

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

One of the main requirements for communication is the existence of a language. In expressing feelings, responding to an event, developing ideas, and carrying out human criticism, language is very much needed. Language is also used by humans to exchange information. Due to these facts, people realize that the role of language is very important in daily activities. There are many languages in the world that people use to communicate and each language has different rules and structures. In communicating with each other, language can be used in spoken or written form. Both in spoken and written form, the use of language must be arranged systematically. So that the information can be easily understood and accepted. The communicative language used by people in everyday life can be constructed through words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. These four things are the main part of the sentence structure. Syntax is a study which is carried out specifically to discuss and analyze sentence structure.

There are various definitions of syntax from several experts. Syntax is the study of grammar and the principles of how a sentence is constructed in a particular language (Chomsky, 2002). According to Miller (2002), Syntax is concerned with how sentences are built by clauses that are put together, with how clauses are built by phrases, how phrases are put together to build larger phrases, and how phrases are built up by words that are put together. Based on the definition above, it can be concluded that syntax is the construction and arrangement of words, phrases, and

clauses based on certain grammatical rules to form sentences or larger language constructions. Words, phrases, clauses, and sentences are important parts of language, but sentences are considered as the most complex medium that people use to communicate with each other.

A collection of several words that form a complete meaning is the meaning of a sentence. Sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a period. The use of sentences in daily communication is very useful, sentences can be a medium for conveying ideas, statements, and thoughts. According to Langan (2003), a group of words consisting of a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought is the definition of a sentence. A sentence can consist of one or more clauses. Four types of sentences, namely simple sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence and compound-complex sentence are four types of sentence based on the clauses that compose them. When a sentence has only one subject-verb combination then the sentence is called a simple sentence. A sentence which consist of two independent clauses is called a compound sentence, this is known as the process of combining two or more equally important ideas with coordinating conjunctions. The coordinating conjunctions that usually used in compound sentence are as follows: for, and, but, or, nor, yet, and so (Manurung, 2004). A sentence consisting of one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses is called complex sentence, while sentence which consists of at least two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses is called compound-complex sentence.

Basically, dependent clause (main clause) and independent clause (subordinate clause) are two types of clauses that are needed to form a sentence (Miller, 2002). A group of words that can stand alone because it contains a complete thought and meaning is the meaning of main clause, while a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate but cannot stand alone because it does not provide a complete meaning and thought is called subordinate clause. Subordinate clauses can be placed at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the sentence. The use of subordinate clauses in sentences is important for effective writing, although it does not give full meaning, it is done to make the idea of the sentence clearer.

There are three types of subordinate clause namely complement clause, adjunct(adverbial) clause, and relative clause (Kroeger, 2005). A clause that acts as a complement to a verb is called as complement clause, a clause that acts as an explanation or an adverbial of another clause is called as adjunct clause. While a clause that acts as a modifier of NP (Noun Phrase) is called a relative clause. Based on its functions in a sentence, subordinate clause can be divided into subordinate clause functioning as subject, subordinate clause functioning as direct object, subordinate clause functioning as complement within phrase, and subordinate clause functioning as adjunct (Aarts, 2001). Complex sentence and compound-complex sentence are types of sentence which are contained of subordinate clauses in it. Those types of sentences are commonly used in news articles and captions because it is able to make the news more interesting. In addition, the use of complex sentences in news texts is considered more effective than the use of the other types of sentences, because complex sentences have subordinate clauses that help to complete the idea of the sentence to become more clearly.

Based on the explanation of the importance of subordinate clause in the sentence above, it is considered as an important thing for people to know more about the types and functions of the subordinate clause, because it can help them to make their writing or speaking more complete and interesting. Therefore, the analysis of the functions of the subordinate clause in complex sentences is focused in this study. The caption of BBC News Instagram account is selected as the data source.

There are several reasons of choosing BBC News Instagram captions as the data of this study. First, currently, Instagram is one of the most famous social media used by people to exchange thoughts and information with more than two billion users worldwide. Second, the BBC News Instagram account is followed by many people around the world, therefore the news spread widely and use the global language, English. Third, the caption of the BBC News Instagram posts contained of many complex sentences. To find out the functions of the subordinate clause, the constituent structure of the complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram captions also is analyzed in this study. The constituent structure of the complex sentences is analyzed by using tree diagrams.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the phenomenon which is explained in the background of this study, several problems were analyzed in this study. The problems are:

1. What are the functions of subordinate clause in complex sentence found in BBC News Instagram captions?
2. How are the constituent structures of complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram captions?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Based on the problems formulated in this study, there are two objectives to be achieved in this study. The objectives are:

1. To find out the functions of the subordinate clause in complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram captions.
2. To analyze the constituent structure of complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram captions.

### **1.4 Limitation of the Study**

This research was conducted by focusing on the purpose of knowing the functions of the subordinate clause in complex sentences found in the BBC News Instagram captions based on the theory from Aarts (2001) and supported by the theory from Quirk et al. (1985) and to analyze the constituent structure of complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram captions based on theory from Brown and Miller (1991).

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

There are some final results in this study, namely theoretical and practical significance. The significances of this study presented as follows:

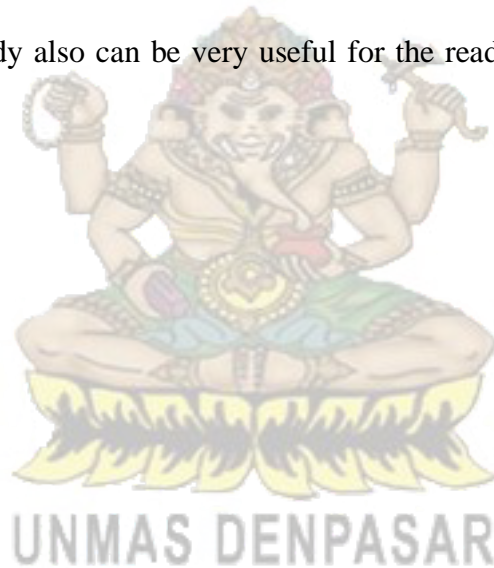
#### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

Theoretically, the aims of this study are to analyzed the functions of subordinate clause and the constituent structure of complex sentences found in BBC News Instagram Caption. The specific analysis provided in this study are expected

to be references for people who interested to learn about subordinate clause. The results and findings of this study also can contribute in teaching complex sentence and subordinate clause.

### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

Practically, this study is expected to help the reader in making interesting and effective writing by using subordinate clause in complex sentences. The reader could know about the functions and the constituent structure of complex sentence. The findings of this study also can be very useful for the reader who wants to make a news caption.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORY

#### 2.1 Review of Related Literature

In completing this research entitled “An Analysis of Subordinate Clauses in Complex Sentences Found in "BBC News" Instagram Captions”, five studies that have been done previously and related to this research were reviewed. The research is taken from articles and theses. The first review was taken from a thesis written by Danusti (2019). The research entitled “An Analysis of Subordinate Clause Found in “The Jakarta Post” Articles”. The aims of his study is to find out the types and the syntactic structures of subordinate clause found in “The Jakarta Post” articles. The theory from Kroeger (2005), in his book entitled *An Analyzing Grammar an Introduction* was used as the main theory of this research. The second theory of this research was taken from Quirk et al (1985), in their book entitled *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Both theories were used to determine the types and the syntactic structure of subordinate clause that found in “The Jakarta Post” articles. Qualitative and quantitative method were used to analyze the data in this research. The results of this study showed that there are three types of subordinate clause. They are complement clause, adjunct (or adverbial) clause, and relative clause. This study also found out the type of subordinate clause that is the most often used in “The Jakarta Post” articles. The type that occurs most often is adjunct (or adverbial) clause.



The second review was taken from a thesis written by Putri (2021). The research entitled “A Syntactical Analysis of Complex Declarative Sentence Found in “Dracula” Novel by Bram Stoker”. The purposes of this research were to analyze the functions of subordinate clause in complex declarative sentence found in the novel and the constituent structure of the complex declarative sentences. Qualitative research method was used in her thesis to analyze the data. In her thesis, the main theory which was used to analyze the functions of subordinate clause in complex sentence was the theory of Aarts (2001). The book entitled *English Syntax and Argumentation*. The theory from Quirk et al (1985) in his book entitled “*A Comprehensive Grammar of The English Language*” was also used in this study to help the first theory in finding out the types of sentences found in the novel. In analyzing the constituent structure of complex sentences in the novel, the theory from Brown & Miller (1991) was used in this study. In this research, there are 194 complex declarative sentences found in the novel. The subordinate clause in the sentences were classified into 4 types of function. 1 subordinate clause categorized as a subject, 21 data categorized as direct object, 120 data classified as adjunct, and 52 classified as complement within phrase.

The third review was taken from a journal article written by Bestari, Maharani, & Putra (2021) entitled “Subordinate Clause Analysis Found in Part III and IV “Gulliver’s Travels” Novel”. There were two purposes of the study. The first goal was to analyze the types of subordinate clause found in the novel. the second goal was to analyze the most occurring type of subordinate clause which found in “Gulliver’s Travels” novel. The quantitative and qualitative method were used in this



study to analyze the data. The theory which was used in this study were the theory from Miller (2002) and supported by the theory from Kroeger (2005). The result of this study showed that there were 35 sentences containing subordinate clause. The subordinate clauses were classified into three types. They were complement clause, relative clause, and adverbial clause. The most occurring type of subordinate clause found in the novel was relative clause with total 19 sentences.

The next study was taken from an article written by Prabawati, Putra, & Karya (2020) in their study entitled “The Study of Subordinate Clauses in China Daily Newspaper”. Their study aimed to analyze the types of subordinate clause in complex sentences found in “China Daily Newspaper”. In analyzing the data, qualitative method was used in this research. The data were taken by using library research. In analyzing the types of subordinate clause found in the complex sentence, the theory proposed by Miller (2002) is used in this study. The data in this research are presented in formal and informal method. The result of this study indicates that there are three types of subordinate clause found in “China Daily Newspaper” which are relative clause, adverbial clause, and complement clause. There were a total 61 subordinate clauses found in the newspaper. The most frequently used type found in the newspaper is relative clause, which is 52% of the total data, it is 32 subordinate clauses, and followed by adverbial clause which is 35% of the total data, it is 20 subordinate clauses. While the least used type is complement clause which is 15% of the total data, it is 9 subordinate clauses.

The last review was taken from an article entitled “Subordinate Clause in Adultery Novel” written by Putra, Sulatra, & Purwati (2020). The study was

conducted to analyze the types and the functions of subordinate clause which found in a novel entitled *Adultery*. Descriptive qualitative method is used in this study to analyze the data. The theory from Miller (2002) and Eastwood (1994) were used in this study to analyze the types of the subordinate clause, while the theory from Aarts (2001) was used in this study to analyze the functions of subordinate clause found in the novel. The result of the study indicated that all of three types of subordinate clause were found in this study. They are complement clause, relative clause, and adverbial clause. While there are only three functions of subordinate clause found in this study. They are subordinate clause functioning as direct object, subordinate clause functioning as complements within phrase, and subordinate clause functioning as adjunct. Subordinate clause functioning as subject is not found in this study.

In comparing to this study, the previous studies above have the similar field with this study, but this study has three differences. First, most of the studies above only focused on the types and the constituent structure of the subordinate clause in the sentences. However, this study focused more on the type of functions of subordinate clause which found in complex sentences. Second, the data source of this study was taken from Instagram caption. Third, this study used the theory from Aarts (2001) to analyze the types of functions of subordinate clause, and the theory from Brown & Miller (1991) to analyze the constituent structure of the complex sentence.

## **2.2 Concepts**

In writing this research, all of the process of analyzing the data are supported by the concepts. The concepts of this research were taken from many sources that related to this study. There are four concepts which was used in this study to supported the analysis of the data. They are complex sentence, subordinate clause, Instagram caption, and BBC News.

### **2.2.1 Complex Sentence**

According to Quirk et al (1985) complex sentence is a sentence that arranged by a main clause and at least one or more subordinate clauses. Complex sentence is mostly like a simple sentence which only has one main idea, but unlike a simple sentence, the main idea of complex sentence is supported by one or more subordinate clauses. In complex sentence, the main idea is found in the main clause, while the additional information or the less important idea is found in the subordinate clause. The subordinate clause in complex sentence can be functioned as the sentence element. The subordinate clause in complex sentence usually started with a subordinating conjunctions, such as although, after, before, because, when, unless, so that, since, if, how, and once. However, in several conditions, the subordinating conjunction also can be omitted.

### **2.2.2 Subordinate Clause**

According to Quirk et al. (1985) Subordinate clause is a clause in a sentence that has an asymmetric relationship with the main clause, functioned as constituent or part of the main clause. Subordinate clauses are the part of the main clause. It

cannot stand alone because it does not provide a complete meaning. Subordinate clause can be placed at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the main clause (Quirk et al., 1985). The subordinate clause sometimes started with a subordinating conjunction.

*“I like John because John likes me”* (Quirk et al., 1985: 269)

The sentence above consists of one main clause and one subordinate clause. The main clause of the sentence above is *I like John*, and the subordinate clause is *because John likes me*. The subordinate clause in complex sentence above is started by a subordinating conjunction *because*.

### **2.2.3 Instagram Caption**

Nowadays, Instagram is one of the most famous social media in the world, with more than one billion users worldwide. Instagram is used by people around the world to post many things, such as personal vlog, pictures, memories, business advertisements, and news (Balarabe, 2020). Posts in Instagram are uploaded completely with captions in order to provide a complex information. Instagram caption is defined as a short description written on each Instagram post in order to provide detail information or more context about the post (Meisani, Chofiyya, & Handayani, 2016). Instagram caption usually consists of a group of words or sentences. It can also include emojis, hashtags, and tags. The Instagram captions can be used as a description of photos or videos uploaded in our Instagram account. It can provide additional information or describe the things in the post specifically.

#### 2.2.4 BBC News

BBC News is a department within the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) which takes responsible in collecting and broadcasting news and current affairs. BBC News is recognized as the world's largest news broadcasting organization producing around 120 hours of daily radio and television broadcasts, as well as online news coverage (Kousha & Thelwall, 2017). BBC News was established on November 14, 1922 in London. The license is located in Washington DC. BBC News has international broadcast area. It provides accurate and impartial world news as well as local and regional perspectives. It also provides news on many topics such as entertainment, business, technology, education, sport, weather, and politics. In this digitalization era, BBC News can be reached in some media, such as radio, television, and internet. For the online coverage, BBC News can be reached in several social medias such as facebook, youtube, twitter, and Instagram.

#### 2.3 Theories

Based on the problems which is described in this research, there are two research questions that will be discussed in this study. In order to support the validity and the problems analysis in this research, two main theories and one supporting theory are used in this study. The first theory is taken from Aarts (2001) in his book entitled *English Syntax and Argumentation*. This theory is used to solve the first problem in this study. It is used to determine the types of grammatical function of subordinate clause in complex sentence. The other theory which is also used to support the first research problem is the theory from Quirk et al (1985) in his book entitled *Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. This theory is used to

determine the types of the sentence. The second research problem will be solved by the theory from Brown and Miller (1991) in his book entitled *A Linguistic Introduction to Sentence Structure, Second Edition*. It is used to support the analysis of constituent structure of the complex sentence.

### **2.3.1 Sentence**

According to Quirk et al (1985), sentence is assumed to be the first rank grammatical unit. It is considered as a set of words that has a complete meaning. Words will combine into phrase, phrases will combine into clause, and clauses will combine into sentence. A sentence consists of at least one subject and one predicate. A sentence is begun by a capital letter and ended with a full stop. Based on the major of the sentence, there are four types of the sentence, namely imperative, declarative, interrogative, and exclamative. While based on its structure, there are four types of sentences, namely simple sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence, and compound-complex sentence.

#### **2.3.1.1 Simple Sentence**

According to Quirk et al (1985), simple sentence is a sentence that contains of only one clause, or the other words, an independent clause with no dependent clause. It contains one complete idea which is found in the independent clause and does not have another clause to be its element. A simple sentence consists of the most basic elements that make it a sentence, namely a subject, a predicate or a verb, and a complete idea. There are some examples of simple sentences proposed by Quirk et al (1985):



- 1) “The child laughed” (Quirk et al., 1985)
- 2) “Somebody caught the ball” (Quirk et al., 1985)

### **2.3.1.2 Compound Sentence**

According to Quirk et al. (1985) a compound sentence arranged by two or more main clauses with the same rank that form one syntactical whole in meaning and intonation. Clauses that are parts of compound sentence are also called coordinate clause, as they joined by a coordination. A compound sentence can provide two or more ideas which is found in each main clause. The main clauses in compound sentence are usually joined by a coordination conjunction, however in several condition, it is also joined without conjunction. There are several examples of compound sentence proposed by Quirk et al (1985):

- 1) “I admire his reasons but I reject his conclusions” (Quirk et al., 1985)
- 2) “I like Mia, Mia like me” (Quirk et al., 1985)

### **2.3.1.3 Complex Sentence**

According to Quirk et al. (1985) complex sentence is a sentence which constructed by a main clause and at least one or more subordinate clauses. A complex sentence consists of a complete idea which is found in the main clause, while the subordinate clause in complex sentence is used to give additional information to support the idea of the main clause. The main clause in complex sentence consists of the most important idea of the sentence, while the less important idea is contained in the subordinate clauses. The subordinate clauses in complex sentence are usually



joined by a subordinating conjunction, such as because, when, since, although, after, before, how, and so that. There are some examples of complex sentence which proposed by Quirk et al (1985):

- 1) “The school which my children attend is within walking distance” (Quirk et al. 1985)
- 2) “Although I admire his reasoning, I reject his conclusion” (Quirk et al., 1985)

#### **2.3.1.4 Compound-Complex Sentence**

According to Quirk et al. (1985) a compound complex sentence is a sentence which arranged by at least two main clauses and one or more subordinate clauses. A compound-complex sentence may provide many ideas because it is formed by several main clauses. The main clauses in compound-complex sentence are connected by a coordinating conjunction, while the subordinate clauses are combined into the sentence by a subordinating conjunction. The examples of compound complex sentence are:

- 1) “I don’t like singing and my sister doesn’t like swimming because she can’t swim” (Quirk et al., 1985)
- 2) “As I headed out for a walk, my doubts about doing so dissipated, and I was soothed by the gentle night air” (Quirk et al., 1985)

### 2.3.2 Functions of Subordinate Clause in Complex Sentence

According to Aarts (2001) subordinate clause based on its grammatical function can be divided into four types. The functions of subordinate clause are classified into clauses functioning as subject, clauses functioning as direct object, clauses functioning as adjunct, and clauses functioning as complements within phrases (Aarts, 2001).

#### 2.3.2.1 Clause Functioning as Subject

Subject in a sentence determines the number and person relevant to the verb. A subject is usually a noun phrase or nominal clause. It is usually placed before a verb in declarative sentence and placed after the operator in interrogative sentence. Subordinate clause may have a function as a subject in a sentence. This is an example of subordinate clause functioning as a subject in a sentence proposed by Aarts (2001).

[That Ken adores Nadia] annoys Jenny (Aarts, 2001)

The sentence above is a complex sentence consisting of one subordinate clause. The clause in the bracket is considered as the subordinate clause because it is not the sister of annoys or Jenny.

#### 2.3.2.2 Clause Functioning as Direct Object

The subordinate clause in complex sentence may have a function as a direct object of a verb. The direct object is considered as the person or thing that is the recipient of the action of a transitive verb. The direct object is usually placed after a

verb. A direct object also can be a subject when it is changed into a passive voice.

The sentence below contains a subordinate clause functioning as direct object.

Tim thought [that Kate believed the story] (Aarts, 2001)

The clause in the bracket above is considered as a subordinate clause which is functioned as a direct object of the verb “think”. The subordinate clause above is introduced by a complementizer *that*.

### 2.3.2.3 Clause Functioning as Adjunct

The subordinate clause in complex sentence may function as an adjunct. Adjunct is considered as an adverbial to modify a clause by additional information, such as time, location, attitude, and reasons. The subordinate clause functioning as adjunct is usually combined by several conjunctions such as when, where, since, and if. Below is the example of subordinate clause functioning as adjunct.

I will repair it [when I return] (Aarts, 2001)

The clause in the bracket above is considered as a subordinate clause functioning as adjunct. It is considered as an adjunct because the subordinate clause of this sentence is not a complement of the verb *repair*. The subordinate clause provides additional information of the verb *repair* by adding the time. The subordinate clause of this sentence is begun by a conjunction *when*.

### 2.3.2.4 Clause Functioning as Complements Within Phrase

A complement is a clause which functions as a complement of a word such as a verb, a noun, or an adjective. A subordinate clause in complex sentence can

functions as a complement within phrase. Here is an example of subordinate clause functioning as complements within phrase which is proposed by Aarts (2001).

The article was about [NP their **realization** *that all is lost*] (Aarts, 2001)

The sentence above is considered as a complex sentence. It consists of a subordinate clause that functions as a complement within a phrase. The subordinate clause which written in italic is considered as a complement of a head *realization*. The subordinate clause in this sentence gives more detail information about the content of the head.

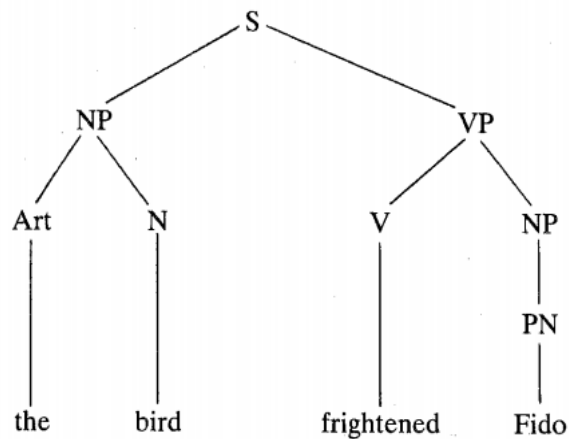
### 2.3.3 Constituent Structure

According to Brown & Miller (1991) the constituent structure analysis is also traditionally known as “pairing”. According to Oxford dictionary, parse means “to break a sentence into its component parts of speech and describe it grammatically”. In linguistic, this activity is well-known as constituent structure analysis. The word ‘constituent’ referred to a single word such as: the girl(NP) or the beautiful girl(NP). Each of the constituent has different structural properties. Therefore, there are several ways to represent its constituent structure, such as bracketing, labeling, tree diagram, and vine diagram. According to Brown & Miller (1991). One of the most alternative way to analysis a constituent structure of a sentence is by using tree diagram. Below is the example of tree diagram and its rules proposed by Brown & Miller (1991):

S:	NP	VP
VP:	V	(NP)
NP:	ART	N
	PN	

The rule above is a construction of the sentence below:

The bird frightened Fido (Brown & Miller, 1991)

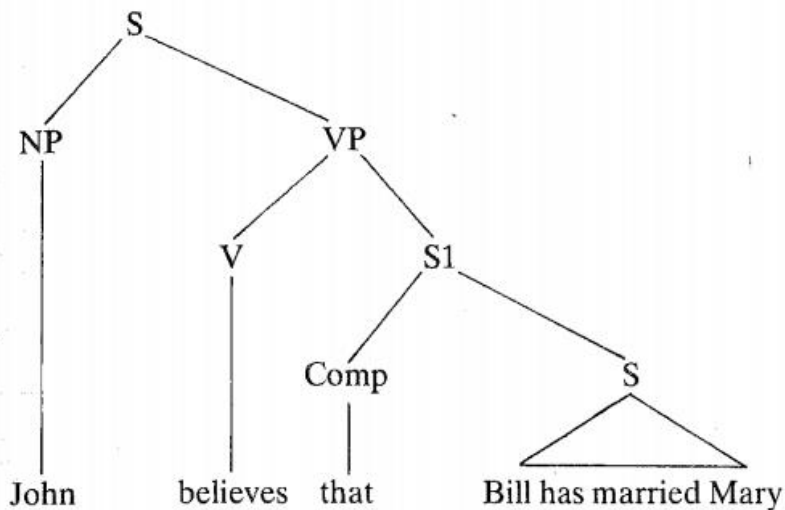


(Brown & Miller, 1991)

**Figure 2. 1 Tree Diagram of Simple Sentence**

Here is also the example of constituent structure of a complex sentence which contains of a subordinate clause that is proposed by Brown & Miller (1991).

John believes *that Bill has married Mary*. (Brown & Miller, 1991)



(Brown & Miller, 1991)

**Figure 2. 2 Tree Diagram of Complex Sentence**

From the constituent structure above, we can see that the sentence above is considered as a complex sentence because it consists of a main clause and a subordinate clause. The subordinate clause of this sentence is begun with a complement “that”. According to the constituent structure above, Sentence (S) is the mother of Noun Phrase (NP) and Verb Phrase (VP). (NP) has a branch which is *John*. While the (VP) is demoted into two branches. They are Verb (V) *believes* and (S1). According to Brown and Miller (1991) S1 stands for embedded subordinate sentence or subordinate clause. The (S1) is demoted again into two branches, which are Complement (Comp) *that* and the second (S) *Bill has married Mary*.

