

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses about background of the study, statement of the research problem, research objective, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of the key term.

### **A. Background of the Study**

The corpus helps English to develop rapidly in modern era. Bianchi (2012:31) says that corpus (plural:corpora) is collection of texts in electronic format. Further, Kida (2013:133) writes that corpus is something new in linguistics field. It is just pop up around 1960 side by side with the computer development. However, in corpus first debut, linguistics field was dominated by generative grammar. Lindquist (2009:1) says that the idea of using electronic corpus started around 1960, right after the computer spreading. Meyer (2004:1) tells that in 1960s there was a first corpora namely brown corpus at Brown University, US. Further, Lindquist also writes that corpus has grown spread widely in the 2000s.

Corpus has several advantages in linguistic field. Lindquist (2009:9) mentions that there are some benefits of corpus, as follow: objective, easy to verified, easy to use, ideal for native speakers, and many more. Further, Meyer (2004:11) says that corpora can be useful in linguistic research as source. For example, a lot of lexicographers found that it is possible to create dictionary effectively by studying word usage in corpora. Additionally, Meyer writes that corpus introduced a new point of view to traditional research question.

Since corpus is collection of texts that stored on electronic media, there are some corpora that are consist of fairy tales. Vuckovic (2018: 309-310) Fairy tale is invented as children's literature. Further he says that fairy tales are inspirational, and it is transposed from media to media including electronic media. This kind of corpora is easy to find on internet. The fairy tales that is used as source on this research are <https://fairytalez.com/>, <https://www.storynory.com/>, and <https://americanliterature.com/>.

Nowadays, corpus is developed in new level of linguistic. There are several research that studying about corpus that is developed in various language. Ryoo (2013) conducted a research about phrasal verbs (PV) in a corpus of Korean EFL students' writing. This research was focused in understanding of Korean students on English in general. A corpus was compiled by 257 essay from students' essay contest. Then the researcher identified the most frequent verbs and adverbial particles in PV, and compared with British National Corpus (BNC). It was found that 4 most frequent verb and adverbial particles in both corpora were almost identical like the word go, came, and adverbial particles such as up, out. Moreover, the result more than half of 20 verbs overlapped. The researcher concluded that Korean EFL student's lack of the competence of general phrasal verb. This research also discussed about implication of the findings English language teaching and learning. While in current research, the researcher is conduct a research to know the frequent verb that occur in fairy tales, and the research is conducted in Indonesia.

The frequent verb was investigated on news text corpus. Oktavianti and Ardianti (2019) hold a research about verb in the news section of The Jakarta Post

to find out the frequency of verbs and their relation to the characteristics of the news text. This study by using Scheibmann (combining Halliday's verb taxonomy and Dixon's verb types) as base of verb classification. Moreover, in calculating the frequency the researcher using the Lancsbox corpus tool. This investigate the Jakarta Post corpus consist of hard news articles from October to December 2018 with total size 21.682 words. The researcher found out that verbal type is the most frequently used, then there are verb types of material and existential. While, the most rarely used verb is corporeal and perceptual. The category of verbal type is the most frequent verbs because the function of news text is to deliver information to the reader. Further, have material verb which also have a frequent because it shows concrete action and existential verb that are imperative in building news text. Furthermore, corporeal and perceptual/relational types are rarely used because they show bodily gestures and subjectively. The conclusion of this research showed that frequency of verb consider with text characteristics. Event both previous research and current research use verb as parameter, but they use different kind of text as subject. The previous research investigate verb on news text, while the current research investigate verb on fairy tales. Additionally, the classification used to analyze verbs is also different.

Then, the frequent adjective was investigated on covid-19 corpus. Astia & Yunianti 2020, conducted this research with the aim of knowing the type of most frequent adjective and the use of the function of adjectives in academic writing about covid. The corpus tool that used in this research is sketchengine. In clarifying adjectives, the researcher uses a clarification from Khamying (2007). The results of

the clarification show that descriptive adjectives are the most frequently occurring adjectives that function to describe the condition, situation, and characteristic of the noun on the COVID-19 cases, with a percentage of 70%, then there are quantitative adjectives with a percentage of 20%, and there are two clarifications of adjectives with the same percentage of 5%, namely Emphasizing and Numeral. The difference between them is the previous research examined adjective, while current research examines verb, the previous used article about covid19 as source, while current research uses fairy tales as source.

Further, verbal adjective that collocated with “excited” also was investigated. Sturdy (2017) conducted a research about verbal adjective, but the researcher only analyzed and discussed about adjective that end with -ed. The focus word of this research was “excited”. So the researcher also analyze the word that collocate with excited. The researcher inspected the how many and how often the verb that collocated with excited was occur. There are two verbs from COCA data (Corpus of Contemporary American English) that frequently collocates with the adjective "excited", the verb are "be" and "get". The result of this research showed that the student cannot differ the word be and get in collocate with excited. While, in current research, conducting about the frequency of verb based on English Verb Classes and Alternations by Beth Levin (1993).

The previous research also observed about collocation that use by non-native speaker students. Wu (2016) investigated the collocations; adverb-verb/verb-adverb in Native Speaker and Chinese Learners English. The purpose of this research is to find out the variety in using adverb-verb/verb-adverb collocations in

Chinese Learners' English. While, in the current research, researcher focus on verb that appear frequently. Further, Wu involved a Chinese Learner Corpus as well as two corpora of native-speaker English that is the British Academic Written English (BAWE) corpus, and the Michigan Corpus of Upper-level Student Papers (MICUSP). The result of the study showed that the use of amplifier collocation was highly frequent in Chinese Learners' English with the frequency 103. The research also found that the students favored speech-like collocation such as just necessity and express them. Further, comparable to the position of adverbs, it showed clearly that the adv.-V-O sequence often appeared in the students. However, this research focused on wide range such collocation, so it needs more specific research to investigate deeper.

Another previous research about corpus is research that inspect pronoun and verbs in adult speech. Laakso and Smith (2007) investigated pronouns and verbs in adult speech to children as a corpus analysis. This research reports a case study on the relation between pronoun usage on Child Direct Speech (CDS) and broad verb classes. A corpus analysis showed statistical stabilities in occurrence between pronouns and verbs that could cues physical and psychological verb. In this case, surface orderliness are informative for encourage the broad semantic classification. The researcher in this research hoped that children might be helped to learn about verb. While, the current research also investigates about verb but it verb that occur in fairy tales frequently. Thus, the current research in line with previous research that is helping students in learning verb.

From the investigations that have been carried out above, it can be seen that the study of corpora is growing rapidly in linguistic research in various fields of language. McCarthy (2004:02) defines corpora comes with various languages and collected with different purposes as well. Corpus can be used to organize dictionaries, reference materials in studying grammar and vocabulary, and so on. However, from several previous studies, no researcher has tried to study the verbs that are most often used in fairy tales. Therefore, the researcher expects to find out the frequent verbs that occur in fairy tales.

The knowledge about the most frequently used verbs and their role can be improve students' vocabulary mastery. In the linguistic field, verb is an important element in developing language skills, such as speaking, listening, writing, and reading. Wu (1994) says that verb gives great impact on quality of lexical selection. It may shows the situation as well. As a measuring instrument, there is an English course book entitled *English Verb Classes and Alternations* by Beth Levin (1993). In that book, Levin classifies verb into more than 30 classifications. Some of them are verb of communication, verb of motion, verb of sending and carrying, etc. in the book, Levin mentions the classification of verb with its class members and comments.

In good communication, vocabulary mastery such as adjective, noun, adverb, pronoun is still lacking in making good communication. Therefore, they need to use verbs to communicate, transfer ideas, or convey messages in building communication. Thus, researchers are interested in studying the verb. There are several sources can be used to increase vocabulary knowledge, such as fairy tales

text. The reason of researcher chose this fairy tale is that to increase vocabulary, it is easier to know the words that are easy to understand first. Riyatun (2007:4) says that verb is important in learning narrative especially fairy tales. Further, Riyatun says that verb is important in communication to deliver the meaning of a conversation. While, Goh, Soon, & Haw (2012:395) tells that verb can be used to identify the protagonist of fairy tales. It can be concluded that knowing vocabulary, especially verbs in fairy tales, can be used by students to help improve their ability to understand verbs in communication. Because of the statements above, researcher conduct a researcher entitled **“The Corpus Analysis of The Most Frequently Used Verbs in Fairy Tales”**

In this research, the finding may help fill the gap that appear in previous research about corpus because there is no research that investigate about verb in fairy tales. Further, the research about verb in fairy tales is important because the verb is part of speech that shows the activity or state of subject, and fairy tales is kind of narrative text that mainly in form of storytelling. Thus, understanding about verb is crucial in fairy tales.

#### **B. Statement of Research Problem**

Based on the background of the research above, researcher formulated the research question “what are the most frequent verbs and their role in fairy tales?”

#### **C. Research Objective**

Based on the statement of the research problem above, this research aimed at to know the most frequent verbs and their role in fairy tales.

#### **D. Significance of the Study**

By knowing the most frequent verb in fairy tales, the researcher expect that there are some significances of this research, as follow:

1. The students

Students can understand about verb in fairy tales easily by knowing the most frequent kind of verb that occur.

2. English teachers

English teachers are able to explain about fairy tales, especially when they explain about verb that are used in fairy tales.

3. The other researcher

The next researcher can use this study as a reference to conduct his study in a similar study or to find deeper and more detailed analyzes, also to evaluate the shortage of the previous study.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation of the Research**

In order to escape the misunderstanding about the purpose of this research, the researcher focuses on the most frequent verb that used in fairy tales. The fairy tales are accessed and downloaded on <https://fairytales.com/>, <https://www.storynory.com/>, and <https://americanliterature.com/>.

Further, English Verb Classes and Alternations by Beth Levin (1993) as the source as measuring instrument to examine this research. This book explain clearly about the classifications of verb.



Instead of investigating all of part of speech, the researcher only inspects verb. This happen because the limitation of researcher's time and source. Further, that reason also limits the researcher to investigate verb in other kinds of corpora.

## **F. Definition of Key Term**

### **a. Corpus**

In this research, corpus is collection of text that is collected on internet. Bianchi (2012:31) says that corpus (plural: corpora) is collection of texts in electronic format. Thus every text that stored on electronic media, such as internet, computer, smartphone, etc. in this research, the researcher use texts that are stored on the Internet, especially <https://fairytalez.com/>, <https://www.storynory.com/>, and <https://americanliterature.com/>.

### **b. Verb**

In this research, verb in part of speech that show the action of the subject. Wu (1994) says that verb gives great impact on quality of lexical selection. It may shows the situation as well. Further, based on the oxford advanced learner's dictionary (1995), verb is a gathering of words that expresses an action such as eat, an event such as happen, or a state such as exist. Thus verb is a word or group of words that show action, event or state, and gives great effect to a sentence.

### **c. Fairy tales**

In this research, fairy tales is short fiction literature that tell story about magical things. Vuckovic (2018:309-310) Fairy tale is invented as children's literature. Further he says that fairy tales are inspirational, and it is transposed from

media to media including electronic media. In this research, the researcher use fairy tales from few countries that are chosen randomly.