

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This earliest chapter comprises background of knowledge; statement of research problems; objectives of the research; significance of the research; scope and limitation of the research; and definitions of the key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Momentarily, publishing journal article evolves into a trending topic existed in academic sphere (Jones, 2007: 126). To publish means what has been gained after investigating some cases is not merely saved closely inside bookshelf without carrying any benefits, or some documents are just attended in computers and there is no mean to proceed it further. It is asserted by Fritz Schaefer that ‘if it isn’t published, it does not exist’ (Sherril, 2015). Thus, to publish is a kind of appreciating the pace of self while compiling the progress, and invites it worthy to discuss universally.

Academic field requires the person inside its circle to always move knowledge on (Soule et al, 2007) or we may say it as an upgrading knowledge. Here, academes act as the producers of knowledge. Moreover, period to period, knowledge is always upgraded significantly, this science always grows and advances, where it is constantly being challenged, revised and expanded (Merton, 1973 and Kuhn, 1996 as cited in Mack, 2018) in accordance with the mobility of human’s need time to time which always alleviates and creates a big change between past and present.

The attendance of publishing article journal then invents a great prospect to cover scientists', pupils', or writers' discoveries of idea. Sustaining the effect of spreading those ideas enables people to be eased and helped in solving the problems they have. Although, not all people on various stripes are able to access and read article journal, however, for scientists and academes as the changed and well educated agent among society, reporting and expanding on a study, then publish or access article journal is a kind of nourishing knowledge.

Turning back to article journal, writing journal article needs extra effort to obtain. Scientific format may look confusing especially for beginner and newcomer of research (Lewinston). Some reasons for this difficulty are regarding for the presence of writing policy and method procedure which must be obeyed. However, as Summers (2001: 240) points out in Kotzé (2007: 1), scientific writers do not have to win an award of novelist or rousing poet while reporting the results of a well-conceptualized and executed study. Moreover, all scientific writers' needs, as Feldman (2004:1) in Kotzé (2007: 1) augments, that is, need to be well organized, clear, accurate, concise, original, offers a significant effect (Sherrill, 2015: 1) and keep the eyes on in details.

Notwithstanding, by the expansion of publishing article journal with its prosperity offered, i.e. the competitiveness of the job market in and out of academia which dominant to the employability (Soule, 2007: 4) and promotion of career (Lange et al, 2017), then, publishing article journal has a

massive interest among people around the world (Drubin and Kellogg, 2012; Garfield, 1967; Meneghini and Packer, 2007 in Shock et al, 2016). When a person is able to publish an article on a credible and international journal through high quality research result, the higher opportunity s/he has to be employed and get the promotion soon, because of the contribution s/he has, i.e. helping to solve problems which expands a larger audience, i.e. overseas area.

On this case, some international accredited journals constrain English as the language applied to deliver the report of research, because of its portrayal as a lingua franca (Hüllen, 1982 and Knapp 1985, 1987 in Jokić, 2017). Nevertheless, it is known that English is not used all time by entire people in the world. Thus, this creates a disposal between native speakers of English and non-native speakers of English, moreover for the distinction of the way those native and non-native speakers import their idea and thought into written construction. Samad et al (2018) upholds that non-native speakers tend to have tendencies to interfere foreign language they afford to use with the convention of their native language in their writing. This case then questions the writing ability through native speakers and non-native speakers while practicing in scientific writing.

A study conducted by Al-Khasawneh (2017) found that there is a diversity between those native speakers and non-native speakers of English in expressing scientific writing. Al-Khasawneh studied about genre analysis of research article abstracts gained from well-known journal and written by

those native and non-native speakers. The result reveals that native speakers were more eager while representing on introduction and conclusion moves on abstract compared to non-native speakers counterparts.

Next, Booth (2010) administered a study about Malaysian learners' choice in vocabulary of writing where English is Malaysian second language. It was found that L2 learners need to notice the complexity and coherence in L2 because of low grammatical sensitivity and lack of using some uncommon vocabulary which were detected in this study.

An ANOVA analysis between native and non-native speakers of English depicted from a research studied by Stephenson, Jiao and Wall (2004). This study talks about a performance comparison on native and non-native speakers of English. There was a significant difference between native and non-native performance of the listening, writing conventions and reading subtests. Native speakers were consistently scored higher rather than non-native speakers of English when they were given such proficiency test. This study then shows the distance of native and non-native speakers of English in mastering such language.

Moreover, Green (2012) studied about native and non-native speakers' ability to perform cohesion and lexical network density in L2 writing, where the objects are essays written by EFL corpus from Indonesia; international corpus of learner English, and Louvain corpus of native English essays as native speakers' baseline. Green found that the difference on L2 writing has vaguer and overlap argument, more semantic overlap, more

frequent content words, fewer abstract verb hyponyms and less causal content rather than native speaker' written result.

Besides, Ojamo (2015) took a research about creating coherence in research articles for non-native researchers as writers of scientific English. The subjects were doctoral and post-doctoral researchers who are non-native speakers of English. Ojamo's result displays that although the subjects are well-educated researchers, yet approximately half of the subjects felt disadvantaged while writing research article in English compared to native speakers. To write a coherent text or discourse which drives the readers easy to understand and to express the subjects' interpretation of the result with an appropriate degree of confidence are most challenges faced by the subjects. Thus, this study explains that to write a coherent text in English as native like is something requiring extra efforts for non-native speakers.

Few studies have experienced that non-native speakers confront some matters while writing scientific articles, despite them who are recognized as well educated person (Ojamo, 2015). It is obvious, then, writing scientific articles for native speakers can be applied as a tenor to gain a native like for non-native speakers. Although it is not that mainstream whether all native speakers are judged as they are capable to write coherently, naturally, and easy to understand by the readers (Jones, 2007), however, directing the way how native speakers depict coherence properly inside the text they write is need to dig further purposing to overcome those gaps confronted by non-native speakers.

Coherence, according to Pagin (2014), is called as coherence relations, discourse relations or rhetorical relation, which is basically a concept of what stems construct a text or discourse so that they hang together to build an organized whole rather than just a sequence of unrelated or related sentence. In this fashion, a coherence can be gained by constructing some elements which are able to build a whole text or discourse sequence and related one each other. Anyhow, to express of what is inside people's thought, considering to produce some utterance which only focus on grammatical structures and words is not sufficient. An action must be performed while stating such utterance (Yule, 1996: 47).

By this, this thesis then investigates about coherence of scientific articles written by native speakers of English. Three articles journal are chosen purposively. They are chosen because of published in international and accredited journal and written by native speakers of English. Each of those three articles are accessed from JSTOR (i.e. published by Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group) to ensure that those articles have a great quality.

To find how native speakers construct a coherent scientific articles which involve IMRAD (i.e. abstract, introduction, literature review, method, results, discussion and conclusion), then those items are analyzed one by one rigorously. Speech act functions as displaying each function of written sentences is one analysis which is implemented. Then, as Yule stated about the content of a text, syntactical realizations also used as the appearance of text used to express each functions. By this, it is obvious that this research

entitled *Coherence in Scientific Articles Written by Native Speakers of English* is worth conducted.

B. Statement of Research Problems

On the basis of the background of the study, the research problems can be formulated as follows:

1. What speech acts are found in scientific articles written by native speakers of English?
2. What syntactical realizations are found in scientific articles written by native speakers of English?
3. How are the patterns of coherence of scientific article written by native speakers of English?

C. The Objectives of the Research

According to the problems of the research, the objectives of this study are presented below:

1. To explain the speech acts found in scientific articles written by native speakers of English.
2. To analyze the syntactical realizations found in scientific articles written by native speakers of English.
3. To describe the patterns of coherence of scientific article written by native speakers of English.

D. Significance of the Research

This research is essential to study when it is seen into both theoretical and practical point of view. Those significance are expressed below:

1. Theoretical Contribution

Theoretically, this study offers a novel perspective about the steps of writing scientific articles on English, especially for how the native speakers write coherently. Anyhow, some advantages which makes this thesis differ to others is by the finding of coherence patterns which considers on how native speakers practice writing either when applying the functions of statements and also forming the statement they want, and those are done by compiling some elements of grammatical forms. Thus, it is obvious to say meanwhile the present research has a great innovation to offer non-native speakers in writing scientific article coherently as native like.

2. Practical Contribution

a. Researchers

Some studies present that the challenges and matters faced by non-native speakers while writing scientific article is on how to be native like. Thus, especially for researchers come from non-native speakers as the background they have, the current study offers some benefit to write as native like because of the presence of coherence pattern of how native speakers of English in writing scientific articles are found.

b. Educators

Educators of second language or foreign language are also able to carry some advantages through the presence of this thesis results. Writing an academic journal is something worthy to upgrade educator's knowledge, which later impacts a lot to the capability of learners they teach. Thus, by the presence of this thesis, it is expected able to motivate educators to publish article journal by implementing English as the language, and meanwhile publish those article on accredit and reputable journal.

c. University Students of Indonesia

The presence of academic writing as the subject of university students, and also the obligation to present research report at the end of studying, (i.e. article journals, theses and dissertations). By this, the university students are able to get some inspirations or theory while practicing of finishing the subject.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

As mentioned in the background, this study only takes some journal articles written by native speakers of English. By the limitation of the writer, i.e. to finish a temporary time of writing thesis, three amount of articles are chosen purposively. It is known when conducting a qualitative research, a saturated data must be gained. By those matter, this becomes one of the limitation of this thesis.

Next, a comparison between native and non-native English would be a great invention. However, again, this thesis limits itself by those limitations. It is expected for further researcher to conduct better and more complete research which compare between native and non-native speakers, moreover for Indonesian.

F. Definitions of the Key Terms.

The following explanations are featured to ease the readers understand some key words which appear many times in this thesis.

1. Writing

This is a stem of language skills (i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing) which included into a productive skill, where the doer produces something by writing. This writing is a process of transferring the writer's thought into some words which are constructed by considering the words order, grammatical rule, and the meaning.

2. Scientific Article

This article is a kind of research report which provides complete content, sequence procedures and report a research scientifically. Commonly, some journal has an access and criteria to receive and publish the scientific articles both online and offline.

3. Coherence

Coherence is grammatical and semantic interconnectedness between sentences that form a text. It is the semantic structure, not its formal meaning, which create coherence. Coherency is a condition where

sentences in a text hang together. It can occur in relation of sentences that immediately follow each other. Coherency grammatically arises when a text contains transition signals or when it possesses consistent pronoun. Semantically, a text is said coherence when there is unity of meaning among elements of the texts.

4. Speech Acts

Communicative functions or language functions (speech acts) refer to the purpose of gestural, vocal, and verbal acts intended to convey information to others. Some communicative functions include assertive act, directive act, commissive act.

5. Syntactical Realization

Syntax can be defined as the grammatical arrangement of words in a sentence. However, syntactical realization has a mean as a way how the arrangement of grammar is realized on a sentence.

6. Pattern

Any regularly repeated arrangement, especially a design made from repeated lines, shapes or colours on a surface. a drawing or shape used to show how to make something

7. Language Form

Language form is meant to the way how a language is expressed by the consideration of grammar.