CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

As a fundamental of communication, language is used to convey or share ideas and express thoughts, humans' needs, wishes, intentions and desires. Language also can be as a communication tool for human. Halliday (1978: 60) stated that language has three functions which are known as metafunction of language. Metafunction of language consists of idetional, interpersonal, and textual . Ideationalstates that all adult languagesare organized around the small number of functional components.Interpersonal is one of the three metafunctions (the others being ideational and textual). And textual is one of the three functional diversifications (metafunctions) which enables the speaker or writer to construct texts. Language is used to describe, which is known as ideational meaning is classified into two sub functions, the experiential meaning and the logical meaning. The ideational function of language which is concerned with the transmission of ideas is called transitivity. Halliday (1985:53, 60) states that transitivity generally refers to how meaning is represented in the clause. It plays a role in showing how speakers encode in language their mental picture of reality and how they account for their experience of the world around them.

When people speak or write, they produce text, the term text refers to any instance of language. Human in society need language to interact, to communicate or to show their ideas to others. Every language has some rank scale of

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phonological constituents, but with considerable variation in how constituency is organized (Halliday, 2004:3, 5).

Novel is book with long narrative in literary prose which describe fictional characters and events with specific setting and imaginatively in human experience. "A Little Princess" novel is fascinating to read by all ages and also the story talks about racism that happened in England. The writer also assumes that the story is the best example for young children to learn transitivity systems especially for short story because the novel is easy to understand and full of imagination.

When the story begins, we see interactions between a little girl named Sara Crewe and her father (Papa Crewe), who are extremely sad about an imminent event. The imminent event happens to be the fact that Papa Crewe is shipping Sara off to boarding school in London (the cloudiest, most dreary of all places to be abandoned) because she simply cannot stay with him in India. It's not good for children because sun is worse than rain, and foreign countries turn good children into savages, or something

In this novel, the main character, Sara Crewe, is a beloved student at Miss Michin's School for young ladies until a tragic event turns her life upside-down. Forced to live in poverty and work as a servant for her former friends, Sara must find a way to hold onto the life she once knew.

A previous research about Transitivity was used in William Butler Yeats' Short Story "Where There Is Nothing There Is God" (Pramono, 2014). He found that the most dominant process was material (47.56%), the actor (25.00%)

dominated over the other participants,while the circumstance of place (38.56%) was more dominant than the other circumstances. The field of discourse is realized by the experiential domains, short term goal and the long term goal.

Transitivity analysis was also used by Harahap (2009) in Barrack Obama speech. She found that the most dominant process in Barrack Obama speech was Material Process 287 (54,6%), the most dominant participant was Actor 192 (31,1%) and the last the most dominant circumstance found in the speech was 94 (46,1%)

Another research about transitivity was conducted by Rambe (2014). He analyze two short stories in Nancy Chang Ing's *The Chinese Pen*. He found that material process was the most dominant process that occurred in the three selected short stories. That was material process occurred 296 clauses or 70.14 %, then it followed by verbal process, which occurred in 57 clauses or 13.50 %, next to it was mental process. It was occurred in 33 clauses or 7.81 %.

Transitivity is a system for decribing the whole clause rather than just the verb and its project. The function of transitivity itself is to represent experience, to describe the events and states of the real(and unreal) world. Trasitivity is an improtant and powerful semantic concept in Halliday. Transitivity can show how speakers/writers enccode in language their mental reflection of the world and how they account for their experience of the world around them. Therefore, the writer analyzedwhat types of transitivity system used in *A Little Princess* novel and analyzed the main character's life experience.

B. The Problems of the Study

The problems of the studywere formulated as follows:

1. What types of Transitivity system used by Sara Crewe, the main character in *A Little Princess* novel?

2. What was the most dominant type of Transitivity system used by Sara Crewe dialogue in *A Little Princess* novel?

3. Why did the most dominant type of Transitivity system occur as the way it was in Sara Crewe dialogue?

C. The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study were formulated as follows:

1. To find out thetypes of Transitivity systemused by Sara Crewe, the main character in *A Little Princess* novel

2. To find out the most dominant type of Transitivity systemused by Sara Crewe dialogue in *A Little Princess* novel

3. To describe the reasons why the most dominant type of Transitivity systemoccured in Sara Crewe dialogue

D. The Scope of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the writer only focused on transitivity system found in *A Little Princess* novel written by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The novel has 9 characters and the writer only focused on the analysis of the dialogues of the main characters, Sara Crewe.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of this study were expected to be useful theoretically and practically for the following:

1. Theoretically

   Itwas expected to be one of the sources improving transitivity system studies.

2. Practically

   a. The study could be used as references to other researcher who want to do the research about transitivity system.

   b. For the university students, as their references in learning transitivity system.