- 1) I do *know* his family
- 2) I do not *under stand* why she hates me.

2.2. Affection

Affection is verbs of liking and fearing

For examples :

- 1) I *hate* injection
- 2) I *like* his personal.

2.3. Perception

Perception is verbs of seeing and hearing.

For examples :

- 1) Paul *heard* it on the news.
- 2) I saw him there.

It can be concluded that mental processes are processes of sensing related to thoughts (cognition), feelings (affection) and perceptions. Mental process can be identified by using the verbs like *think, smell, hear, see, want, like, please, repeal, admire, enjoy fear and frighten*.

3. Relational Process

Halliday (1994:119) elaborates that Relational processes could be said to be those of being. In relational clauses there are two parts to the *being*. Something is being set up between two separate entities.

Every language accommodates in its grammar, some systematic construction of relational processes.

Bloor (1995 : 120) elaborates that relational process are typically realized by the verb BE or some verb of the same class (known as copular verbs).

For examples :

Seem, become, appear or sometimes by verb such as *have, own, possess*. Bloor classifies relational processes into two types; attribute process and identifying process.

3.1. Attribute Process

In the attribute mode, an entity has some quality ascribed or attributed to it. Structurally, we label this quality the attribute, and the entity to which it is ascribed is the carrier. Attribute relational processes are coded by copular verbs like *feel, look, remain, smell, sound and taste*.

Halliday (1994:120) elaborates that there are four characteristics of attribute clause which distinguish them from identifying ones, they are :

- a. The nominal group functioning, as attribute is typically indefinite: it has either ran adjective or common noun.
- b. The verb realizing the process is one of the 'ascriptive' classes
[phase: inceptive] *become, turn (into), grow (into); get, go*.
[phase: durative] *remain, stay (as); keep*.
[phase: appearance] *seem, appear, quality (as), turn out, end up (as)*
[phase, sense-perception] *look, sound, smell, feel, taste (like)*
[neutral] *be, feel*.
- c. The probe of such clauses is *what?, how?, or what...like?*
- d. These clauses are not reversible; there are no passive forms.

3.2. Identifying Process

In the identifying mode, something has an identity assigned to it. Halliday (1994:123) elaborates that there are four characteristics of identifying clauses that contrast with those of attribute clauses listed above. He will take them in the same order.

- a. The nominal group realizing the function identifier is typically definite : it has a common noun.
- b. The verb realizing the process is one from the equative classes:
[role] *play, act as, function as, serve as*
[sign] *mean, indicate, suggest, imply, show, betoken, mark, reflect*
[equation] *equal, add up, make*
[kind/part] *comprise, feature, include*
[significance] *represent, constitute, form*
[example] *exemplify, illustrate*
[symbol] *express, signify, realize, spell, stand for, mean*
[neutral] *be, become, remain*

4. Behavioural Process

Behavioural Processes semantically as a “half-way house” between mental and material process (Eggins, 1994:249). They are in part about action, but it is action that has to be experienced by a conscious being. Behaviourals are typically process of physiological and psychological behaviour.

The verbs of behavioural processes are:

Watch, look over, sniff, stare, work out, think on, dream, breath, snuffle, smile, laugh, grimace, grin, pout.

Indicating their close relationship with mental processes, some behavioural in fact contrast with mental process synonyms.

For examples :

- 1) The verb *look at* is behavioural but *see* is mental.
- 2) The verb *listen to* is behavioural but *hear* is mental.

5. Verbal Process

Thompson (1996:97) elaborates that verbal processes are verbs of *saying*. In one way these are intermediate between mental and material processes. Saying something is a physical action which reflects mental operations.

For examples:

Verbal processes show activities of saying, commanding, asking and offering (Saragih, 2002:4). Verbal processes usually use the verb like say, ask and tell.

For examples:

- 1) She *said*, “Good afternoon”
- 2) My mother *told* me a story about a naughty boy who stole toys in Department Store yesterday.
- 3) He *asked* me where is your home.

Based on the quotation above, it can be concluded that the verbal processes are processes of saying which covers only kind of symbolic exchange meaning. Verbal process can be identified by using question: *what.... say?*

6. Existential Process

Existential process represent that *something exist or happens*. Existential clauses typically have the verb be; in this respect also they resemble relational process. But the other verbs that commonly occur are mainly different from either the attribute or the identifying. One group is a small set of closely related verbs meaning *exist or happen*: *exist, remain, arise; occur, come, about, happen, take place*.

Circumstances

Thompson (1996:104) elaborates that circumstances essentially encode that ground against which the process takes places.

Types of Circumstances

Specifically, Circumstances divided into nine types (Saragih, 2002:5). As summarized in the following table.

Circumstances

Types of circumstance	Subcategory	Probe	Examples of realization
Extent	Temporal	For how long?	For three hours every three hours
	Spatial	How far?	For six months
Location	Temporal	When	In september
	Spatial	Where?	In the market Before tea In paris Here
Manner	-	How	Quickly
Cause	-	Why	Because of you For better results
Contingency	-	In what circumstance?	In event of rain In spite of the rain In absance of proof
Accompaniment	-	Together with?	With(out) his friends Instead of them
Role	-	What as?	As a concerned parents (smashed) into pieces
Matter	-	What about?	About his With reference to that
Angle	-	Says who?	According to the shorter Oxford

Short Story

Short story is part of prose in literature. Short story is a relatively brief invented prose narrative that typically deals with a limited group of characters involved in a single actor. Usually aims at unity of effect, and often concentrates on the creation of mood rather than telling of story (Webster, 1971:2103). In other words, short story is narrative text shorter than novel and one main incident and so does the one-act-play.

Good Housekeeping Magazine

A magazine is the part of printed media which covers more features and there are usually more sections in the magazine.

A magazine is a publication that is issued periodically, usually bound in a paper cover, and typically containing stories, essays, poems, etc, by many writers and often photographs and drawings, frequently specializing in a particular subject or area, as hobbies, news, or sports (The Random House, 1964:861).

Good Housekeeping Magazine is a monthly magazine which is printed and published by Hearts Communion, I.N.C, in New York, United States of America. It is available in the library of Foundation of Indonesia America Youth Friendship (Yayasan Perhimpunan Persahabatan Indonesia Amerika: YPPIA). This magazine is for women or girls, especially for housewives because all the contents almost describe the women's world, people also can access this magazine on the Internet Online at [www. Good Housekeeping Magazine.com](http://www.GoodHousekeepingMagazine.com)

Research Design

Descriptive method is a method of research which makes the description of situations, events or occurrences, so as to accumulate the basic data. In designing this research, the writer uses descriptive quantitative methods. Borg and Gall (1983:354) elaborates that descriptive method is primarily concerned with finding out *what as it is*. So based on this research design, the writer will analyze and find out the types of processes and circumstances, and the dominant type of process and circumstance which is used in short stories of *Good Housekeeping Magazine*.

The Data

The data are gathered from short stories in *Good Housekeeping Magazine*. The data collected from January, May, August and December 2003. There are six types of processes: namely, Material Process, Relational Process, Behavioral Process, Verbal Process, and Existential Process and there are nine types of circumstances, namely, Extent, Location, Manner, Cause, Contingency, Accompaniment, Role, Matter and Angle based on the classification of transitivity system proposed by Halliday. The lists of the data can be seen in the appendices.

The Data Analysis

1. Types of Processes

The data in the short stories were classified with reference to the types of processes. From the fourth editions there were 1097 sentences (in the short stories) providing the process. It can be seen clearly in the appendices. The summary of process types with their occurrences is summarized in table.

The Types of Processes and their occurrences

Edition	Titles	Types of Process					
		Mat	M	R	B	V	E
January, 2003	Watching from the wings	332	98	22.5	18	73	35
May, 2003	My sister Alice	263	117	199	49	84	14
August, 2003	What I Should	222	42	107	19	26	15
December ,2003	The nine-year-old who stole Christmas	332	76	271	33	65	20
Total (N)		1283	333	802	119	248	88

The table shows that the total number of Material process occurrence is 1283 Mental Process occurrence is 333, Relational Process occurrence is 802, Behavioral Process is 119, verbal Process is 248, and Existential Process is 88. This also shows that the most dominant type of proces used in the short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine is Material Process. When these figures are converted into the percentage of avarage types of Processes, the following result is obtained.

The percentage of the types of Processes

Types of Processes	Number (F)	Percentage %(X)
Material process	1283	4.66%
Mental process	333	11.49%
Relational process	802	27.92%
Behavioral process	119	4.14%
Verbal process	248	8.63%
Existential process	88	3.06%
Total (N)	2873	100%

Table table shows that the percentage of Material process is 44.66%, Mental process is 11.49%, Relational process is 27.92%, Behavioral process is 4.14%, Verbal process is 8.63%, and Existential

process is 3.06%. It implies that Material process is the most frequent type of process used in the short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

2. Types of Circumstances

As stated in the explanation of the above, the data in short stories were also classified with the reference to the types of Circumstances. From the fourth editions, there were 675 sentences (in the short stories) providing the Circumstances. It also can be seen clearly in the appendices. The summary of circumstance types with their occurrence is summarized in table.

The types of Circumstances and their occurrences

Editions	Titles	Types of Circumstances								
		Ext	Loc	Man	C	Cont	Acc	R	Matt	An
January, 2003	Watching from the wings	12	201	42	6	2	28	4	16	0
May, 2003	My sister Alice	4	169	48	1	2	21	4	11	0
August, 2003	What should I have said	17	115	24	2	-	15	3	3	0
December, 2003	The nine-years-old who stole Christmas	9	286	61	5	1	38	8	9	0
Total		42	771	175	14	5	102	19	39	0

The table shows that the total number of extent is 42, Location is 771, Manner is 175, Cause is 14, Contingency is 5, accompaniment is 102, Role is 19, Matter is 39, and Angle is 0. This also shows that most dominant type of circumstance used in short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine is the circumstance of Location. When these figures are converted into the percentage of average types of circumstances, the following result is obtained.

The Percentage of the Types of Circumstance

Types of Circumstance	Number (F)	Percentage%(X)
Existen	42	3.60%
Location	771	66.07%
Manner	175	15.00%
Cause	14	1.20%
Contingency	5	0.43%
Accompaniment	102	8.74%
Role	19	1.63%
Matter	39	3.34%

Angle	0	0.00%
Total (N)	1167	100%

The table shows that the percentage of the Circumstance of Extent 3.60%, Location is 66.07%, Manner is 15.00%, Cause is 1.20%, Contingency is 0.43%, Accompaniment is 8.74%, Role is 1.63%, Matter is 3.34%, and Angle is 0.00%. This also implies that the most dominant type of circumstance used in short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine is dominated by circumstance of location.

Findings

This study is mainly aimed at analyzing and describing Processes and Circumstances in short stories in *Good Housekeeping* magazine. The findings can be specified as the following.

- a. The six types of Process are applied in the fourth short in *Good Housekeeping* magazine. The total of material process occurrence was 1283(44.66%). Mental process occurrence was 333(11.49%), Relational process occurrence was 802(27.92%), Behavioral process occurrence was 119(4.14%), Verbal process occurrence was 248(8.63%), and Existential process occurrence was 88(3.06%)
- b. From the ninth types of Circumstances, there were eight types of Circumstances applied in the fourth short stories in *Goog Housekeeping* magazine. The total of Circumstances of Extent occurrence was 42(3.60%), Location occurrence was 771(66.07%), Manner occurrence was 175(15.00%), Cause occurrence was 102(8.74%), Contingency occurrence was 5(0.43%), Accompaniment occurrence was 102(8.74%), Role occurrence was 19(1.63%), Matter occurrence was 39(3.34%), and Angle occurrence was 0(0.00%).
- c. The most dominant type of Process is Material process (1283,4466%) from the total process occurrence in the fourth short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine.
- d. The most dominant type of Circumstance is Circumstance of Location (77,66.07%) from the total of Circumstance occurrence in the fourth short stories of *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

REFERENCES

- Borg, W., and Gall, M.D. 1983. *Educational Research*. Broad Way. New York: Longman
- Bloor, T.N., and Bloor, M. 1995. *The Functional Analysis of English a Hallidayat Approach*. New York: St. Martin Press. Inc.
- Eggins, S. 1994. *An Introduction To Systemic Functional Linguistics*. London : Pinter
- Gay L.R. 1990. *Competencies for Analysis and Applications*. Singapore : Mentrill
- Halliday, M.A.K. 1985. *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*. London : Edward Arnold
- Halliday, M.A.K. 1994. *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*. London : Edward Arnold
- Matthiessen, C. 1995. *Lexicogrammatical Cartography*. International Language Sciences
- Saragih, A. 2002. *Functional Grammar*. Medan : State University of Medan
- Thompson, G. 1996. *Introducing Functional Grammar*. Republic of China

