CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Study

The importance of syntax in communication cannot be overstated, as it plays a pivotal role in ensuring the effectiveness of conveying information and ideas, underscoring the significance of the structural arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in facilitating clear, coherent, and comprehensible messages. Syntax deals with how sentences are constructed, and users of human languages employ a striking variety of possible arrangements of the elements in sentences (Robert, 2001:01). Syntax is critical in enabling good communication. It serves as the foundation for creating meaningful and grammatically correct phrases. Language would be a tangle of words without structure or coherence without syntax, making communication difficult or impossible. Proper syntax aids in the clear and exact communication of ideas. It ensures that sentences are organized in a way that minimizes ambiguity. Clear communication is critical in a variety of settings, including academia, business, law, and everyday encounters.

In the contemporary era of digital advancements, the articulation of proficient sentences assumes paramount significance, as it plays a pivotal role in facilitating reader comprehension and ensuring a nuanced grasp of the intended meaning within the written discourse. Syntax is one of the linguistics branches that focuses on

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sentence structure. "Syntax means 'sentence construction': how words group together to make phrases and sentences." (Tallerman, 2005: 1) in his book entitled "Understanding Syntax Second Edition". According to Greenbaum and Nelson (2002: 3), the largest unit that is described in grammar is normally the sentence. Sentence is a collection of words that conveys a complete idea or thought, with a subject and predicate typically present. It may take the form of a statement, question, command, or exclamation, and it can be made up of different types of clauses and phrases. Therefore, correct use of punctuation is crucial to express the intended meaning of the sentence. Oshima and Hogue (1981:121) has been explained that there exist four fundamental sentence categories in the English language: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. The categorization of a sentence is determined by the kinds of clauses employed in its formation. A simple sentence consists of a single subject-verb combination and conveys a complete idea. Conversely, a compound sentence arises when two or more independent thoughts of equal importance are linked together using coordinating conjunctions. These coordinators include for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so. A complex sentence consists of an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. In conclusion, a compound-complex sentence is created by merging two or more independent clauses along with one or more dependent clauses.

There are two kinds of clauses namely independent (main) and dependent (subordinate), (Oshima and Hogue, 1981: 121). Main clauses are a group of words in

a sentence that can stand alone, because it expresses a complete thought. A subordinate clause is a group of words in a sentence that has a subject and predicate but it cannot stand alone because they do not provide a complete thought. A dependent clause typically starts with a subordinating conjunction such as *after, because, by the time, even though, if, just in case, now that, once, only if, since, though, unless, until, when, whether, while,* or a relative pronoun such as *what, whatever, which, whichever, who, whoever, whom, whomever, or whose.* Here is an example of the subordinate clause in the complement clause.

Elizabeth regretted *that she had met Wickham* (Miller 2002: 63).

From this sentence, it can be concluded that the main clause of the sentence above is *Elizabeth Regretted*, and the subordinate clause is *that she has met Wickham*. In the preceding sentence, the word "that" is used to provide supplementary information about the main clause, which is the independent clause. according to Olson (2006:19) the word groupings are identical, but the dependent clauses have an additional word at the start known as a subordinating conjunction. This subordinating conjunction serves to modify a dependent or subordinate clause and connect it to another dependent clause.

This research focuses on understanding subordinate clauses and their constituent structure, which can function as a subject, object, complement, or adverb in a main phrase. It is necessary for efficient writing because it clarifies the relationship between concepts using subordinators. A subordinate clause can be

found at the beginning, end, or middle of a sentence. Using the same type of sentence repeatedly can make our communication dull; consequently, subordinate clauses must be used in everyday life. According to Miller (2002: 63) there are three types of subordinate clauses complimentary clauses, relative clauses, and adverbial clauses. Complement clauses were formerly referred to as 'noun clauses' because they occupy positions in the main clause that could typically be filled by regular noun phrases. Similarly, relative clauses were termed 'adjective clauses' to highlight their function in modifying nouns, just as adjectives do, for example, consider the sentence: "The cottage that Mrs. Dashwood accepted was rather small." Conversely, adverbial clauses function to modify verbs, but they extend their influence to entire clauses. Adverbial clauses come in various types, including those related to reason, time, concession, manner, and condition.

The syntactic structure is a branch of science that examines the elements of sentence structure and how they relate to the rules governing sentence arrangement. Its objective is to construct a grammar that can generate sentences in each language. Constituent analysis or parsing is the customary method of linguistic description used to investigate syntax. This study uses tree diagrams to identify the constituent structure of subordinate clauses in complex sentences, which are prevalent in various media, including newspapers, magazines, advertisements, and guidebooks. This study focuses on analyzing the data found in online CNN newspaper which provides a diverse range of news stories from specific regions, places, or countries.

Online CNN newspapers use a wide range of phrase forms, from simple to complex sentences. They frequently include news items, opinion pieces, interviews, and reports, all of which can use a variety of syntactic patterns. Analyzing this variation allows researchers to better understand how syntax is employed in everyday conversation. On the other hand, online CNN newspapers also provide current and relevant language data. Because newspapers report on everyday events and concerns, their content reflects the language in use at the moment. This is useful for researchers who are interested in how language evolves and changes over time. For that reason, this current study focuses on analyzing the types of subordinate clauses and the syntactic structure of the sentence.

1.2   Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study and showing that there are two problem of the study which as the primary concern in this study as follows.

1. What types of subordinate clauses in complex sentences are found in "online CNN newspaper"?

2. How are the constituent structure of subordinate clauses in complex sentences found in online CNN newspaper shown in three diagrams?

1.3   Objectives of the Study

With regard to the issues identified in this study, two objectives need to be accomplished, those are outlined as follows.

1. To find out the types of subordinate clauses of complex sentences found in online CNN newspaper.

2. To describe the constituent structure of subordinate clauses in complex sentences by tree diagram found in "online CNN newspaper".

1.4   Limitation of the Study

This current study focused on analyzing the subordinate clause utilized in "the online CNN newspaper collected on the 10th & 11th of August 2023. The focus was on identifying the different types of subordinate clauses using Miller's (2002) theory of English syntax and analyzing their constituent structures within complex sentences found in online CNN newspaper. The analysis of this study represented through tree diagrams, by using the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) entitled "Grammar Analysis.
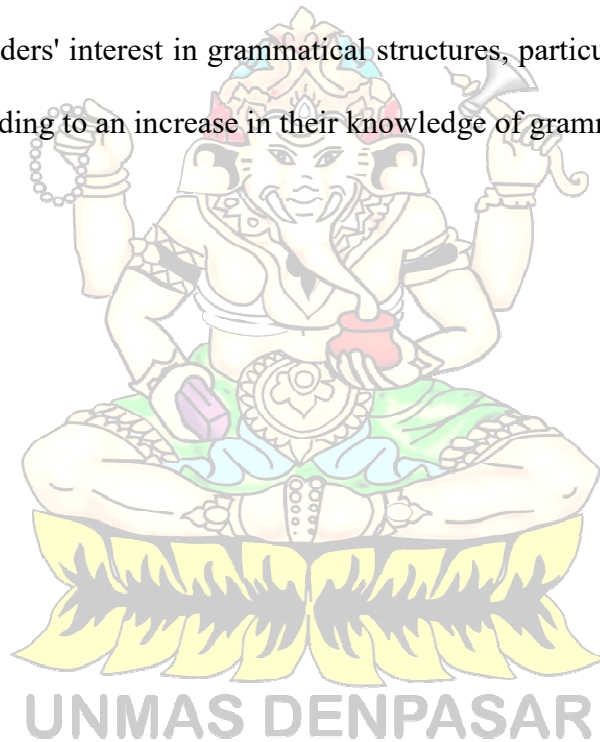
1.5   Significance of the Study

The significance of this current research is outlined below.

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this study expected to enhance the theoretical significance by providing a clear and simplified explanation of the types of subordinate clauses and their constituent structures using tree diagrams. This could serve as a valuable reference for future researchers interested in analyzing similar issues related to subordinate clause analysis.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

Practically, this study expected to provide a significance guiding for both school and university students. The study's content, which covered various types of subordinate clauses found in online CNN newspaper and their constituent structures demonstrated through tree diagrams, could be utilized as an educational reference. Additionally, this current study could sparked readers' interest in grammatical structures, particularly in subordinate clauses, leading to an increase in their knowledge of grammar.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

2.1 Review of Related Literature

This part consists of the review of similar research' topic related to this study that have been presented in the previous study with a similar topic of subordinate clauses. This study took five different researches to compare the similarities and differences.

The first review was taken from Indriyani (2021) who wrote research entitled "Subordinate Clauses in the Boscombe Valley Short Story." The focus of the study was examining the various subordinate clauses within complex sentences presented in the Boscombe Valley Short Story. Additionally, the study delved into analyzing the structure of the subordinate clauses. In analyzing the subordinate clauses, the study used the descriptive qualitative method by using the theory suggested by Miller (2002). To support the study, it used tree diagrams using the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005). The study discovered various findings within the data source, as reflected in the subsequent statement. These findings include 9 sentences, or 43% of the total data of relative clauses. Following that, there were 7 sentences, constituting 33% of the total data of complement clauses. Then there were 5 sentences or equal to 24% of the total data of adverbial clauses. Therefore, from the result above it can be concluded that the most data used in that study was the relative clause.

Based on the study above, there is a difference between the research done by Indriyani (2021) and this current research which is the data source used in her research used a short story from Boscombe Valley. Meanwhile, this current research used the online CNN newspaper as the data source. Moreover, there are some similarities between Indriyani's research and this current research. First, both this current research and Indriyani's research used the theory proposed by Miller (2002) entitled "An Introduction to English Syntax" to analyze the types of subordinate clause and used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) entitled "An Analyzing Grammar" to support by using tree diagrams. Second, both the current research and Indriyani's research focused on analyzing the types of subordinate clauses.

The second study under the title "An Analysis of Subordinate Clause Found in The Jakarta Post Articles", was taken from Danusti (2019). In that research, the writer purposed to identify the types of subordinate clauses and to analyze the syntactic structure by showing a tree diagram of subordinate clauses. The information in that study obtained through the observation method from articles in the Jakarta Post. To analyze the data, that research used qualitative and quantitative methods. The theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) and Quirk, et al (1985) used to analyze the qualitative method. The study identified various subordinate clause types in the data source using the theory mentioned earlier. These included complement clauses, which consisted of 1.75%. Then followed by adjunct or adverbial clauses, consisted of 6.5%, and finally, relative clauses, which consisted of 1.75%. Moreover, from the

data above, it can be concluded that an adjunct or adverbial clause was the most frequently used in that research.

Based on the facts shown above, it is possible to conclude that there were certain differences between Danusti's research and this current research. First and foremost, the theory utilized in that research used the theory suggested by Kroeger (2005) entitled "An Analyzing Grammar" to analyze the subordinate clauses found in The Jakarta Post. Furthermore, that research was used the theory proposed by Quirk, et al (1985) to account for and show the data by using a quantitative method. Compared to this current research, the theory of subordinate clause was used the theory suggested by Miller (2002) entitled "An Introduction to English Syntax". To support this theory there was also used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) entitled "An Analyzing Grammar". Second, the data source used in Danusti's research was the "The Jakarta Post" articles. Meanwhile, the data source in this current research was taken from online CNN newspaper. Moreover, there were also similarities between Danusti's research with this current research such as both the analysis method in that research and this current research used qualitative and quantitative methods. Then the main discussion in that research and this current research focused on finding out the subordinate clause involved in the data source.

The third review was taken from Purwati (2018) under the title "Subordinate Clauses Found in Paulo Coelho's Novel Entitled *Adultery*". The target of Purwati's research to determine the types of subordinate clauses found in "Adultery Novel" and

to describe the structure of subordinate clauses in tree diagrams. The data utilized in that research originated from a novel called "Adultery" by Paulo Coelho. Purwati only focused on chapter one and chapter two. The theory of the subordinate clause proposed by Miller's theory (2002) and Aarts (2001) to analyze the data source found in Paulo Coelho's Novel entitled *Adultery*. By focusing on two chapters as the data source, on the result, Purwati found only three types of subordinate clauses involved in the data source. The three types of subordinate clauses, such as complement clause, relative clause, and adverbial clause. Purwati found several sentences in each of the three types of subordinate clauses they are, compliment clause found 4 data, relative clause found 8 data and adverbial clause found 6 data. Therefore, in Purwati's research, the relative clause was the most frequently found in Adultery Novel.

Based on the data above, on one hand, it can be calculated that there were two differences between the research done by Purwati and this current research. First and foremost, the data source used in Purwati's study collected from a novel entitled "Adultery". Meanwhile, in this current research, the data source was taken from online CNN newspaper. Second, the theory used to analyze the subordinate clause was taken from the theory suggested by Miller (2002) under the title "An Introduction to English Syntax" and the theory suggested by Aarts (2001). Meanwhile, the theory in this current study used the theory suggested by Miller (2002) under the title "An Introduction to English Syntax" and the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) under the title "An Analyzing English Grammar". On the other

hand, the similarity between the research done by Purwati and this current research were both methods used qualitative and quantitative methods to determine the subordinate clause involved in the data source.

The fourth review was taken from Anggreni (2017) under the title "The Analysis of Subordinate Clause Used in *Pocket Bali* Guide Book". That study concerned with analyzing the subordinate clauses found in the *Pocket Bali* Guidebook. That study aimed to identify the types of subordinate clauses, analyzed the syntactic structure by showing a tree diagram, and explain the grammatical function of subordinate clauses. The study employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches to analyze the data. The theory of subordinate clause in Anggreni's study used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) and the theory proposed by Quirk, et al (1985). The data for that research gathered through the observation method from the "Pocket Bali" guidebook. As the result of that research, Anggreni found three types of subordinate clauses involved in the data source such as the compliment clause which consisted of (5.9%) of data, adjunct (adverbial) clause which consisted of (46.6%) of data, and the relative clause which consisted of (47.5%) of data. From the data above it can be concluded that the relative clause was the most frequently used in the "Pocket Bali" Guidebook as the data source.

Based on the explanation shown above, it can be concluded that there were certain differences between Anggreni's research and this current research. First things first, the data source in Anggreni's research was taken from *the Pocket Bali*

Guidebook. Meanwhile, in this current research, the data source was taken from the online CNN newspaper. Second, the main theory used in Anggreni's research used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) under the title "An Analyzing English Grammar" also the theory proposed by Quirk, et al (1985) to analyze the data found in *Pocket Bali* Guidebook. Meanwhile, in this current research, the main theory focused on the theory proposed by Miller (2002) under the title "An Introduction to English Syntax", to support the main theory, this current study used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) under the title "An Analyzing English Grammar". Moreover, there were two similarities between the research done by Anggreni and this current research. First, both in Anggreni's research and this current research identified the types of subordinate clauses found in the data source. Second, both the analysis method in Anggreni's research and this current research used qualitative and quantitative methods.

The last review was taken from Bestari (2021) under the title "The Subordinate Clause Analysis in Gulliver's Travels Novel by Jonathan Swift". Bestari's research soughed to identify the various types of subordinate clauses within the novel "Gulliver's Travels" and illustrated the structural relationships of these subordinate clauses through complex sentence tree diagrams. These diagrams aimed to clarify which phrases or clauses modified by the subordinate clauses presented in the novel. In Bestari's research, all data sourced from the same novel and subjected to analyze using both qualitative and quantitative methods. The theory used in that

research was the theory suggested by Miller (2002) in a book entitled *"An Introduction to English Syntax"* and the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) entitled *"Analysing Grammar"*. As a result, Bestari found three types of subordinate clauses involved in the data source such as, compliment clause consisted of 2 sentences or (6.3%), relative clause consisted of 9 sentences or (28.1%), and adverbial clause consisted of 21 sentences or (65.65). Based on the result and data above, it can be concluded that the adverbial clause was the most frequently used in Gulliver's Travel Novel.

Based on the data shown above, there were some differences between the research done by Bestari and this current study. First and foremost, the data source used in Bestari's research was taken from a novel entitled Gulliver's Travel Novel. Meanwhile, in this current research, the data source was taken from online CNN newspaper. Moreover, there were some similarities between Bestari's research and this current research. First, both the aim of the research in Bestari's research and this current research were to find out the types of subordinate clauses found in the data source. Second, both the theory used the theory proposed by Miller (2002) entitled "An Introduction to English Syntax" and the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) under the title "Analyzing Grammar". Last but not least, both methods used in Bestari's research and this current research use qualitative and quantitative methods.

2.2   Concepts

This concept aimed to inform the readers about the basic ideas that were related to the topic of subordinate clauses. some concepts can be written in this part regarding this present study about the subordinate clause.

2.2.1   Clause

Like sentences, clauses are groups of words that have a subject and a predicate (Olson, 2006: 14) For instance:

Tim thought *that Kate believed the story* (Aarts, 2001: 53)

We can describe the sequence of words in a sentence above as constituting a sentence. This sentence consisted of two parts: a main clause, which is identical in content to the entire sentence, and a subordinate clause, specifically "that Kate believed the story." The term "that" serves as a complementizer (Aarts, 2001: 53). Based on the Oxford dictionary, the clause is a group of words that includes a subject and a verb and forms a sentence or part of a sentence. According to Morley (2000 :59) clauses which include a verbal phrase are called major clauses and those without a verbal phrase are called minor clauses.

On the other hand, Olson (2006: 14) It has been asserted that a clause can be categorized into two main types: the independent clause and the dependent clause. An independent clause consists of words within a sentence that are self-sufficient because they convey a full thought. In contrast, the dependent clause, often referred to as a

subordinate clause, comprises words in a sentence that possess both a subject and a predicate but cannot stand independently since they do not convey a complete thought.

2.2.2 Subordinate Clause

According to Kroeger (2005: 219), a subordinate clause functions as a dependent, rather than a co-head. From the sentence above it can be concluded that the subordinate clause functions to explain the main clause (or independent clause) because the subordinate clause can not stand by itself. For instance: I put on my heavy coat *when I saw the snow was falling* (Olson, 2006: 15). Subordinate clauses are used to provide details, add information, or indicate relationships within a sentence.

2.2.3 Newspaper

A newspaper is a printed or digital publication that delivers frequent updates and information to the public on a variety of topics of interest. It is a key source of news, reporting on current events, issues, and trends worldwide. Newspapers are critical for distributing information and promoting public discourse. In today's digital era, the newspaper is one of the most widely-read types of written text. According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary newspaper is a paper that is printed and distributed usually daily or weekly and that contains news, articles of opinion, features, and advertising

2.3   Theories

In this research there were two problems of the study discussed. In completing those two problems of the study, this current research supported by two different theories proposed by two experts. First and foremost, to identify the types of subordinate clauses this current study used the theory proposed by Miller (2002) under the title *"An Introduction to English Syntax"*, as the fundamental theory utilized in this current research. Second, drawing the constituent structure by using a tree diagram in complex sentences used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) under the title "*Analyzing Grammar"*.

2.3.1   Subordinate Clause Types

Based on Miller (2002: 63), complex sentences are formed by combining a principal clause with one or more subordinate clauses. In a complex sentence, one clause, known as the main clause, takes precedence, while the additional clauses, referred to as subordinate clauses, are bound by specific constraints. The subordinate clause is also known as the dependent clause which functions to give additional information about the main clause. however, this clause must stand with the main clause also called an independent clause. According to Miller (2002) in his book entitled "An Introduction to English Syntax", there are three main types of subordinate clauses such as complement clause, relative clause, and adverbial clause. All those three main types of subordinate clauses can be discussed as follows.

2.3.1.1 Subordinate Clause as Complement Clause

In the past, complement clauses were commonly referred to as 'noun clauses' because they fill positions within the main clause that are typically occupied by regular noun phrases. Here are two examples of complement clauses that modify the verb,

a. Elizabeth regretted that *she had met Wickham*, *(*Miller 2002: 63)*.*

From those two examples above it can be concluded that - *Elizabeth regretted* refers to the independent clause, while *she had met Wickham* refers to the dependent clause is called the subordinate clause by showing the conjunction to modify the verb *regretted.* Miller mentioned that the modern term 'complement clause' accurately represents the connection between these clauses and the main clause's verb. Phrases like "Elizabeth regretted" and "Catherine feared" are unfinished parts of the sentence structure that necessitate modification, either through a noun phrase or another clause.

Complement clauses also can modify a noun (Miller, 2002: 64). Look at the following example:

b. There was a plan *that we would visit Glasgow today but the weather is terrible*. (Miller, 2002: 64).

This example illustrates how the word "plan" is influenced by the conjunction "that," making this sentence a complement clause that serves to

modify the noun "plan." Therefore, *there was a plan* is an independent clause and *that we would visit Glasgow today* is the subordinate clause. Based on Kroeger (2005: 220) observes that complement clauses are frequently initiated by a distinct term (or, in certain languages, a particle) known as a complementizer.

2.3.1.2 Subordinate Clause as Relative Clause

According to Miller (2002: 64) relative clauses are termed adjective clauses because this designation aligns with the idea that adjectives, which normally appear before the noun in a noun phrase, share a similar function in modifying nouns. In contrast, relative clauses typically come after the noun they modify. for instance:

a. The gentleman *who saved Marianne* was Willoughby (Miller, 2002: 64).

From the example shown above, it can be concluded that, "the gentlemen" refers to the main clause, and "who saved Marianne was Willoughby refers to the subordinate clause which mark by the word who to give the further explanation of the main clause.

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, A relative clause is a sentence component that relies on the main part of the sentence and cannot stand alone. It describes a noun preceding it, as in the example:

b. The woman "*who I met* was wearing a brown hat, "*who I met*" is a relative clause.

The example above, shows that "The woman is refers to the main clause of the sentence. Meanwhile, who I met was wearing a brown hat, refers the subordinate clause. The word who functioned to explain the woman in the main clause.

c. The Woman *that I love* is moving to Argentina (Kroeger, 2005: 230).

In this example, the head noun which is woman modified by conjunction *"that"*. This example also can be classified as a restrictive relative clause. Based on Kroeger (2005: 231) in his book entitled "Analyzing English Grammar" stated that there are two kinds of Relative clauses they are restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses. Based on the example given above, in the restrictive relative clause, the modifying clause is perhaps introduced by *that* (Kroeger, 2005: 231). Meanwhile, a non-restrictive relative clause is a construction where the entity referred to by the main noun can be recognized on its own, and the clause serving as a modifier merely provides supplementary information about that entity (Kroeger, 2005: 231).

2.3.1.3 Subordinate Clause as Adverbial Clause

According to Miller (2002: 65) the term 'adverbial' implies that adverbial clauses alter verbs but, they affect entire clauses. Another important characteristic of adverbial clauses is that they function as adjuncts because they are generally optional elements within sentences. According to Leech (2006: 9), An adverbial clause also encompasses its components or elements within it; subject, verb phrase, and object as

in the main clause. for instance: He suddenly left when the police entered the house, (Leech, 2006: 9). From this sentence it can be considered he suddenly left his main clause, meanwhile when the police entered the house. (Leech, 2006: 9).

Based on Leech (2006: 9), the examples of adverbial conjunctions are when, since, before, after, as, while (conjunction of time); if, unless (conditional conjunctions); although, though (concessive conjunction); because, as, since (conjunction of cause or reason), Leech also said that like other adverbials, adverbial clauses can occur either before or after the other elements of the main clause. According to their meaning, some kinds of adverbial clauses can be classified such as; reason, time, concession, manner, and condition.

1   Adverbial Clause of Reason

According to Eastwood (1994: 330), an adverbial clause of reason is marked with conjunction because, for example; *she refused to believe that he had deserted her because Marianne loved Willoughby* (Miller, 2002: 65).

The subordinate clause because Marianne loved Willoughby gives reason to the main clause, she refused to believe that he had deserted her (Miller, 2002: 65). The conjunction modifies the main clause of the sentence.

2   Adverbial Clause of Time

Eastwood (1994: 330), stated that an adverbial clause of time is marked with conjunction such as; after, while, as soon as, before (Eastwood, 1994: 328). For example: when Vanny returned, she found John Bertram very ill. (Miller, 2002: 65) The conjunction provides information on what time *she found Tom Bertram very ill* as the main clause. it modifies the main clause *she found Tom Bertram very ill* (Miller, 2002: 65).

3   Adverbial Clause of Concession

Although Mr. D'Arcy disliked Mrs. Bennet he married Elizabeth (Miller, 2002: 65)
From the sentence above, the conjunction of the adverbial clause of concession which is although expresses claiming. The writer's meaning in the sentence is 'he acknowledges that he did not like Mrs. Bennet, that is why he married Elizabeth' the adverbial clause modifies the main clause *he married Elizabeth* (Miller, 2002: 65).

4   Adverbial Clause of Manner

Henry changed his plans *as the mood took him* (Miller, 2002: 65). The adverbial clause of the manner in this sentence, *as the mood took him*, describes how Henry changed his plans and modifies the main clause *Henry changed plan (*Miller, 2002: 65).
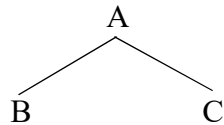
5   Adverbial clause of Condition

If Emma had left Hartfield, Mr. Woodhouse would have been unhappy (Miller, 2002: 65). In this sentence, the conditional adverbial clause "if Emma had left Hartfield" describes the conditions in which a specific scenario might have occurred, which Mr. Woodhouse is becoming unhappy. The writer asserts that this scenario didn't happen, but it would have occurred if Emma had indeed left Hartfield. Miller, 2002: 65).
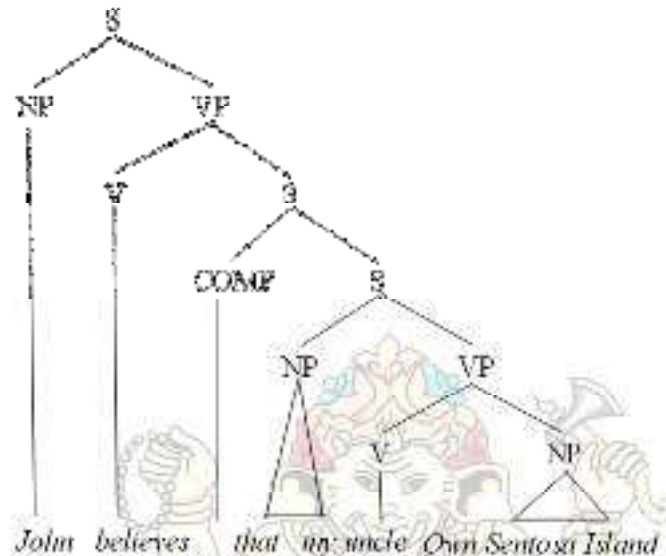
2.3.2 Constituent Structure

In analyzing all the subordinate clauses in complex sentences found in the data source, this part used the theory proposed by Kroeger (2005) in his book under the title Analyzing Grammar. In a sentence, words are not arranged in a straightforward list; instead, they group to create clusters of varying sizes, known as constituents (Kroeger, 2005: 26). Constituent structure is a key concept in linguistics that describes the hierarchical organization of words and phrases within a sentence. It aids linguists in understanding how words combine to produce larger language units with diverse syntactic and semantic functions. Constituent structure is an important part of generative grammar theories like transformational-generative grammar and phrase structure grammar.

According to Kroeger (2005: 39), the primary approach for depicting information about constituency and linear order is through a tree diagram. A basic tree diagram consists of three nodes. The top node, referred to as node A, acts as the

parent node for the two lower nodes, B and C. B and C are considered sibling nodes because they share the same parent. Straight lines are employed to connect parents to their children.

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        A
       / \
      /   \
     B     C
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According to Kroeger (2005: 39) When utilizing a tree structure like this to depict the arrangement of a grammatical element, such as a phrase or sentence, the primary node represented the larger unit, while the subordinate nodes signify its components or subcomponents. The sequence of constituents is reflected by the left-to-right order of the corresponding nodes. The lines connecting the main node to the subordinate nodes illustrate the relationship of part to whole. In cases where tree diagrams are employed to illustrate the linguistic structure, the labels on the nodes convey two types of information about each element: (i) its syntactic category (e.g., Noun, Verb, etc.) and (ii) its "size" or position in the grammatical hierarchy (word, phrase, clause, etc.). To understand deeply about the constituent structure this current study provides one example of three diagrams as follows:

Kroeger (2005: 221)

This constituent is normally labeled S or ‾S (pronounced "S-bar"). It contains two daughters: COMP (for "complementizer") and S (the complement clause itself) (Kroeger, 2005: 221). The tree diagram above shows that the mother (S) has 2 daughters (NP) and (VP). (NP) refers to (Pro) *John.* (VP) demoted into (V) *beliefs,* and (S). The constituent of (S) is demoted into (Comp) and (S). Then, (S) has two daughters (NP) *my uncle,* and (VP). (VP) demoted into (V) *owns,* and (NP) *Sentosa Island.*