CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Problem

Language users enable to conceptualize and describe patterns of experience which was encoded in the clause as representation (experiential function) and dealt with the types of processes, the participants and circumstances associated with them. A study on language based on the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) is oriented to the description of language as a resource for meaning rather than as a system of rules and to the speakers’ meaning potential (what they can mean) rather than the constraints on what they can say. It is concerned with text rather than sentences as the basic unit in which meaning is negotiated. It treats grammar as the realization of discourse, naturally related to its semantics. In modelling language as systems of meaning potential, choices become the basis for language use. Not only is language in use or text shaped by choice, it is also influenced by social context of situation and culture.

Halliday’s Functional Grammar is a tool to explore the specific type of linguistic choices that are used for some specific purposes. Systemic Functional Grammar deals with three major functions: Ideational, interpersonal and textual. Ideational functions allow the user to convey the meanings with an understanding of the context, community and material world. Interpersonal functions of language illustrate the connection between
the sender and the receiver through different angles, while textual functions refer to the internal formation and association of a text.

The ideational function is the content function of language. It is realized in transitivity and serves to represent situations and events in the world and the entities, actions and process involved. It is in the ideational function that the text-produces embodies in language their experience of the phenomena of the real world. Transitivity system fits into experiential metafunction of language and explores the variation of experience. It works within clause level and each clause determines its following components, such; process, participant and circumstance.

Halliday suggested six types of process and Martin, Matthiessen and Painter (1997) elaborated them in detail in their book “Working with Functional Grammar”. They further describe them and specify their participants, they are: material, mental, relational, behavioural, verbal and existential.

They are the “principal” types in that they are the cornerstones of the grammar in its guise as a theory of experience, they present three distinct kinds of structural configuration, and they account for the majority of all clauses in a text. The other three processes are located at each of the boundaries. Behavioural processes share the characteristics of material and mental processes; verbal processes share those of mental and relational processes, while existential processes are between relational and material processes (Halliday, 1994, 2000).
The context of situation which obtains through a systematic relationship between the social environment on the one hand, and the functional organization of language on the other. Language as a tool to express views and notions. Most of the politicians use language to spread a specific ideology. A politician usually employs various processes to achieve his/her purpose. It becomes almost a rule that at least one process dominates in a particular discourse due to the particular register it belongs to.

When people speak or write, they produce text, the term ‘text’ refers to any instance of language, in any medium, that makes sense to someone who knows the language (Halliday and Hasan, 2004:3). Human in society need to interact, to communicate or to show their ideas to the other, speech has a relationship with languages. It is one of the ways to communicate or express one’s idea.

We use language to construct houses, to carry on arguments, to convey information from one person to another, to entertain; in short, to communicate. The role of language is determined by its communicative functions which are influenced by the use of language units. The units structured systematically are used to express meanings by considering to whom the language is delivered or the aim of the communication. Thus, form and function are two things that should be taken into consideration in communication.

The use of language for communication, such as in speeches, books, letters, memos, etc are different. The difference is influenced by the characteristics of each medium. The characteristics of media will influence
how people use language and how language is structured. The structured of language is relevant to the aim of communication. The different objectives of language use need different units of language. The difference in the use of language is influenced by the values or perspective that writer holds. The ideology guides the writer to use the language; and ideology invest language in various ways at various levels (Fairclough in Gurning, 1992:88).

Text as unit of functional language is realized by clauses or sentences in context; there is no text without context. Thus, text that is used to express information in certain context will be different to the text in different context. The difference is in the way of expressing information and the characteristic or knowledge or science should be relevant to the basis of ideology or genre. The difference is still related to the elasticity of language which can be easily adjusted to the grammatical structure, so that language can be used to express information in speech.

Speech is one of the ways to communicate or express one’s ideas, from those definition, we may conclude that speech is a part of language because it is a system of voluntary produces by symbols. Beside that, speech permits all people to communicate or interact. Language is not only a means of communication, but also a social phenomenon. Speech, for some cases, can be a social phenomenon. For example, a speech can motivate somebody or group of people to do something.

Speech in public speaking is a communicative tool or text that is delivered verbally to a group of people in a well-prepared, structured, deliberate manner intended to inform, influence, or entertain a listening
audience. In public speaking, as in any form of communication, there are five basic elements, often expressed as "who is saying what to whom using what medium with what effects?" Reshaped by functions and contents, political speech is also a kind of text presented by concerned authorities.

In order to make sense of a text, the natural tendency is to think of a text as a thing a product while see the text in its aspect as a process. The theory of experience can answer what is going on and how the interaction take place by analyzing the text and counting the percentage of process and circumstance. But, not only by counting the percentage to answer the questions, it can be analyze the patterns of experiential function element and context of situation in the text.

Referring to the explanation that has already mentioned previously, the researcher interests to analyze the representation of experience of the clauses found in SBY’s speech at the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Open Government Partnership (OGP), which hold in Nusadua-Bali 2014 to prove whether the patterns of representation of experience and the context of situation in the speech.

1.2. Problems of the Study

Based on the background that has been mentioned previously, the problem of the research are:

1.2.1. What are the patterns of representation of experience used in SBY speech at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference of Open Government Partnership?
1.2.2. In what context are the patterns in representation of experience used in SBY speech at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference of Open Government Partnership?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

In line with the problems, the objectives are:

1.3.1. To describe the patterns of representation of experience in SBY speech at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference of Open Government Partnership.

1.3.2. To elaborate the context of experience representation in SBY speech at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference of Open Government Partnership.

1.4. Scope of the Study

Functional grammar refers to an approach to language on the principle of roles or functions played by a language. That is why the notion of functional approach to language is interpreted as covering related meanings. Firstly, functional study to language is based on the principle that language is structured in response to the needs of people as social beings for language. Language in use or known as a text that is everything that is said or written, forms in context of use which is often referred to social context. Thus language evolves in line with human needs for language. Secondly, functional approach refers to the concept that human being use language in order to fulfill three functions known as metafunctions, namely: (1) to
represent (ideational), (2) to exchange (interpersonal), and (3) to organize experience (textual).

In this case, the experiential function being discussed where language is used to describe experience. The discussion explained how the pattern in represent of experience used in the speech.

1.5. Significance of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to be useful theoretically and practically for those who are interested in analyzing SBY speech in written form based on the ideational function (experiential function), which is one of the aspects of language.

1.5.1. Theoretically, the findings are expected

a. To add up new horizon in theories of functional linguistics.

b. To be references for further studies related to experiential function in language other than English

1.5.2. Practically, the findings can

a. To enrich the documentation of language research in general.

b. To become references for other speakers at the international fora.