The Paratactic and Hypotactic Constructions in Research Article Abstracts at 2018 ISET Proceedings

Sri Kurnia. S\textsuperscript{S}, Sri Wuli. F, Dwi Rukmini

Universitas Negeri Semarang, Indonesia

Abstract

The present study was a part of larger research aimed at analysing the research article abstracts taken from International Conference on Science and Education and Technology 2018 (ISET 2018). This study was descriptive study under SFL analysis in research article abstracts at 2018 ISET realized from 170 clause complexes. Under a SFL theory, the data were collected through retrieving twenty relevant article abstracts on the International Conference on Science and Education and Technology 2018 (ISET 2018). The article abstracts are analysed using the framework of systemic functional linguistic as suggested by Halliday & Matthiessen (2014). However, in this study the writer employs the taxis systems which covers elaboration, extension, and enhancement. Besides, logico-semantic relation is also analysed which covers projection and expansion. The findings reveal that there are 81 clause complexes of parataxis which are realised 47%, afterwards, there are 35 clause complexes of hypotaxis which are realised 20.5%. Hence, the researchers is more using parataxis then hypotaxis. Based on the findings, it is recommended that English teacher can apply clause constructions to encourage the English learners to think critically. After being able to implement their critical thinking, the English learners are hoped to be able to read critically. Through having critical reading, they are suggested to be able to evaluate both their works and the other works as the main purpose in learning systemic functional linguistics.

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INTRODUCTION

Systemic Functional Linguistics (henceforward SFL) is a theory which firstly developed by Emeritus Professor M.A.K Halliday from Sydney University, Australia. In SFL, it covers spoken and written form. Spoken and written form are assumed as text (Derewianka, 1990; Halliday & Webster, 2009) as quoted by Hidayat (2014, p. 26-27). SFL 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 interpendency. 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 (Eggins, 2004, p. 258).

Dealing with parataxis and hypotaxis as mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, those are used to analyse clause complexes appeared in the texts as cited by Halliday & Matthiessen (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 interpendent on one another (Halliday & Matthiessen, 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 analyse the article abstracts in proceeding of International Conference on Science and Education and Technology 2018 (ISET 2018). In analysing the texts, the writer segments the clause complexes (CC) to be simple clause (move) as suggested by Butt, et al., (2000, p. 295).

Various studies have been conducted focussing on clause complex such carried out by Tam (2012), Rodrigues-Júnior (2018), Eid (2016), Isaac (2017), Adei and Opoku (2017), Tse (2010), Srinon, and White (2011), Andersen, and Holsting (2018), Bertinetto, and Ciucci (2012), Sunardi (2017), Zuhri (2014), Jomaa, and Bidin (2019), Ma’mun (2017), Rukmini (2014), Arigusman (2018), Sipayung (2016), Khodijah (2015), Anggraeni, Farakah, and Indriani (2018), and Yuniar (2018). They conducted the study referring to the clause complex in online news text, and narrative. From those studies, the writer concludes that the taxis refers to speaker’s mean either in speech or conversation.

Rukmini (2014) designs a research entitled “The quality of clause complexes in article abstracts written by Semarang State University graduate students”. This study found out that the abstracts are good. Hence, the quality of them are considerable good, since there are 37.5 percents which are problematic.

The study focuses on analysing the quality of clause complexes in article abstracts written by Semarang State University Graduate Students. The study has succeeded to explore the taxis constructions.

In short, the study can be summarized that Rukmini (2014) conducted the study entitled “The quality of clause complexes in article abstracts written by Semarang State University graduate students”. In conducting the research, she took article abstracts written by Universitas Negeri Semarang Graduate students. Then, she analysed the article abstracts by using taxis system.

Related to the present study, Rukmini (2014) employed taxis system in analysing article abstracts. Actually, it has similarity to the present study carried out by the writer, particularly on the aspect of taxis. Through this similarity, the previous study investigated the taxis system on clause complex. Thus, this previous study is going to be the reference for the writer to analyse taxis system. Meanwhile, the data is in the form of the article abstracts which covers taxis system such parataxis, hypotaxis, and logico-semantic relation.

Concerning on taxis, several studies were undertaken by, Ngongo (2018), Cerban (2016), Cerban (2011), Sujatna (2012), Bisiada (2013), Sulistyaningrum, and Rasyid (2015), Vries (2008), Mulyani (2017), and they used taxis
under SFL to analyse the thesis writing text, and short story.

The first researcher is Ngongo (2018). The study conducted by him entitled “Taxis and Logico-Semantic relation in undergraduate students’ English theses writing text: a Systemic Functional Linguistics Approach”. His study focused on 10 English theses writing texts written by undergraduate students of Artha Wacana Christian University. The results showed that hypotaxis was used higher than parataxis.

Regarding to the results above, the writer argues that the students using unequal status in order to explain idea clearly. It is suggested that the teacher should give more exercises to students in using varieties of taxis and logico-semantic relation to enhance students’ writing knowledge.

In short, the study can be summarized that Ngongo (2018) conducted the study entitled “Taxis and Logico-Semantic relation in undergraduate students’ English theses writing text: a Systemic Functional Linguistics Approach”. The study aims at finding out the realisation of taxis taken from English theses writing texts written by undergraduate students. To gain the data, he took 10 English theses writing texts, then those were analysed by applying Halliday framework (1994). The results of the study reported that the use of taxis and logico-semantic in theses writing realised textual meaning of text that is important for a text cohesion.

Related to present study conducted by the writer, it has similarity to Ngongo’s (2018) study. This present study also focuses on taxis and logico-semantic relation. Through the similarity, the previous study carried out by Ngongo (2018) is going to be one of researchers for the writer to analyse taxis system based on the data. Meanwhile, dissimilarity between Ngongo’s (2018) study and the present study is in the data. Ngongo (2018) took 10 English theses writing texts as the data, meanwhile the writer took 10 article abstracts texts as the data.

METHOD

In this present study, the writer employs descriptive study. The 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). It is because the writer analyses and interprets the meaning comprehensive visual data than number to know the clause constructions in abstracts of ISET. The writer analysed the article abstracts through paratactic constructions, hypotactic constructions, and also logico-semantic relation, at which in paratactic and hypotactic covers elaboration, extension, and enhancement. Meanwhile, logico-semantic relation covers expansion and projection. The system of expansion consists of three main options: elaboration (relations of restatement or equivalence), extension (relation of addition), and enhancement (relations of development). The three types of expansion clauses are labeled with =, +, and x. Projection consists of two choices: locution and ideas. The locution projected clause is labeled with ‘, while the idea projected clause is labeled with ‘. Then, the writer describes the result in descriptive.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The writer delineated that there were actually lot of instruments in systemic functional grammar. Nevertheless, the writer applied clause complexes which includes parataxis and hypotaxis combined by logico-semantic relation according to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014, p. 438); Gérot and Wignell (1994, p. 92); and But, et al., (2000, p. 29).
Based on Figure 1, the writer concluded that in the first abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Meanwhile, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, parataxis was realised 2.4%, meanwhile hypotaxis was realised 2.8% which were constructed in the article abstracts. In the second abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Afterwards, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis and 8.5% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the third abstract, parataxis was realised in 11 clause complexes. Further, hypotaxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. In other words, 13.6% of parataxis and 5.7% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the fourth article, parataxis was realised in 1 clause complex. Then, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 1.2% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the fifth abstract, parataxis was realised in 6 clause complexes. Next, hypotaxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. In other words, 7.4% of parataxis and 5.7% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts.

Furthermore, in the sixth abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Then, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the seventh abstract, parataxis was realised in 7 clause complexes, but the hypotaxis is not constructed in the seventh abstract. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the eighth abstract, parataxis was realised in 7 clause complexes. Furthermore, hypotaxis was realised in 4 clause complexes. In other words, 8.6% of parataxis and 11.4% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the ninth abstract, parataxis was realised in 6 clause complexes. Next, hypotaxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. In other words, 7.4% of parataxis and 5.7% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the twelfth abstract, parataxis was realised in 3 clause complexes. Moreover,
hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 3.7% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the thirteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Afterwards, hypotaxis was realised in 3 clause complexes. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis and 5.7% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the fourteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 3 clause complexes. Next, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 3.7% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the fifteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 3 clause complexes. Furthermore, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 3.7% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts.

Moreover, in the sixteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 7 clause complexes. Afterwards, hypotaxis was realised in 4 clause complexes. In other words, 8.6% of parataxis and 11.4% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In the seventeenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 4 clause complexes. Next, hypotaxis was not realised in the seventeenth abstract. In other words, 4.9% of parataxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In eighteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Furthermore, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis and 2.8% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. In nineteenth abstract, parataxis was realised in 4 clause complexes. Then, hypotaxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. In other words, 4.9% of parataxis and 5.7% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts. Finally, in the twentieth abstract, parataxis was realised in 2 clause complexes. Then, hypotaxis was realised in 1 clause complex. In other words, 2.4% of parataxis and 8.5% of hypotaxis were constructed in the article abstracts.

Furthermore, the writer concluded that from those twenty articles, 47% of parataxis was constructed in the research article abstracts, while 20.5% of hypotaxis was constructed in the research article abstracts. Although the writer found parataxis in a form of percentage, its realisation was more than the hypotaxis realisation of clause complexes. In fact, after finding out the whole results of twenty article abstracts, the result could be asserted that the article abstracts at 2018 ISET proceedings used more paratactic than hypotactic.

With regard the results on the proceeding point, the writer found out that from the aforementioned twenty article abstracts, 47% of parataxis was constructed in the article abstracts. Meanwhile 20.5% of hypotaxis was constructed in the article abstracts. The realisation of paratactic was more than hypotactic realisation of clause complexes. In fact, after finding out the whole results of twenty article abstracts, the result could be asserted that the researchers used more paratactic than hypotactic. Concerning the results of paratactic and hypotactic realisations, the writer then assumed that the quality of them are considerably good, since the 32.5% were problematic. The problem is cuased by the fact that the sentence looked like a paratactic clause complex, but when it was segmented, the writer cannot segment or label it.

REFERENCES


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