

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The user of language is representing experience by using a clause. The clause itself represents experience in various aspects in order to be easily understood by the reader or listener. One of the aspects commonly used by the writer or speaker in the clause is the use of modality. The purpose is to give flavor or stress to the clause. This case is always found in the written text or spoken text especially in the speech.

Language is the means of self – expression. It is through language the humans express their thoughts, desires, emotions and feeling. It is through it they store knowledge, transmit message, transfer knowledge and experience from one person to another. Most of the activities in the world are carried by language. It is through it that humans interact or relate to each other.

In this interaction, a means of communication allows people to say things to each other and expresses communicate their needs. During the communication, it is important to analyze word uttered by speaker. In the way the listener can understand the idea she wants to convey. In communicating or interacting with others one must use a language that is understood by the speaker and the listener.

Writing is a means to convey one's ideas to others; it should be simple and unambiguous. The readers must comprehend the meaning readily and precisely. To comprehend the English language especially in speech, readers should prepare

their knowledge and definitely be direct so that they will not waste their time trying to guess the meaning of the English speech text.

Many people get some problems when they read and write English. They find difficulties in comprehending many texts such as; newspaper, tabloids, magazines, books, letters, speech, etc. The difficulties will be clear for the readers when they try to understand the content of the English text.

There are some important functions of language, the first, language is the purposes of communication and social cooperation. This function of language enables the language users to influence people's behavior in detail, makes communication and social cooperation possible. Second, language can also function as an instrument of thought. A philosopher, for example, uses language to clarify and develop her ideas on subject, so here language is used as an instrument of thought. The third, language can be used for an expressive purpose. Halliday (1994: 10) asserts there are three functions of language in human life: ideational, interpersonal, and textual function. These are known as meta-function. The experiential function that is the use of language as the representation of experience.

This study addresses to the use of modality and values in Barack Obama's speech of inauguration of 2013. There are some reasons for selecting the topic as the subject matters. The first, modality is one of important points to be discussed because through studying modality and values one knows a personal judgment on, opinion, 'flavor' or 'seasoning' to an experiential content or a speech function by the addresser, (Saragih, 2005 : 21). The second, modality is common used in

spoken and written texts. But without doing research, no one knows how the modality and value are used in texts.

Modal can be found in text of speech or it can be found in many written and spoken languages. Such as short stories, lyrics, advertisement, plays, journal, film script, etc. Every language has modality. In Indonesia, for example, the modality is needed as in *Budi harus menyelesaikan tugas nya besok*. In this case, the modal “harus” or in English “must” is used to indicate a strong obligation to be done and punishment if it is not done. Besides that, that modal also implies that the activity will be done in the future time.

The readers or listeners always have some problems in understanding a text on modality. This occurs because they do not know the meaning stated in the modality itself. Consequently, they do not get the idea of the text delivered. For example : low finite modal operator, low modal adjunct, and median finite modal operator are used when Obama delivers his defensive statements. E.g: I may be wrong. The high finite modal operators and high modal adjuncts are used when Obama delivers his offensive statements. Eg: You must do that well.

In this case, the writer chooses Barack Obama’s speech on presidential inauguration of 2013 as the object of this research because it contains the use of modality. In this study the writer selects one of Barack Obama’s speech, it is the speech on presidential inauguration of 2013. Because by learning this speech she can get many experiences and knowledge especially the power of language used by Barack Obama to convince the American people to choose him again to be the president for the second term.

For examples:

1. It must be secured by his people here on earth.
2. A great nation must care for the vulnerable and protect its people from life's worst hazards and misfortune.
3. Equality could survive half slave, and half free.

In addition, the writer learns how modality and values are used in Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013.

1.2 The Problems of Study

In relation to the background of the study, the research problems are formulated as the following:

1. What types of modality are used in Barack Obama's speech in presidential inauguration of 2013?
2. What values of modality are used in Barack Obama's speech in presidential inauguration of 2013?
3. In what context are those types of modality used in Barack Obama's speech in presidential inauguration of 2013?

1.3 The Objectives of Study

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

1. To describe the types of Modality used in Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013.

2. To describe the value of modality used in Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013.
3. To explain the reason for the contexts of Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013 are described in the way they are.

1.4 The Scope of Study

The study is focused on finding out the modalization and modulation and value of modalization and modulation which occur in Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013. The source of data is limited to the text of Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013.

1.5 The Significance of Study

The findings of the study are expected to give some relevant contribution to the following:

1. Theoretically, the findings not only add more horizons on the use of English outside the English speaking community but also more comprehend the modalization in Barack Obama's speech on presidential inauguration of 2013.
2. Practically, the findings are expected to be useful for students of English and linguists. By reading the findings of this research, they are expected to know how to use the modality of probability, usuality, obligation and inclination in sentence especially in a speech.