

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is a language widely adopted for communication between two speakers whose native languages are different from each other's (Harmer, 2001: 1). As an international language, English is considered as a very important language to be taught in Indonesia. The ultimate goal of teaching it is to set high school graduates to be ready to communicate both written and oral. Then, the capability of mastering English would be potentially beneficial for participating in the international-level of communication. Language, no matter how it is analyzed and assessed, is still produced due to human needs. Therefore, its structure and components are functional with respect to those needs (Halliday, 1994:154). Johnson (2001:2) states that people in this world today learning English as foreign language and it continues to spread, not only as the global language but also as the language of science, technology, and advanced research. It shows that English is so important now days, especially for students. They are expected to study English more.

In teaching-learning English process, English teacher should be able to decide whether one of the requirements in textbooks is suitable with the current curriculum or not. Textbook is important for students to prepare and fulfill experiences in the good process. It means that textbook is functioned as guidance for teacher and student. Ferris and Hedgcock as cited in Solihatun (2011:86), "textbooks are so pervasive in educational systems throughout the

world. Indeed, textbooks provide the backbone for the courses that many educators teach". It means that the materials in the textbook should help the teacher in conducting teaching and learning processes, so it is important for the teacher to select and to analyze the contents of textbook. An appropriate book will lead a better understanding. By understanding the process, the teacher will be better prepared to teach the students.

Additionally, Saragih (2016:56) classifies that there are three categories of learning English in Indonesia. First, the contents of the textbook should deal with the current curriculum; it might be from the genre with should be available in the textbook. Besides that, the contents of the textbook also go with the level of study. The second category is a textbook should have an interesting display because it can give motivation for readers to read the textbook. And the third, the language of the textbook should correct in context and situation. It means that the language does not enclose ambiguous, so the reader can understand easily.

As a form of discourse, a handbook or textbook can be analyzed by many aspects. One of the examples is by using analysis of clauses. As a representation, clauses in textbook can be analyzed through transitivity. The concept of transitivity analysis has been widely used to understand the language of speakers and writers. It examines the structure of sentences which are represented by processes, the participants involved in these processes, and the circumstances. Sukma (2012) who conducted research about transitivity system in genre analysis on English on Sky textbook found that material

process is dominantly used than relational process in descriptive text, she concludes that textbook not compatible with the latest curriculum, School-Based Curriculum. It showed the fact that there was English textbook that didn't fulfill categories of good textbook.

Based on this fact, the writer is interested in analyzing the transitivity representation of reading passage found in *English on Sky* textbook for 9th Junior High School published by Erlangga. There are several reasons why the writer chooses the book; First, *English on Sky* textbook is one of book that suitable with the curriculum. Second *English on Sky* textbook is used for teaching English to ninth year's students, it is important to know whether the textbooks are appropriate with the students' need. Third, the writer will use this book to know the *transitivity representation of reading passage in English textbook grade 9 of Junior High School published by Erlangga*.

This leads to the fact that no language item is separate, each piece of it is evolved to the functions which are decided by humans in communication, and grammar is not an exception. However, it seems that the process of teaching and learning the language tends to make a clear distinction between grammar and other linguistics areas, as in structuralism's perspectives. Functionalists, on the other hand, hold the belief that "Grammar should be seen as facilitating communication in all modes, not as an isolated area of study" (Lock, 1996).

The study of analyzing transitivity system in textbook has been done by some researches, Panjaitan (2010) who conducted research about five texts in Senior High School textbook by randomly selected, found that the most dominant type of process used in that texts is Relational process, because most of the texts were descriptive texts and theory. And also Babai and Ansary (2003) who conducted research about transitivity system in three textbooks (Physics, Sociology, and Literature) found that, the material process is dominant.

The writer hopes that this study can give its useful contribution for the teachers to select the textbook which is most suitable in teaching learning process and as a guidance when they teach the material about reading passages, they can give explanation for their students about kind of process which is contained in that reading passage, in order to make the students know all the process in a language, and also they can know exactly how human beings state their experience in the world. And also it is useful contribution for many people, and students to enrich their knowledge.

A. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background stated in advance can be formulated as the followings:

- 1 What are the process types of transitivity system used in Reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga?
- 2 What are the participant functions used in Reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga?

- 3 What are the circumstantial elements that used in Reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga?
- 4 What are the dominant process, participant, and circumstance found in Reading passage in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga?

B. The Objective of the Study

In accordance with the delimitation of the study, the objectives of the study are to identify and to describe the transitivity process types, the participant functions and types, and the circumstantial elements that characterized *reading passage in English Textbook Grade 9 of Junior High School published by Erlangga*.

In relation to the problem of the study, the objectives of the study are:

1. To identify and to describe the process types of transitivity system used in reading passage in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga.
2. To identify and to describe the participant functions and types used in Reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga.
3. To identify and to describe the circumstantial elements that used in Reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga.

4. To discover the dominant process, participant, and circumstance found in Reading passage in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga.

C. The Scope of the Study

Based on the background and identification of the problem, this study focuses on materials. Here, the researcher wants to describe the characteristics of English texts in the level of lexicogrammatical aspect in order to see the grammatical complexity of them by using Halliday's functional grammar approach; that is transitivity. Transitivity is defined as the structural configuration of a clause which has a functional element such as the process, the participant involved in the process and the attendant circumstances. Therefore, transitivity catches the characteristics of texts from clause structures.

The writers will focus on analyzing transitivity system in reading passage in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga. There are 17 reading passages in *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga, but the writer analyzed 10 reading passages from *English on Sky* grade 9th textbook published by Erlangga. They are *Bamboo Resto and Café*, *Eight Glasses of Water a Day Keep the Doctor Away*, *"Snow Owls, Large Prey Bird"*, *Durian*, *Coconuts*, *The Nile River*, *The Bengawan Solo*, *The Thames River*, *The Boy Who Cried "Wolf"*, *The Fox and The Crow*.

D. The Significant of the Study

The results of the study are expected to give contribution both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically, the result of this research can be used to enrich the horizon on analyzing texts using transitivity.
2. Practically, the result of this research will be beneficial for the following parties. They are:

- a. Students of English Department

They can use the result of the research as the sample of the grammatical complexity analysis of the texts and as their supplies to determine kinds of texts which are appropriate for the students based on their level competency.

- b. Other researchers

They can use the result of the research as an input to conduct research using the same data from another point of view, for example analyzing texts in order to describe the characteristics of them seen from logical function, interpersonal function or textual function.