CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Language is used as a tool to communicate with each other. Language also has a powerful influence over people and their behavior. In social environment people use a language to interact and share their ideas with each other. Because of that, it is so difficult to believe how people can communicate and interact with others without language. In addition, Language is the most effective means of communication which can help people to convey their idea, their desire and to clarify what the people mean.

Language can be conveyed not only by spoken but also by written language. Written language is used by the writer to convey the information, the opinion, the feeling, the idea by using written form. The written language can be applied through the printed media, literature, advertisement, text books and others. They are arranged by the good language to influence and interest the reader beside that those are used to convey the information which needed for the reader to know, but not all the written language can give the information easier because sometime it is difficult to understand and to interpret the information even the readers have different assumption to understand the information or the message from the written language.

The problem can be seen in one of the written language, namely poetry. Poetry is one of literature which has deep meaning and deep expression. According to Nair (1991) the poetry is a fiction story in writing which has a

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sentence can give the long explanation. Poetry usually try to express their meaning in much less space than a novel or short story. Poetry is used for the poet to convey the experience, the feeling, the idea by using the beautiful language. According to Gilis (2010: 38) poetry is a mode of language- use marked by a high degree of verbal patterning or design and it is concerned with both linguistic dimensions simultaneously: sense and sound. In addition Gilis (2010) stated that Poetry manipulates language more intensely than any other kind of literature, and poems mostly achieve this through being set in verse. A poetry has deep meaning and need the special attention to interprete the meaning. In poetry, the poets don't convey the meaning or the message directly so, sometime several interpretation happen in getting the message.

Actually the poetry consist of clause. The clause is organized as a message by having a distinct status assigned to one part of it. One part of the clause is enunciated as the Theme then combines with the remainder is called the Rheme. (Halliday andMatthiessen (2014:88). From that statement, it means that the poetry has Theme and Rheme. Theme and Rheme are derived from textual function. Halliday (1994 :37) states that textual function is one of various structure which, when mapped on to each make up a clause, and will be considered first the one which gives the clause its character as the messages.

Textual function or Textual meaning is one of metafunction which involve the use of language to organize the text. In this case, textual function has function to organize the message of the text which relevant to the context situation. The textual metafunction is realized by the thematic structure. Theme and Rheme is called thematic structure. Theme contain of first information and

continue with a Rheme,which normally tells us something new about the Theme. In other words, Both approaches theorize that each sentence contains one element which is more important or central to the discourse and which is called Theme, and another element which develops the Theme, and which is called Rheme. Theme can also affect the writer's assumption regarding what the reader knows or does not know about the message.

From the explanation above, the researcher is interested in discussing language function as textual meaning, especially the Theme and Rheme in poems.

One of the famous poem that contain of literary value is *Nyanyi Sunyi* written by Amir Hamzah, it is also become the object of this research. Hamzah's *Nyanyi Sunyi* is an old collected poems that was first published in 1941. *Nyanyi Sunyi* is one of the collected poems which contain the story of the poet who love the God. Because of that Amir Hamzah is called by the religious poet. There are some other poet such as Alisjahbana, Armijn Pane, Sanusi Pane, or H.B. Jassin. They are also the religious poets but Hamzah's poet different with them because his poems contain the difficult language and use the local sentence to convey his feeling such as in Malay and Javanese language, so it is very hard to understand what he means because some sentences can interpret in several meaning and also it make the meaning of the poems are very deep and myterious. Beside that, each of the stanza use the beautiful sentences and rich messages. So, after you read the poems, you will feel the good sense and after you find the meaning you will get the deep messages from the poems. Then, the poems also give the full emotion,

such as anger, sadness, or dissapointed. This poems also discuss about love, a deep love to the God, to the human being,and to his nation.

Futhermore, related to this study, there are several previous study about Theme and Rheme, Ghaleasad (2013) elaborates that On Textual Theme in Reading Comprehension of English Romantic and Criminal Short Stories. The finding showed that in both corpora, criminal and romantic short stories, conjunctions and coordinators were more prevalent than conjunctive adjuncts and continuatives. Moreover, Sharndama (2013) elaborates that Thematic Structure and Progression in Selected Business News Reports of Two Nigerian. The finding are most of the clauses of the texts consist of multiple themes. This means that most of the clauses have added themes alone side the basic or topical themes. Meanwhile, Katrini (2015) observes that Analysis of Theme of the Analytical Exposition Texts Written by the Third Semester Students of English Department of Tidar University. From Theme analyses, the writer found that the types of Theme written by the students in their analytical exposition texts are dominated by unmarked topical Theme; 124 out of 225 or 55.11%. It means that most of Theme used by the students are subject as Theme.

Other research from Kazemi (2016) elaborate that Textual Metafunction in Persian Economic and Sports Texts. The difference of two texts is regarded to the first category simple/multiple theme. So, in economic texts, multiple themes are used more. But in sports texts, simple ones are applied. Than, Kuswoyo (2016) Thematic Structure in Barack Obama's Press Conference: A Systemic Functional Grammar Study. This descriptive research finds that two kinds of theme-rheme pattern; namely; simple theme-rheme patterns and multiple theme-rheme

patterns. The simple theme-rheme patterns contain constant theme pattern, linear theme or zigzag pattern, and derived theme-rheme pattern, and the multiple ones contain combination of constant theme and constant rheme, combination of constant and linear theme, combination of split and constant themes and another pattern is proposed by the researcher himself, namely derived rheme.

Based on the previous researches and the phenomenon, the researcher wants to conduct a study of Theme and Rheme in the collected poems of *Nyanyi Sunyi* with reference to Systemic Functional Linguistics.

The theory of textual meaning in SFL is appropriate to analyze the unusual form of linguistics, such as in the poems. The poems will be analyzed by the structures of Theme and Rheme. For example, the structure of Theme and Rheme in the Hamzah's Karena Kasihmu in the second stanza, as shown in the following table :

Aku inginkan rupamu (I want your face)

Table 1.1. Topical Theme

Aku	Inginkan rupamu
Topical Theme	Rheme
Theme (unmarked)	

The word " aku" in this clause can be signed as the Theme. It means that the word "aku" is the starting point in the clause and "inginkan rupamu" as the rest of the

Theme which called as Rheme. This clause is called unmarked Theme because it use the common clause. In addition the word " aku" is the kind of topical Theme.

Other example, in the Selalu Sedih's poem in the second stanza, as shown in the following table :

Karena puncak telah tercapai (Because the top had been achieved)

Table 1.2

Karena	puncak	Telah tercapai
conjunction Textual Theme	Topical Theme	Rheme

In this example is different because the starting point is not subject but the conjunction, therefore this clause is called as textual Theme and followed by topical Theme and followed by Rheme.

From some examples above, so, researcher focus on the analysis of structure of Theme and Rheme in the collected poems in order to readers can be easier to understand the content of the poems and the message that contained in the collected poem would be conveyed to the reader appropriately.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher wants to conduct a research by the title **"Textual Function in Amir Hamzah's Collected Poems** *"Nyanyi Sunyi"*.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

Based on the background of problems above, so this research are formulated operationally as the following:

1.What structures of Theme and Rheme are found in Amir Hamzah's poems "*Nyanyi Sunyi*" ?

2.How are the structures of Theme and Rheme realized in Amir Hamzah's poems " *Nyanyi Sunyi*"?

3.Why is the structure dominantly used in Amir Hamzah's poems " *Nyanyi Sunyi*"?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In relation of the problems, the objectives of the study are

1) to investigate the structures of Theme and Rheme in Amir Hamzah's poems " *Nyanyi Sunyi*"

2) to describe the process of the structures of Theme and Rheme realized in Amir Hamzah's poems " *Nyanyi Sunyi*"

3) to elaborate the reasons for the structure dominantly used in Amir Hamzah's poems " *Nyanyi Sunyi*"

1.4 The Scope of the Study

Based on the objectives of the research above. So, this study will investigate the textual function in Amir Hamzah's collected poems. In this research, the study is covered by three points, such as: 1) The structures of Theme and Rheme in Amir Hamzah's collected poems, 2) The process of structures of Theme and Rheme realized in Amir Hamzah's collected poems, 3) The reason why the structure dominantly used in Amir Hamzah's poems.

1.5 The Significances of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to be relevant and useful in giving contributions theoretically and practically.

1) Theoretically, the result of this study are expected to be useful for enrinch linguistic knowledge in the field of discourse especially in structure of Theme and Rheme.

2) Practically, the results of this study are expected to be useful for other researchers who want to conduct other research about Theme and Rheme as comparison to their research and to progress it and also as contribution to the students who interest to discuss the literary works in linguistics field,especially in discourse analysis and can be as reference for further studies.