

## THE REALIZATION OF CLAUSE COMPLEXES IN ARTICLE ABSTRACTS

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### ABSTRACT

*This study reports the analysis of taxis realized in clause complexes of the article abstracts. The article abstracts themselves were taken from the International Seminar on Educational Technology (ISET) proceedings published by Postgraduate program, State University of Semarang. In the present study, the writers employed qualitative descriptive study such suggested by Fraenkel, Wallen, and Hyun (2012) to analyze the data. The results of the study showed that parataxis is more dominant than hypotaxis used in clause complexes in article abstracts. Those could be seen that 10% of parataxis is constructed in the text, while 8% of hypotaxis is constructed in the texts. In conclusion, the construction of parataxis is more dominant written in the article abstracts.*

**Keywords:** systemic functional linguistics, clause complex, taxis

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Systemic functional linguistics (henceforward SFL) is a theory which firstly developed by Emiritus Professor M.A.K Halliday from Sydney University, Australia. SFL can be known and learnt by most of students around the world. In SFL, it covers spoken and written form. Spoken and written forms are assumed as text (Derewianka, 1990; Halliday & Webster, 2009) as quoted by Hidayat (2014, p. 26-27).

In SFL, it covers not only contexts, but also metafunction. One of metafunctions is logical meaning. Dealing with logical meaning, its grammar elements cover taxis at which it is well-known as the type of interdependency. Taxis is divided into two types, those are parataxis and hypotaxis. Parataxis is equal and independent entities. Meanwhile, hypotaxis relates to a main clause through a dependency relationship. Besides, logico-semantic system is also covered in logical meaning (Eggs, 2004, p. 258).

Dealing with parataxis and hypotaxis as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, those are used to analyze clause complexes appeared in the texts as cited by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004, p. 363; 2014, p. 428). In addition, clause complexes are formed out of logical-semantic relations that link clauses, typically one pair at a time, as a interdependent on one another (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004, p. 367; 2014, p. 432).

Dealing with the logical meaning such discussed in the preceding paragraph, it focuses on clause complexes which covers taxis and logico-semantic relation. These regions of clause complexes are used to analyze the article abstracts in proceeding of international seminar on educational technology (ISET). In analyzing the texts, the writers segment the clause complexes (CC) in be simple clause (move) as suggested by Butt, et al., (2000, p. 295).

In this present study, the writers intend to answer the research questions:

- 1 How are the parataxis (elaboration, extension, and enhancement) constructions realized on article abstracts?
- 2 How are the hypotaxis (elaboration, extension, and enhancement) constructions realized on article abstracts?

### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

To begin with, systemic functional linguistics (henceforward SFL), is the first term needed to be highlighted. Concerning this term, SFL is defined by different experts in different definitions based on their various perspectives. SFL has been described as a functional-semantic approach to language which

explores both how people use language in different context, and how language is structured to use as semiotic system (Eggins, 2004, p. 20-21). According to Martin, et al., (1997) cited in Hidayat (2014, p. 27) SFL is defined as a way of looking at grammar in terms of how grammar is used. In addition, Bloor & Bloor (2004, p. 232) define that SFL is the study of what is now referred to variously as appraisal, stance, and evaluation.

Based on the aforementioned definitions, SFL is a way to know how grammar is used, how people use language and how language is structured to use as semiotic system. Dealing with the term of SFL, it can be briefly understood that SFL is a way to analyze grammar in use, the use of language by people in different context, and how it is structured to use.

Halliday and Matthiessen (2004, p. 363; 2014, p. 428) state, “The phenomenon ‘from above’ – that is, from the point of view of how the flow of events is construed in the development of text at the level of semantics”. It means that it is used to investigate how clauses are linked to one another by means of some kind of logico-semantic relation to form clause complexes.

Halliday and Matthiessen (2004, p. 363; 2014, p. 428) asserted that clause complex is a sequence of clause are linked to one another by logico-semantic relation that are presented as textually related messages. Moreover, Bisiada (2013, p. 46) stated that “A clause complex is the lexicogrammatical equivalent of what is graphologically realized as a ‘sentence’, and in an analysis exclusively concerned with written text, the two terms can be used interchangeably’.

Meanwhile, taxis consist of two degrees. Those are: parataxis (equal status) and hypotaxis (unequal status). The first system of taxis is parataxis. In line with parataxis, Gerot and Wignell (1994, p. 92) state that parataxis is used when one clause follows on from one another. It refers to clauses as being initiating or continuing.

Then, the second system of taxis is hypotaxis. The term hypotaxis, at which is also called subordination, is used to refer to relationship in which one clause is dependent on another. Clauses are marked alpha, betha, gamma, and so on (Gerot and Wignell, 1994, p. 92).

### 3. METHOD

In this present study, the writers employed qualitative descriptive study. The qualitative descriptive study itself can be understood as describing in giving state of affairs as fully and carefully as possible (Fraenkel, Wallen, Hyun, 2012, p. 15). Hence, this method is proper to be selected in analyzing the data of the study.

Concerning the source of data, the writers took ten article abstracts. The article abstracts were taken from the proceeding of the 1st International Seminar on Educational Techonology (ISET) published by Postgraduate program, State University of Semarang.

Dealing with the unit of analysis, it focuses on the clauses such suggested by Butt, Rohandda, Susan, and Colin (2000). The data are analyzed in the following steps, fisrt, identifying clause complexes in the abstracts. Then, marking the clauses based on the kinds of taxis (parataxis or hypotaxis). The last step is the logico-semantic analysis.

### 4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### Findings

In analysing the data, the writers analyzed the texts by presenting the presentation of the research findings. It gives a description of how parataxis and hypotaxis are constructed in clause complexes, which are found in article abstracts. Then, the data are presented as follow:

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Category	Clause Complexes	No. of Clause	Note
P/E/EI	2	17, 20	
P/E/Ex	7	1, 4, 6, 11, 13, 15, 18	
P/E/En	1	18	
H/E/EI	4	2, 16, 17, 20	
H/E/En	1	17	

H/Pr/I	3	10, 14, 15	
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Regarding to the analysis aforementioned, the writers used techniques of marking. Parataxis are marked by number: 1, 2, 3, and so on. On the other hand, hypotaxis are marked through Greek letters: Alpha ( $\alpha$ ), Beta ( $\beta$ ), gamma ( $\gamma$ ), and so on (Gerot and Wignel, 1994, p. 92). Moreover, parataxis and hypotaxis are categorized into expansion and projection. Expansion is divided into elaboration, extension, and enhancement, in which orderly marked =, +, and x; and projection is subdivided into locution and idea, in which orderly marked “ and ‘.

Referring to the result of data analysis in Appendix, there are parataxis and hypotaxis in article abstracts.

1. Parataxis in article abstracts

Paratactic construction in clause complexes, which are found in the text is realized in three taxis categories, namely:

- (1) Parataxis/Expansion/Elaboration is found in 2 clause complexes.
- (2) Parataxis/Expansion/Extension is found in 7 clause complexes.
- (3) Parataxis/Expansion/Enhancement is found in 1 clause complex.

The three taxis categories also indicate the types of conjunctions or coordinators used in paratactically constructed clause complexes. Therefore, the conjunctions or coordinators used to join clauses to be paratactically constructed clause complexes are:

- (1) In Parataxis/Expansion/Elaboration, ‘*such as*’ is found in 1 clause complex: number 20.
- (2) Parataxis/Expansion/Extension, ‘*and*’ is found in 7 clause complexes: number 1, 4, 6, 11, 13, 15, and 17; ‘*or*’ is only found in 1 clause complex: number 18.
- (3) Parataxis/Expansion/Enhancement, ‘*for*’ is found in 1 clause complex: number 18.

2. Hypotaxis in article abstracts

Hypotactic constructions in clause complexes, which are found in the text are realized in three taxis categories, namely:

- (1) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Elaboration is found in 4 clause complexes.
- (2) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Enhancement is found in 3 clause complexes.
- (3) Hypotaxis/Projection/Idea is found in 1 clause complex.

The three taxis categories also indicate the types of subordinations or subordinators used in hypotactically constructed clause complexes. Therefore, the subordinations or subordinators used to join clauses to be hypotactically constructed clause complexes are:

- (1) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Elaboration, ‘*that*’ is found in 8 clause complexes: number 2, 4, 6, 11, 13, 15, and 17.
- (2) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Enhancement, ‘*because*’ is only found in 1 clause complex: number 17.
- (3) Hypotaxis/Projection/Idea is found in 3 clause complex: number 10, 14, and 15.

**Discussion**

Regarding to the analysis as mentioned in the preceding point, the writers need to answer the first research question “**1) How are the parataxis (elaboration, extension, and enhancement) constructions realized on article abstracts?**” Dealing with the aforementioned data description, the constructions in the 10 clause complexes are realized by the 3 taxis categories: Parataxis/Expansion/Elaboration is found in 2 clause complexes, Parataxis/Expansion/Extension is found in 7 clause complexes, and Parataxis/Expansion/Enhancement is found in 1 clause complex. Based on the data description above, ‘*and*’ is the most frequently conjunctions or coordinators used in parataxis constructed in clause complexes in the texts.

Meanwhile, the second research question “**2) How are the hypotaxis (elaboration, extension, and enhancement) constructions realized on article abstracts?**” Dealing with the aforementioned data description, hypotactic constructions are used in 8 clause complexes in the text. It is realized by 3 taxis categories of hypotaxis. They are Hypotaxis/Expansion/Elaboration is found in 4 clause complexes,

Hypotaxis/ Expansion/Enhancement is found in 3 clause complexes, and Hypotaxis/Projection/Idea is found in 1 clause complex. The 3 taxis categories indicate the subordinations or subordinators used to combine clauses to build clause complexes. Based on the aforementioned data description, *'that'* is the most frequently subordinations or subordinators used in hypotaxis constructed in clause complexes in the texts.

Based on the results of the data analysis, the 10 article abstracts cover both paratactic and hypotactic constructions. From those constructions, paratactic constructions are more dominant than hypotactic constructions.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis as pointed out in preceding point, it results that Parataxis is realized in 3 taxis categories, those are (1) Parataxis/Expansion/Elaboration, (2) Parataxis/Expansion/Extention, and (3) Parataxis/Expansion/Enhancement. Furthermore, hypotaxis is realized in 3 taxis categories. Those are (1) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Elaboration, (2) Hypotaxis/Expansion/Enhancement, and (3) Hypotaxis/Projection/Idea. Those parataxis categories indicate that the conjunctions or coordinators employed to build clause complexes. Based on the aforementioned data description, *'and'* is the most frequently conjunctions or coordinators used in parataxis constructed in clause complexes in the texts. Then, the three hypotaxis categories indicate that the subordinations or subordinators used to combine clauses to build clause complexes. Based on the aforementioned data description, *'that'* is the most frequently subordinations or subordinators used in hypotaxis constructed in clause complexes in the texts.

Based on the data analysis aforementioned, parataxis is more dominant than hypotaxis used in clause complexes in article abstracts. This could be seen that 10% of parataxis is constructed in the text, meanwhile 8% of hypotaxis is constructed in the texts. To sum up, the constructions of parataxis is more dominant than the constructions of hypotaxis.

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