

Verbs of Emotion in Mental Processes in the English Clauses: A Functional Grammar Approach

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Abstract: *In this research, researcher concerns with one of the language metafunctions only that is the representation clause. This research is entitled “Verbs of Emotion in Mental Processes in the English Clauses.” The method used is descriptively and the study is focused on emotion verbs in mental process in the novel of Heart Beat which is written by Danielle Steel in 2008 from which source. The research shows the mental processes which are process of sensing, it describes as follow; perception, cognition, emotion, and desideration. In this research, the writer will focus on verbs used in mental processes, namely emotion verbs. There are three main elements in Mental Processes; Process, Participants, and Circumstances.*

Key Words: *Clause as Representation, Mental Processes, Emotion Verbs, Participants, Circumstances.*

Introduction

When people use language to express meanings, they do in specific situations. The English language develops globally and, hence, gives opportunity for the emerging of new theories. Functional grammar is one example.

Functional grammar is first stated by Halliday, especially in his book of *An Introduction of Functional Grammar* (1985). In this book, he proposes that functional grammar, also called systemic functional linguistic, views language as a tool to convey meaning. Furthermore, Egginns (2000: 3) stated that functional grammar is “the kind of grammar most likely to have useful things to say to language learners and teachers.” In other words, functional grammar not merely sees grammar as the construction of language, how language is structured, but also sees how language is used to deliver meaning.

The rationale discusses the reasons for choosing *Functional Grammar* as the main theory. The writer would like to start with the term *functional grammar* itself. The term *functional grammar* is used to refer to the kind of grammar that has been developed by systemic functional linguists, the scholars who devoted themselves in the field of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). Functional grammar is also known as Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). According to Halliday (2004: 29), language is a system of meaning. That is to say that, when people use language, their language acts are the expression of meaning. From this point of view the grammar becomes a study of how meanings are built up through the use of words and other

linguistic forms. We need a grammar that can also account for conversations or other types of spoken English and written English.

The clause as a grammatical means of encoding patterns of experience, conceptualized as a situation type is then the most significant grammatical unit. It is the unit that enables us to organize the wealth of our experience into a manageable number of representational patterns or schemas. Our personal of each individual situation are then selected from these patterns. Situation types comprise three main types. They are Material, Mental, and Relational. There are also three subsidiary types: Behavioural, Verbal, and Existential. Each situation type consists of the following:

1. The process: the central part of the situation, realized by a verb.
Process types include those of doing, happening, experiencing, being, behaving, saying, and existing.
2. Participant roles: these symbolically represent the persons, things and abstract entities involved in the process.
3. Circumstances: those of time, place, manner, condition, and attendant on the situation.

In general, there are four types of verbs used in mental process, namely verbs of cognition, perception, emotion, and desiderative. Process is realized by verbs. The type of process determines the nature and number of the participants. The valency of the verb specifies the number of inherent participants of any process, and by reduction indicates the result of one or more participants.

The decision to focus on the mental process is chiefly triggered by the very fact that this process type, according to systemic linguists, bears on the assumptions of the participants. In general, there are two participants in mental process, namely Senser and Phenomenon. Senser is someone that senses something and Phenomenon is something that which is sensed.

(1) *You like ice cream.*

(2) *She didn't remember what happened last night.*

In sentence (1), we have *You* as Senser and *ice cream* as Phenomenon. The verb used, *like*, is in positive form. On the other hand, in sentence (2) we can see the word *remember* as the verb used is in negative form. Therefore, we have *what happened last night* as Phenomenon and *she* as Senser.

The writer uses her research topic as a point of entry for further exploration of the Functional Grammar in the future. Moreover, the academic reason. The topic of verbs of emotion in mental processes in the English clauses can be approached by functional grammar. The writer would like to discuss how the verbs of emotion in mental process are realized in the form of English clauses in which there is a process.

This condition makes the writer curious of and interested in investigating in events and especially in human verbs and participants involved, what they do or say, with the assumption

that researcher will be able to see different styles of writing, and therefore. The writer believes that the analysis will be helpful as the basic clues to further understanding the complexity of the difference ideas in English Grammar especially in Traditional and Functional approach.

To analyze this process, researcher took some data from the novel “Heart Beat which is written by Danielle Steel in 2008”. Based on the rationalization, the writer entitled this research “Verbs of Emotion in Mental Processes in The English Clauses.”

The Research Method

The method applied in this research is qualitative method, in which the research based on descriptive data. In doing this research, the researcher does library research to expand the theories and references to sustain the analysis. The collected data are analyzed in accordance with theories chosen, and described based on the systemic functional grammar points of views.

Theoretical Outline

The researcher obtains the theories from the linguists of functional grammar. There are numerous theories used, as the grand theories are from Halliday and Matthiessen (2004), and the supporting theories are from Bloor and Bloor (1995), Gerot and Wignell (1994), Lock (1996), Thompson (1996), Eggins (2000).

Discussion

Three Lines of Meaning in The Clause

According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 58-59), there are three lines of meaning in clause. First, the theme functions in the structure of the clause as a message. A clause has meaning as a message, a quantum of information; the Theme is the point of departure for the message. It is the element of the speaker selects for ‘grounding’ what he is going on to say. Second, the subject functions in the structure of the clause as exchange. A clause has meaning as an exchange, a transaction between, speaker and listener; the Subject is the warranty of the exchange. It is the element the speaker makes responsible for the validity of what he is saying. Third, the actor functions in the structure of the clause of the representation. A clause has meaning as a representation of some process on human experience; the Actor is the active participant in that process. It is the element the speaker portrays as the one that does the deed.

Clause as Representation

According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 172), there are seven different Process types in clause as representation.

Table:1**Process Types in Clause as Representation**

| | | |
|----------------|------------|--|
| Material | Doing | Bodily, physically, materially |
| Behavioral | Behaving | Physiologically and psychologically |
| Mental | Sensing | Emotionally, intellectually, sensorily |
| Verbal | Saying | Lingually, signally |
| Relational | Being | Equal to, or some attribute of |
| Existential | Existing | There exists |
| Meteorological | Weathering | |

Mental Processes

Mental processes are ones of the six processes proposed by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 197). These processes involve “the clauses of feeling, thinking, wanting, and perceiving.” In other words, Bloor et al. (1995: 116) states that mental processes involve “not material action but phenomena best described as states of mind or psychological events.” Furthermore, he states that these processes “tend to be realized through the use of verbs like *think, know, feel, smell, hear, see, want, like, miss, please, admire, enjoy, frighten.*” For example:

(3)

| Senser | Process: mental | Phenomenon |
|----------|--------------------|------------|
| <i>I</i> | <i>do not like</i> | <i>it</i> |

(4)

| Senser | Process: mental | Phenomenon |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|
| <i>The quiet</i> | <i>puzzles</i> | <i>me</i> |

Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 200) state that mental processes “are not kinds of doing and cannot be probed or substituted by do.” Moreover, Eggins (2000: 241) states question patterns that can be used to differentiate mental process (“What do you think/feel/know about x?”) from material processes (“What did x do to y). For example, from the clause *She loved him*, we cannot ask “What did x do to y?”

(5) *What did she do to him? She loved him.*

And it will be make more sense to ask “What do you think/feel/know about x?”

(6) *What did she think about him? She loved him.*

As mentioned previously, processes are realized by verbs. Regarding to mental processes, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 208) divide four classes of verbs that are included in mental processes, namely cognition, perception, desiderative, and emotion. Cognition processes convey ‘thinking’. Verbs of cognition include the verbs of thinking, knowing, and understanding. For example, the word *know* in (7) *I do not know her name*. Perception processes convey ‘perceiving through the five senses’ (Gerot and Wignell, 1995: 58). Verbs of perception include the verbs of hearing, seeing, tasting, and smelling. For example, the word *hear* in (8) *Simon heard it on the news*.

Regarding to desideration type, Halliday also mentions this as one of the types of mental processes in his latest version of *An Introduction to Functional Grammar* that was published in 2004. On the other hand, instead of using the same term, he uses the term desiderative as the type of verb such as *want*, *desire*, and *wish*. As stated by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 208), verbs of emotion are *like*, *love*, and *miss*. Moreover, Matthiessen (1995: 263) states emotion processes convey ‘how someone feels about an object or an event’. For example, the word *miss* in (9) *I miss my sister*. In this research, the writer will focus on verbs used in mental processes, namely emotion.

Emotion Verbs

As mentioned earlier, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 208) describe verbs of emotion are *like*, *love*, *hate*, *fear*, *miss*, and *regret*. Moreover, Matthiessen (1995: 263) states emotion processes convey ‘how someone feels about an object or an event’. For example, the word *miss* in (10) *I miss my sister*. Halliday also describes emotion verbs that refers clear attitude or emotion because they involve mental or emotive processes. For example:

(10)

| Senser | Process: mental | Phenomenon: thing |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>I</i> | <i>miss</i> | <i>my sister</i> |

There are three main elements in Mental Processes; Process, Senser, and Phenomenon. There is also one more element that occurs in mental processes, which is Circumstance, but this element is optional. In other word, the element of Circumstance does not always have to exist in mental processes, different from three elements that have been mentioned before.

Participants

There are two participants in mental processes, namely Senser and Phenomenon. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 201) state that Senser is “the conscious being that is feeling, thinking, wanting, or perceiving” and that Phenomenon is “that which is ‘sensed’— felt, thought, wanted or perceived” (2004: 203). Furthermore, Martin et al. (1997: 104) explains that Senser is

”endowed with consciousness, nominal groups serving as Senser which denote non-conscious entities have to be construed metaphorically as ‘personified’, and that a Phenomenon is the one that can be any kind of entity entertained or created by consciousness — a conscious being, an object, a substance, and institution, or an abstraction...acts (*I like swimming*)and facts (*I like the facts that he apologized*)”.

Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 205) state that Phenomenon in emotion verbs in mental processes is typically a thing, fact and situation. Mental processes usually constitute by Senser that is followed by Process and Phenomenon. This pattern of participants order constituent can be accepted as an active form of mental processes, as in data (11). On the other hand, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 200) state if there is an active form in mental process, there is also a passive form of mental process, with phenomenon as the fronted element, followed by Process and of course, Senser, as in data (12).

(11)

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Senser | Process: Mental | Phenomenon |
| <i>Mia</i> | <i>Liked</i> | <i>the song</i> |

(12)

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Phenomenon | Process: Mental | Senser |
| <i>The song</i> | <i>was liked</i> | <i>by Mia</i> |

Circumstances

Circumstances are elements that can be found in all six processes in functional grammar, especially in mental processes. Yet, Circumstances are optional participants in mental processes. It means that it is nothing necessarily needed for a mental process to have a Circumstance element.

As stated by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 260), Circumstances refer to *examples such as the location of an event in time or space, its manner, or its cause, and these notions of when, where, how, and why the things happens provided by... explanation, by linking circumstance to the four WH-forms that were adverbs...*

Eggs (2000: 237-239) states that there are nine elements of circumstantial that can be found in processes, as follow:

1. Extent

Circumstantial element of extent answers the question about duration (*How long?* and *How many times?*) and spatial distance (*How far?*).

2. Location

Circumstantial element of location answers the question about temporal (*When?*) and spatial (*Where?*).

3. Manner

Circumstantial element of manner answer the question about means (*How?* and *Whit what?*), quality (*How?* and *How –ly?*), and comparison (*What... like?*).

4. Cause

Circumstantial element of cause answers the question about cause (*Why?*), reason (*What for?*), and behalf (*Who for?*).

5. Accompaniment

Circumstantial element of accompaniment answers the question *with whom?*

6. Matter

Circumstantial element of matter answers the question *what about?*

7. Role

Circumstantial element of role answers the question *what as?*

8. Contingency

Circumstantial element of contingency answers the questions of condition (why), default, and concession.

9. Angle

Circumstantial element of angle answers the questions of source and viewpoint.

Data Analysis

The data are taken from a novel with the title *Heart Beat* which is written by Danielle Steel in 2008.

Data 1

Steven will entertain the kids.

In this data, there is one single clause. We can find the participants in the clause. The role of sener is realized by noun group *Steven*. As we know, sener is always a person and a noun

group. In this clause, the role of senser is presented by noun group. Senser must always be animate and is usually human. Thus, the word *Steven* here is a representation of senser. Moreover, the role of phenomenon is realized by noun group *the kids*, that functions as phenomenon of thing. In other words, in this mental process, noun group *Steven* as Senser, who senses *the kids*, as a thing phenomenon, that follows the process that is realized by the word *entertain*.

In this data, mental process is signified by the verbal group *will entertain*. The word *entertain* functions as the head of the group. Here, the word *entertain* is an emotion verb which is verbal group *entertain* refers to amuse and interest. On the other hand, something that is being sensed by senser *Steven* or phenomenon is *the kids* that functions as phenomenon of thing.

The detail analysis is as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Steven | will entertain | the kids |
| Se | Pr | Ph: Thg |
| NG | VG | NG |

Data 2

Helen suddenly worried her daughter.

In this data, there is one single clause. We can find the participants in the clause. The role of senser is realized by noun group *Helen*. As we know, senser is always a person and a noun group. In this clause, the role of senser is presented by noun group. Senser must always be animate and is usually human. Thus, the word *Helen* here is a representation of senser.

Adverbial group *suddenly* function as circumstance of manner because it answers the question *how?* Suddenly is an adverbial that describes how the process *worry* occurs and the ending adverbial *-ly* can answer the question *how?*, so, this circumstance describes as *manner* which explains *quality*. Moreover, the role of phenomenon is realized by noun group *her daughter*, that functions as phenomenon of thing. In other words, in this mental process, noun group *Helen* as Senser, who senses *her daughter*, as a thing phenomenon, that follows the process that is realized by the word *worry*.

In this data, mental process is signified by the verbal group *worried*. Here, the word *worry* is an emotion verb which is verbal group *worry* refers to feeling of anxiety. On the other hand, something that is being sensed by senser *Helen* or phenomenon is *her daughter* that functions as phenomenon of thing.

The detail analysis is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Helen | suddenly | worried | her daughter |
| Se | Cir: Man | Pr | Ph: Thg |
| NG | AG | VG | NG |

Data 3

The question startled him.

In this data, there is one single clause. We can find the participants in the clause. As we know, senser is always a person and a noun group. The position of senser as subject and the phenomenon position as object. In Halliday’s theory this means that the mental process can be used in passive form with that clause. In this data, the phenomenon can be reserved that the phenomenon position as subject and the senser position as object. In this clause, the senser is clearly as explicit senser, the role of senser is presented by noun group *him*. Senser must always be animate and is usually human. Thus, the word *him* here is a representation of senser. Moreover, the role of phenomenon is realized by noun group *the question*, that functions as phenomenon of thing. In other words, in this mental process, noun group *he* as Senser, who senses *the question*, as a thing phenomenon, that follows the process that is realized by the word *startle*.

In this data, mental process is signified by the verbal group *startled*. Here, the word *startle* is an emotion verb which is verbal group *startle* refers to feel that have a great dislike to someone. The verbal group *startle* shows the feeling that give a shock or surprise. On the other hand, something that is being sensed by *him* or phenomenon is noun group *the question* that functions as phenomenon of thing.

The detail analysis is as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| The question | startled | him |
| Ph: Thg | Pr | Se |
| NG | VG | NG |

Data 4

As her mother, I marvel that my daughter is a singer.

In this data, there are two clauses with *I marvel* as the main clause and *that my daughter is a singer* as embedded clause. We can find the participants in the clause. The role of senser is realized by noun group *I*. As we know, senser is always a person and a noun group. In this clause, the role of senser is presented by noun group. Senser must always be animate and is

usually human. Thus, the word *I* here is a representation of senser. Furthermore, the second participant is phenomenon, which is filled by the word *that*, as the indication of fact as phenomenon. The clause *that my daughter is a singer*, it represents the notion of fact. In other words, in this mental process, noun group *I* as Senser, who senses *that my daughter is a singer*, as a phenomenon of fact, that follows the process that is realized by the word *marvel*. The role of circumstance is realized by conjunction group *as her mother*.

The role of circumstance is realized by the conjunction group *as her mother* functions as circumstance of role. It is because the phrase answer the question of *what as?*, that becomes one characteristics of role as circumstance.

In this data, mental process is signified by the verbal group *marvel*. Here the word *marvel* is an emotion verb which is verbal group *marvel* refers to wonderful thing. On the other hand, something that is being sensed by *I* that functions as noun group or phenomenon is *that my daughter is a singer* that functions as phenomenon of fact.

The detail analysis is as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|--|
| As her mother, | I | marvel | <i>that my daughter is a singer</i> |
| Cir: Rol | Se | Pr | Ph: F |
| AG | NG | VG | Fact clause |

Data 5

I hate when you try to leave me in the movie theater.

In this data, there are two clauses with *I hate* and *when you try to leave me in the movie theater* as embedded clause. We can find two participants in the clause. The first participant, senser is represented by the pronoun *I*, and which is a noun group. As we know, senser is always a person and a noun group. In this clause, the role of senser is presented by noun group. Senser must always be animate and is usually human. Thus, the word *I* here is a representation of senser. Furthermore, the second participant is phenomenon, which is filled by *when* the *wh*-clause, as the indication of situation as phenomenon. The clause *when you try to leave me in the movie theater* that functions as phenomenon of situation. In other words, in this mental process, noun group *I* as Senser, who senses *when you try to leave me in the movie theater*, as a phenomenon of situation, that follows the process that is realized by the word *hate*.

In this data, mental process is signified by the verbal group *hate*. Here, the word *hate* is an emotion verb which is verbal group *hate* refers to feel that have a great dislike to someone. The verb *hate* shows the feeling dislike that there is a thing. On the other hand, something that is being sensed by senser *I* that functions as noun group or phenomenon is *when you try to leave me in the movie theater* that functions as phenomenon of situation.

The detail analysis is as follows:

| | | |
|----------|-------------|--|
| I | hate | when you try to leave me in the movie theater |
| Se | Pr | Ph: St |
| NG | VG | WH-clause |

Result

In this chapter the researcher will make conclusions based on the analysis of the data. The researcher has analyzed five data in the previous part. According to the data, there are five positions of participants and process namely, **Senser + Process + Phenomenon: Thing** in data 1, **Senser + Circumstance: Manner + Phenomenon: Thing** in data 2, **Phenomenon: Thing + Process + Senser** in data 3, **Circumstance: Role + Senser + Process + Phenomenon: Fact** in data 4, and **Senser + Process + Phenomenon: Situation** in data 5.

Generally, the data provides the elements of mental process. Every data has participants, process, and circumstance. The verbs of emotion based on the data are *entertain*, *worry*, *startle*, *marvel*, and *hate*.

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