

CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH FINDINGS

This section presents the result of the research based upon the data gathered concerning on the analysis from formulation of research problems. It presents the research findings of most frequently occurred verbs in the selected children short stories. The findings of this research will be presented below.

A. Finding on The Most Frequently Used Verb in The Children Short Stories for Junior High School Students

The analysis from the TagAnt result revealed that there are approximately 18 key tags set indicating the verbs form found in the part of speech labeled corpus. The following table showed the percentage of part of speech verbs indicators found in the corpus.

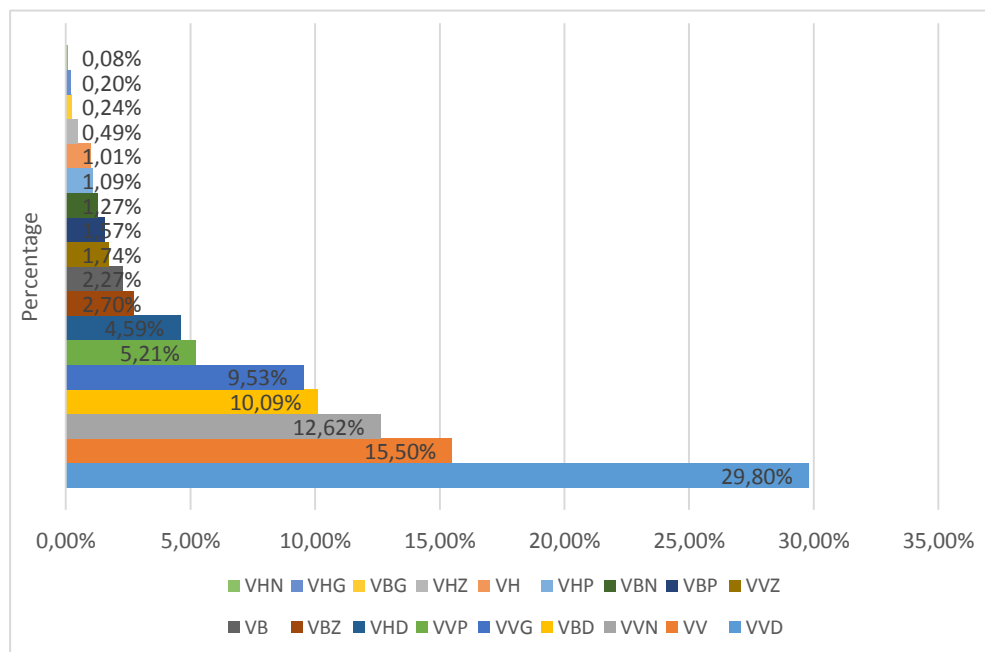


Figure 4.1 Verb Tag Set Frequency in the Children Short Story Corpus

The data showed that those words that were tagged as verbs are classified into initial tags based on the structures and tenses. Those tags that were shown in the data includes: 1.) VB sort of Verb Be, which is the verb base form, i.e. *be*; 2.) VBD for Verb Be, past form, such as *was, were*; 3.) VBG for Verb Be “ing” or gerund/ participle, i.e. *being*; 4.) VBN for Verb Been, past participle form, i.e. *been*; 5.) VBZ for Verb Be is, third person singular, present tense, i.e. *is*; 6.) VBP for Verb Be non-third person, present tense form, i.e. *am and are*; 7.) VH for Verb Have, i.e. *have*; 8.) VHD for Verb Have past tense, i.e. *had*; 9.) VHG for Verb Have Gerund/ participle, i.e. *having*; 10.) VHN for Verb Have past participle, i.e. *had*; 11.) VHZ for Verb Have in Present tense for third person singular, i.e. *has*; 12.) VHP for Verb Have in Present tense for non-third person singular, i.e. *have*; 13.) VV for Verb base form, i.e. *get, give, etc.*; 14.) VVD for Verb past tense, such as *got, gave, etc.* 15.) VVG for Verb Gerund or participle such as *getting, giving, etc.* 16) VVN for Verb past participle such as *gotten, given, etc.* 17.) VVP for Present Verb for non-third person, such as *get, give, think, etc.* 18.) VVZ for Present Verb for third singular person, such as *gets, gives, thinks, directs, deserves, etc.*

All Key Tags mentioned works as search terms in counting the verb frequency in the Antconc under *_(search terms) formula, for example *_VV for calculating any words which has been tagged into verbs base form category. The result of Antconc calculation revealed that there are 27.228 tokens of verbs counted in the tagged corpus of this study. Whereas the

whole of selected short story corpus has approximately 138.755 tokens of any part of speech counted in total. Means that amongst the entire words counted in the selected short story corpus 19.62% of it are verbs. Meanwhile, in a number of 3.586 or 13.17% of verbs tokens in the corpus indicates verb types list. Nevertheless, the researcher only took analysis for the most 100 verb types frequently used in the corpus shown in the table below.

Table 4.1 Word Frequency Lists of Verbs in the Children Short Story Corpus

Rank	Frequency	Word type	Rank	Frequency	Word type
1	2182	was	51	74	Look
2	1262	had	52	74	Want
3	831	said	53	73	Gave
4	617	be	54	68	Seen
5	580	is	55	67	Looking
6	565	were	56	64	Being
7	540	have	57	64	Left
8	358	do	58	59	Brought
9	346	been	59	59	Fell
10	300	did	60	59	Gone
11	269	are	61	58	Opened
12	241	came	62	56	Done
13	211	know	63	55	Having
14	202	went	64	55	Like
15	199	looked	65	55	Lost
16	194	see	66	55	Says
17	193	come	67	55	Walked
18	187	go	68	54	Coming
19	179	made	69	54	Lay
20	175	t	70	54	Ran
21	164	get	71	53	Kept
22	158	s	72	53	Stopped
23	147	think	73	52	Held

24	142	got	74	51	Keep
25	135	knew	75	50	Tried
26	135	took	76	47	Became
27	134	asked	77	47	Passed
28	130	has	78	45	Grew
29	129	make	79	45	Happened
30	126	thought	80	43	Ask
31	119	put	81	43	Rose
32	116	heard	82	42	Called
33	116	take	83	41	Answered
34	116	turned	84	41	Feel
35	115	saw	85	41	M
36	114	say	86	41	Smiled
37	109	seemed	87	40	Set
38	108	going	88	40	Taking
39	104	began	89	40	Wanted
40	103	let	90	39	Given
41	103	tell	91	39	Taken
42	102	found	92	38	Caught
43	96	told	93	38	Mean
44	95	sat	94	38	Play
45	91	am	95	38	Used
46	88	stood	96	37	Believe
47	84	felt	97	37	Reached
48	79	find	98	37	Started
49	78	cried	99	36	Carried
50	78	give	100	36	Does

From the result of calculation reported by the table above, there are variations of word types listed as verbs found in the children short story corpus which are ranked based on its frequency of their occurrence in the text corpus. As limitation the researcher only took the verbs from the top 100 words type. Based on the result above, some verbs shared same linguistic properties to another. In order to elaborate further the researcher

classified the verb types above into some category based on its semantic properties. There are some approach in English verbs classification. In this study, the researcher used the verb classification proposed by Beth Levin. According to Levin (1993), verbs are classified into about 200 verb classes based on its semantic criteria. In this study, the researcher only found around 29 verb classes which the top 100 word types of this findings were belong to the Levin's member of verb classes. Some of the verbs such as auxiliary verbs were excluded since it didn't matched with Levin's category. The result of the verbs classes are demonstrated in the table below.

Table 4.2 Verb Classes Found in the Top 100 Verbs List of Children Short Story Corpus

No	Verb Classes	Member of Classes found (Words Type List)	Number of Frequency	Percentage
1	Verbs with Predicative Complements	want, wanted, know, knew, held, felt, feel, mean, make, made, called, think, thought, find, found, believe, take, took, taking, taken, used	1846	14.70%
2	Verbs of Communication	said, say, says, ask, asked, tell, told, called, cried, smiled	1628	12.96%
3	Verbs of Motion	come, came, coming, went, go, going, gone, left, fell, walked, ran, rose	1319	10.50%
4	Verbs of Creation and Transformation	make, made, grew, take, took, taking, taken, turned, lay, ran, set, play	985	7.84%
5	Verbs of Change of Possession	give, gave, given, passed, left, get, got, called, find, found, caught, reached	905	7.20%
6	Verbs of Perception	see, saw, heard, felt, feel, looked, look, looking	890	7.08%
7	Verbs of Appearance, Disappearance, and Occurrence	came, come, coming, opened, grew, happened, rose	679	5.40%
8	verbs of sending and carrying	brought, take, took, taking, taken, passed, carried	472	3.76%
9	Measure Verbs	take, took, taking, taken, carried , held, used	456	3.63%
10	Psych-Verbs	tried, stood, like, felt, feel, cried	396	3.15%

	(Verbs of Psychological State)			
11	Verbs of putting	put, stood, sat, lay, set	396	3.15%
12	Verbs of Existence	stood, sat, opened, ran, rose, grew	383	3.05%
13	Verbs of removing	take, took, taking, taken	330	2.63%
14	Verbs of Assuming a Position	stood, sat, rose	226	1.80%
15	Hold and keep Verbs	held, left, keep, kept	220	1.75%
16	Aspectual Verbs	began, started, stopped	194	1.54%
17	Verbs involving the body	cried, opened, smiled	177	1.41%
18	Verbs of Desire	want, wanted, fell	173	1.38%
19	Verbs of Change of State	fell, grew, rose	147	1.17%
20	Verbs of Searching	feel, felt	125	1%
21	Verbs of Cutting	saw	115	0.92%
22	Verbs of Separating and Disassembling	saw	115	0.92%
23	Verbs of social interaction	play, passed	85	0.68%
24	Verbs of Emission	cried	78	0.62%
25	Lodge Verbs	stopped	53	0.42%
26	Verbs of throwing	passed	47	0.37%
27	Verbs of Sounds made by animals	called	42	0.33%
28	Image Creation Verbs	set	40	0.32%
29	Verbs of grooming and bodily care	set	40	0.32%

Based on the data displayed in the table above, there are 29 verb classes by Levin (1993) used in the mostly occurred verbs in the corpus. According to the table, the highest five of verb classes rank that frequently used in the selected corpus are occupied by: 1) Verbs with Predicative

Complements with the total number of frequency 1846 tokens, 2) Verbs of Communication with total number of repetition 1628 tokens, 3) Verbs of Motion covers some verb types in the corpus for 1319 repetition in all, 4) Verbs of Creation and Transformation frequently used for 985 repetition, 5) Verbs of Change of Possession in total number 905 frequency. While, the Image Creation Verbs and Verbs of Grooming and Bodily care are the least classes of verbs with only 40 times tokens used in the corpus.

The first most verb category often used in the selected children short story corpus is Verbs with predicative complements with the result of calculation in the number of 1846 repetition in total. According to Levin (1993), verbs with the predicative complement is used to describe properties of entities or object (Levin, 1993). It often found into variety of frames like 'NP V NP NP', 'NP V NP as NP', 'NP V NP to be NP', as well as 'NP V NP AP'. Verbs of predicative complements includes around 8 subclasses such as appoint verbs, characterize verbs, dub verbs, declare verbs, conjecture verbs, masquerade verbs, orphan verbs, captain verbs. Some verbs include to the member of these categories are found in the result of verbs lists, they are want, know, hold, feel, believe, etc. The highest rank for verbs in this category is verb know that appear in the corpus 211 times.

Hereinafter, the example of sentences found in the children short stories using the verbs with predicative complement such as know, want and found. The first example was extracted from short story of *The Hand* by Guy de Maupassant.

“Ladies, there is my story. I know nothing more.”

<https://americanliterature.com/author/guy-de-maupassant/short-story/the-hand>

The next example is the used of verb want in the corpus short story by O. Henry entitled *Aristocracy Versus Hash*.

“...Some days ago I started out to find a boarding house, as I cannot afford to put up at a hotel. I found a nice aristocratic-looking place, that suited me, and went in and asked for the proprietress. A very stately lady with a Roman nose came in the room. She had one hand laid across her stom across her waist, and the other held a lace handkerchief. I told her I wanted board for myself and family, and she condescended to take us. I asked for her terms, and she said \$300 per week.”

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/o-henry/short-story/aristocracy-versus-hash>)

Verbs with predicative complements member ‘found’ also appear in frame such as 'NP V NP AP' that can be discovered in sentence in the story of Richard Connel entitled *The Most Dangerous Game*, as follows.

“...Night found him leg-weary, with hands and face lashed by the branches, on a thickly wooded ridge. He knew it would be insane to blunder on through the dark, even if he had the strength. His need for rest was imperative and he thought, "I have played the fox, now I must play the cat of the fable." “

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/richard-connell/short-story/the-most-dangerous-game>)

In the next position is Verbs of Communication classes with the total number of repetition 1628 tokens. This category covers around ten verbs type in the lists which included as verbs related to transferring of ideas and

communication (Levin, 1993). Verb 'said' that is included as member of this category is one of the verbs that held the highest frequency in the corpus aside to be and auxiliary verbs. It appears in the corpus 831 times. For instance, it appears in the following sentences of short story by Junius Edwards, *Liars Don't Qualify*.

"I wouldn't go by parties. I'd read about the men and vote for a man, not a party."

"Hah," Sam said, and looked over at Charlie's bowed head.

"Hah," he said again, and turned back to Will.

"Boy, you pretty sure you can read?"

"Yes, sir."

"All right. All right. We'll see about that." Sam took a book out of his desk and flipped some pages. He gave the book to Will.

"Read that loud," he said.

(<https://www.whatsoproudlywehail.org/curriculum/the-american-calendar/liars-dont-qualify>)

The next verb from verbs of communication category mostly appear in the corpus is verb 'asked' in total number of 134 repetitions. The verb can be found in this sentence from *The Dreamer* by H.H. Munro (SAKI).

"Millicent asked me to get her a couple of decanters if there were any going really cheap," she explained on the way, "and I really do want a salad bowl. I can come back to the napkins later on."

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/hh-munro-saki/short-story/the-dreamer>)

The category of Verbs of Motion occupied the third position that covers around 12 verb types in the result list, which are came, went, left, fell, walked, etc. The verb categories appeared in the corpus 1319 in total repetition or 10.50 % of corpus. Verbs that classified in this class verbs are

mostly verbs that describe manners of movement from animate or inanimate entities (Levin, 1993). The most frequent verbs in this category is verb came and went. The following is the example of the used of verbs found in the corpus.

We came at length to the foot of the descent, and stood together on the damp ground of the catacombs of the Montresors. (Edgar Allan Poe, *The Cask of Amontillado*)
(<https://americanliterature.com/author/edgar-allan-poe/short-story/the-cask-of-amontillado>)

The verb 'went' can be found in the sentence of corpus. Story by Anton Chekov, named *A Defenseless Creature*.

Kistunov went in the morning to his office and began punctually seeing the clients of the bank and persons who had come with petitions. He looked languid and exhausted, and spoke in a faint voice hardly above a whisper, as though he were dying.

(Anton Chekov, *A Defenseless Creature*)
(<https://americanliterature.com/author/anton-chekhov/short-story/a-defenseless-creature>)

The fourth group of verbs is verbs of creation and transformation that covers around 7.84% verbs in the corpus or 985 frequency of repetition in total. Verbs of creation and transformation according to Levin is verbs that categorize to describe verbs that act as an agent that creates or transform entity (Levin, 1993). The most frequent verbs occurred by this category are verb 'made' and 'took'. The following are sentences which happened to use these verbs in the corpus.

Such were his thoughts, but he did not sit and think them. He was busy all the time they were passing through his mind, he made a new foundation for a fire, this time in the open; where

no treacherous tree could blot it out. (Jack London, *To Build A Fire*) (<https://americanliterature.com/author/jack-london/short-story/to-build-a-fire>)

The verb took could be found in the corpus story by H.G. Wells, *The Treasure in The Forest*.

He took the ends of the collar of the coat in his hands, and Evans took the opposite corners, and they lifted the mass. "Which way?" said Evans. "To the canoe?" (H.G. Wells, *The Treasure in The Forest*) (<https://americanliterature.com/author/hg-wells/short-story/the-treasure-in-the-forest>)

The fifth category of verbs is verbs of change of possession. It counted around 905 verbs repetition or 7.20% verbs frequency in the corpus. The member of this category that can be classified from the result of verb types listed before are get, reached, caught, left, given, etc. The verbs that were identified to this class according to Levin (1993) are verbs describing change of possession. The most verbs used which included in this class is verb 'get'.

He went to get the new necklace, laying upon the jeweler's counter thirty-six thousand francs. (Guy De Maupassant, *The Diamond Necklace*) (<https://americanliterature.com/author/guy-de-maupassant/short-story/the-diamond-necklace>)

Another example of the used of this verbs in the corpus could be shown in this sentence from short story by Bret Harte, *The Luck of The Roaring Camp*.

"...They've got vines and flowers round their houses, and they wash themselves twice a day. But they're mighty rough

on strangers, and they worship an Ingin baby.”
(<https://americanliterature.com/author/bret-harte/short-story/the-luck-of-roaring-camp>)

Lastly, the category which ranked the least as the most frequently used verbs in the corpus are Image Creation Verbs and Verbs of grooming and bodily care. According to Levin (1993), the set of verbs in this class identifies verbs concerning to image creation on the surface. Whereas, the verbs of grooming and bodily care contain verbs set relating to taking care or grooming whole or part of the body. Both classification has the same calculation of frequency percentage which is 0.32% with the amount of frequency 40 times and same only verb member found in the corpus verb type list which is ‘set’. The verb could be found in the following sentences in the corpus.

“...he set his eyes upon his good falcon, perched in a small room; and since he had nowhere else to turn,...” (Giovanni Boccaccio, *Federigo’s Falcon*)
(<https://americanliterature.com/author/giovanni-boccaccio/short-story/federigos-falcon>)

Another example can be taken from the short story corpus entitled *Maine to The Rescue* by Laura E. Richards.

“...She set her teeth, folded her arms tightly, and stooping forward, measured her strength once more with that of the gale...” (<https://americanliterature.com/author/laura-e-richards/short-story/maine-to-the-rescue>)