

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

An short story is a form of literary work written by someone. The content can be in the form of an expression of feelings, personal experiences, or the author's thoughts. Short story, novels, and essay are forms of literary work. Grammar is a form of grammar that helps people speak well and correctly in their daily lives. Language is used both in speaking and in writing, be it novels, short stories, essays, and others.

According to Esten (1978), literature is the expression of artistic and imaginative facts as a manifestation of human life and society in general, through language as a medium, and has a positive effect on human life. As found in any written, the short story also has tense, aspect, and modality (TAM). Tense, aspect, and modality are included in the lexical grammatical category. Tense is a form of language used to express an event that occurred be it a past, present, or future event. Aspect is how the event is seen from the perspective of time, whether something is happening, or has been completed. Modality is a statement that expresses possibility, necessity, and willingness in a sentence.

This research aims to analyze the dominant of tense, aspect, and modalities in a short story, I choose the short story *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry. This story was originally published on December 10, 1905, in New York. *The Gift of the Magi* is a short story that tells of a young couple, Jim and Della, who love each other very much but have financial difficulties. At christmas, they wanted to give each other a special gift, but they had little money. Despite having little money, they are determined to find a way to make their loved one's holiday special. From this story, we can feel the meaning of sincere love and sacrifice.

I analyze tense, aspect, and modality mostly used by the writer and their function. I am interested in the use of tense, aspect, and modal analysis, to analyze what types of tense, aspect, and modal are mostly used by writers in the short story gift of the magi .

1.2 Theoretical Framework

1.2.1 Discourse

Discourse is a term that refers to language used in written or oral communication which involves the use of words and sentences in a certain context. This includes all forms of communication, from everyday conversations to scientific texts and news articles. Discourse also includes an understanding of how the words in sentences are used to express ideas, meaning, and relationships between various elements in communication. This also includes analyzing the language and structures used in texts or conversations to understand the messages contained in there. Richards (1992) in the Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics states whereas grammar refers to the rules a language uses to form grammatical units such as clause, phrase, and sentence. Discourse refers to larger units of language such as paragraphs, conversations, and interviews.

Malinowski (2004) states context was the context of the situation when the text was created. In this research, the researcher will include some syntax (but not pure syntax) as a study in combination with discussion. For a further understanding of discourse, the researcher must understand syntax because to learn discourse, the researcher must also know about verb phrases.

1.2.2 Syntax

Syntax is the grammatical rules and structures in a language, whether it is the language used directly or the language written in writing. Syntax includes the way words and phrases are arranged in a sentence to form the correct meaning. In language, syntax is the grammatical rules used to build grammatically correct sentences. Burgess (1968) states it is syntax that gives the words the influence to relate to each other in a order to carry meanings as well as light individually in just the right place. Syntax contains some basic facilities that are morHEME, word, phrase, and clause. In this research, the researcher focuses on verb phrase that is, tense, aspect, and modal.

1.2.3 Verb Phrase

Verb phrases are groups of words in grammar that consist of verbs along with words, phrases, or other additional elements that are used to explain the action represented by the verb in a sentence. Verb phrases are also usually used to convey information about tense, aspect, and modals related to the action or event conveyed in the sentence. The verb phrase is the heart of the sentence.

Furthermore, auxiliary is a helping verb that helps the main verb make up a verb phrase with combining the main verb. For the research, the researcher will explain the divisions of the verb phrase that are, tense, aspect, and modal (TAM).

1.2.4 Tense

Tense is a grammatical aspect that is used to indicate whenever an action, event, or situation occurs in a sentence. Tense also helps someone understand the relationship between the time of the events described in a sentence. Tense is an often misused term.

Types of Tense

Berk (1999) in his book, makes classification of tense below:

A. Past Tense

The following categories of past tense:

Past Tense: used to express events or actions that occurred in the past and have been completed.

The formula of simple past tense:

SUBJECT + VERB2 + COMPLEMENT or
SUBJECT + WAS/ WERE + VERB2 + COMPLEMET

Examples:

- I *watched* a movie last night.
- She *visited* her grandmother yesterday.
- For six months before they family finally moved in.

B. Present Tense

The following is the definition of the present tense:

Present Tense: used to state facts, habits, or situations that are taking place at the moment.

Formula of Simple Present Tense:

SUBJECT + VERB + COMPLEMET

Examples:

- I *eat* breakfast every morning.
- She *work* at a hospital.

1.2.5 Aspect

The sulking aspect of the grammatical category is used to describe how an action or event at a certain time relates to its duration and continuation. Aspect refers to time in various ways, it goes beyond communicating information about the linear time frame (past, present, and future). Bernard Comrie (1976), who has written a seminal book on the subject, defines it as different ways of viewing the internal temporal constituency of a situation.

Types of Aspect

Berk (1999) categorized aspect as seen in his book *Aspect*:

a) Progressive Aspect

The progressive aspect is used to indicate that an action or event is taking place in the past. It is made up of *be+verb-ing* form of the main verb. The progressive is usually used to communicate an ongoing and incoming event. Progressive aspect is the combined term for verb, past time, present time, and future time in a progressive tense.

Examples:

- They *were eating* lunch when I arrived.
- He *was watching* TV when I called.

b) Perfect Aspect

Perfect aspect is used to show that an action or event has been completed or reached a certain point in a certain time. Like the progressive, perfect is a combination of a separate auxiliary verb and an inflectional, usually suffix. The perfect aspect always takes the same shape the appropriate form of the auxiliary *have* followed by the past participle form of the following verb. The most common past participle suffix in English is [-ed], but [-en], and vowel changes

also mark this form. The examples of [-ed] ending is walked, turned, carried, and others. The examples of [-en] is written, fallen, given, ridden, gone, and others. The examples of vowel change rung, sung, drunk, and others.

Examples of perfect aspect:

- They **have visited** the museum.
- He **had already eaten** when I arrived.

1.2.6 Modality

Modalities are used to express where a statement or action is considered possible, obligatory, desirable, or necessary. Aspects can include elements such as possibility, certainty, permission, advice, command, and so on. Modality can be expressed in various ways using the word working capital. The abstract modality is used to refer to these kinds of meanings in language. Modality has nothing to do with form, many different kinds of contractions can be used to express modality, including lexical verb, modal auxiliaries, semi-auxiliaries, adverbs, the imperative mood, and the subjunctive mood. Endley (2010) argues the modest way to explain modality it to say that it has to do with the stance the speaker assumes to some condition expressed in an utterance.

Modality is the reflection of the speaker's attitude toward the situation defining or called mood. Verb may be in the form of main verbs and auxiliaries. The auxiliaries are made of ordinary auxiliary where contains *have, be, do* whereas modal auxiliary verbs *has, can, may, might, shall, will, etc.* (Leech, 1980)

Types of Modality

Berk (1999) stands with other linguist that auxiliaries are divided into two main types that are epistemic modality, and deontic modality.

a) Epistemic Modality

Epistemic modality encompasses all the ways in which speakers indicate their degree of commitment to the truth of a given proposition. It allows speakers to indicate that they are certain about something, unsure about it, or deem it impossible. According to Kreidler's (1998) epistemic modality concerns with the possibility, probability, or impossibility of a certain proposition.

Examples:

- *Maybe* it will rain tomorrow.
- *Supposedly*, he composed it himself.

b) Deontic Modality

Like the term epistemic, deontic is a semantic label. Deontic modality goes beyond the simple proposition. Deontic modality involves language and potential action when speakers order, promise, or place an obligation on someone, they usually exploit linguistics forms that express deontic modality. According to Kreidler's (1998), deontic modality is the obligation of a person to do or not to do in a certain way.

Examples:

- I *have* go to library
- You could *have* this flowers for free

1.2.7 The Function of Tense, Aspect, and Modality

A.The Function of Tense and Aspect

The function of tense is to specify past and the present tense. According to Berk (1999) in his book English Syntax , the function of tense, aspect, and modality is:

A. Function of Past Tense

According to Berk in his book, the function of the present tense is **to communicate the past time.**

B. Function of Present Tense

The present tense can be used to describe an event which is ongoing in the present. The present tense uses to:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Habitual Action | I visit my aunt each week. |
| 2. State | The Empire State Building is tall. |
| 3. Universal Truth | Hot air rises. |
| 4. Planned Future Event | Jenny leaves for collage tomorrow. |
| 5. Commentary | Might Casey strikes out. |
| 6. Performative | I call this meeting to order. |
| 7. Historical | I walk up to this guy and I say... |

C. Function Of Aspect

According to Berk (1999) aspect consist of two, there is progressive aspect and perfect aspect.

- The function of progressive aspect is used to communicate an ongoing and incomplete event, I m not done yet, its not completed yet, preparations are still underway.

- The function of perfect aspect is state or activity begins in past continues into present, past event with current relevance, experience at any point in the past, and event of the recent past.

D. Funtion Of Modality

When using modality expression has already been describe as a characteristic feature to indicate politeness. The modality consist of two, there is epistemic modality, and deontic modality.

- The function of epistemic modality is encompasses all the ways in which speakers indicate their degree of commitment to the truth of a given preposition like an order, strong obligation, obligation, suggestion, contractual obligation, reprimand, permission, request, possibility, ability, prediction, and regulative. For example:

Will	Would
Can	Could
Shall	Should
May	Might

- The function of deontic modality is involves language and potential action, when speakers order, promise, or place an obligation on someone, they usually exploit linguistics forms that express deontic modality, like permission, possibility, volition, regulative, ability, obligation,certainty,and prediction.

1.3 Review Of Previous Studies

To support this research, I reads several related studies that discuss the same topic research with a different object. I reads four related studies, two thesis, and two articles to find a different perspective and compare the writer's topics to more understanding.

The first related study in this research is anarticle written by Herari Isti Endila&Rachmijati Cynantia entitled An Analysis of Tense and Aspect in the "Tangled" movie script (2019). Her analysis focuses on tense and aspect used in a movie script. The

article has the same theory as the writer's but used different objects. The writers of the research found 61 sentences that used as tense and aspect. The dominant types of tense and aspect in the "Tangled" movie script were simple future and present perfect. They did not find tense and aspect in past perfect progressive, future progressive, and perfect progressive.

The second related study in this research is an article written by Majeed Nawaar Taha entitled Tense, Aspect, and Modality in Science Fiction (2003). The writer chooses this article as the review of a related study is because this article has the same object and only has different data. The article used science fiction as a source of data, and the writer uses newspaper text as a source of data. This article is easy to understand by the writer. The result of this article is tense, aspect, and modality, which are considered the most controversial syntactic and semantic categories due to their importance in the English sentence structure. The frequency of occurrence of the past tense scores the highest degree among all other tense categories. Besides, the perfective aspect is the most predominant one, which serves as a background to the events.

The third research was taken from thesis by an Andalas University student Masniwati entitled A Comparative Analysis of Verbal Group Found in Sport News in The Jakarta Post and in Daily Mail Newspaper (2015). The researcher of the thesis used Tallerman's theory which talks about tense, aspect, and modal. The writer of this thesis used Jakarta Post and Daily Mail's sports article as an object. The writer took this thesis to related studies because this thesis used the same theory and has the same thing as the writer's research. The most tense used in Jakarta Post's sport articles is past tense which is 82 out of 132 clauses. The most used aspect is perfect which are 12 clauses and modal 11 clauses. Besides, in the Daily Mail sports article, tense that most used are present tense, which 101 out of 143 clauses. The aspect most used in the Daily Mail is perfect with 12 clauses and modal 11 clauses.

The last related to Sa'diah Zulida thesis, a Raden Intan State Islamic University student entitled An Anlysis of Student's Errors Using Simple Past Tense in Writing Recount Text at The First Semester of The Eight Grade of SMPN 1 Adiluwih Pringsewu in The Academic Year (2017). The writer took this research to related studies because the researcher of the thesis used one object: analysis simple past tense in writing that has identified with one of the writer's object. The research was conducted besed on descriptive qualitative analysis. The subjects of the research were the first semester of students SMPN 1 Adiluwih Pringsewu, while the sample is class VIII A. In collecting the data, the writer of the research used a writing task. The study's finding shows four types of error made by students in using Simple past tense in writing recount text based on Surface Strategy Taxonomy; they were Omission, Addition, Mis- formation and Miss- ordering. Then, the highest frequency of errors found in misinformation with the percentage is 33%, followed by addition with the percentage being 30.6% and omission with the percentage is 25.74%. The last is mis- ordering with the percentage 10.56%.

The writer finds that all of the previous studies are related to the writer's research. The writer will use the same object and theories with the earlier studies about analysis tense, aspect, and modal. The previous studies give the writer some clues in analyze this research. This study differs from other previous studies is that this study will analyze tense, aspect, and modal of sport news by Bleacher Report as one of the world's biggest sports media. In order to know that tense, aspect, and modal most used by the journalist of the Bleacher Report and their functions. The writer will count the percentage of the clauses found in the text.

1.4 Research Question

In this research, the writer states the research questions as follows:

1. What types of tense, aspect, and modal are mostly used by the writer of the short story *The Gift of the Magi*?
2. What are the functions of using tense, aspect, and modal in the short story?

1.5 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to analyze the types and functions of tense, aspect, and modal in the short story *The Gift of the Magi*. This research aims to identify of tense, aspect, and modal. This study aims to determine the dominant type and tense, aspect, and modal function used in the short story.

1.6 Scope of the Research

The research analysis only focuses on finding out the types and function of tense, aspect, and modal mostly used by the writer of the short story and their function. The researcher takes the data of the research from short story *The Gift of the Magi*.

