Interrelationship between Language and Environment in

Hemingway’s Novella the Old Man and the Sea An Ecolinguistic Study

ABSTRACT

Ecolinguistic emerged in 1990s as a new approach in language studies which focuses on the interrelationship between a given language and its users’, geographical and natural environment. This paper is aimed at highlighting the impact of natural environment on lexical and utterances arise in the novel entitled The Old Man and The Sea written by Ernest Hemingway. The objective of this research are (1) to describe lexicon of green speak of the ecological language, (2) to identify the metaphor related to ecosystem such as biotic and abiotic resources and (3) to find the ecological approach to language considers the complex web of relationships that exist between the environment, languages, and their speakers”. “Environment” here means the physical, biological and social environments.

This paper is the descriptive qualitative research. By applying the process of non-participation observational method (Sudaryanto 1988:2), the data were collected from primary data through novella entitled The Old Man and The Sea written by Ernest Hemingway and secondary data were taken from the reliable websites, journals, thesaurus, archives through process of combining and comparing those sources. So the result, data were also related to other discipline such as Biology and Ecology, and referential identity method was applied. Theory of Steffensen and Fill (2014: 7) identify four different interpretations of ecology that lie behind the different approaches. The first approach sees language as existing in a symbolic ecology, where different languages interact with each other in a given location. The second approach sees language as part of a sociocultural ecology where it shapes societies and cultures. The third approach is concerned with cognitive ecology and how the cognitive capacity of organisms affects how they adapt to their environment. Finally, there is a natural ecology which is concerned with the relationship of language to its biological and physical environment. It is within this final form of ecology that Steffensen and Fill (2014: 9).

Key words: ecology, diversity, interrelationship, and ecosystem.