

## The Analysis of Adjectives Found in Sophie Kinsella's Novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* and Its Application In Teaching Writing

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**Abstract.** This study aims to find out types of adjectives in the Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* and to describe its application in teaching writing in Senior High School. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative because the process of data collecting is done by classifying types of adjectives in the Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic*, and the researcher is as the key instrument. In collecting the data, the researcher reads the novel of *Confessions of a Shopaholic*, comprehends the novel and finds the adjectives found in the novel. While in analyzing data, the researcher gives code to the data, classifies the types of adjectives found, counts the data, applies the finding in teaching writing and then draws conclusion and suggestion. The result of this research shows that there are 310 adjectives. Based on the result of the analysis, there are 170 descriptive adjectives (54.8%), 14 proper adjectives (4.6%), 8 quantitative adjectives (2.7%), 23 numeral adjectives (7.4%), 10 demonstrative adjectives (3.3%), 10 interrogative adjectives (3.3%), 47 possessive adjectives (15.3%), 15 distributive adjectives (4.4%), 5 exclamatory adjectives (1.6%), 2 emphasizing adjectives (0.7%), and 6 relative adjectives (1.9%). Further, descriptive adjective is the most dominant type of adjectives found.

**Keywords:** Analysis, Adjective, Novel, Teaching Writing

### 1. Introduction

Language is a dynamic and flexible tool that plays an important role in communication [1]. English is an International language and used in various fields including technology, trade, tourism, science and education. In Indonesia, English has been integrated into the school curriculum as a compulsory subject, starting from elementary schools and extending to universities.

For students, writing is often considered difficult due to its complex components, such as grammar. Besides, students also have to think of idea, arrange the words coherently and arrange the sentences grammatically [2]. Additionally, higher education students often unable to construct ideas about a topic that they want to write and struggle to paraphrase someone else's ideas [3]. There are four things that have to be conducted before writing: pre-writing, drafting, reviewing and revising, and rewriting [4].

In writing, students need to understand adjectives for forming the words [5]. Adjective is a significant class of words that is conventionally known for containing describing words that provide information about a noun [6]. They are an essential part of the sentence structure and help to convey meaning and detail in communication. Understanding the role of adjectives in word classes is crucial for correct usage and effective communication in the English language

Analyzing adjectives can be conducted in a novel. It has been said that literary text including novel is a fast-growing media in the education field, ESL/EFL and learning style [7]. Literature like novel can be a way out to encourage students to read English materials and then poured into the writings. *Confessions of a Shopaholic* novel is interesting to be a teaching media for writing because it uses many adjectives and it is young adult novel which is suitable for high school students in their age.

According to Andrea de Capua (as cited in [8]), adjectives are often identified based on its inherent descriptive properties noun. It is also supported by [9], adjectives are used to provide description for both nouns and pronouns. According to [10], the function of adjectives are:

- a) To specify the features of people, pets, objects, or locations by evaluating or rating them.
- b) To express someone's or something's possession of a noun.

- c) To analyze particular facts using modifying nouns.
  - d) To modify a noun by adding a noun modifier either in singular or plural form.
  - e) To change nouns for particular information within a considerable period of time
- Another statement says that based on their positions, adjectives are divided into attributive and predicative [11]. Generally, an adjective is said to have an attributive function when it appears in a noun phrase and modifies the noun, as in “the empty room”. An adjective is said to have a predicative function when it appears in the predicative position, as in “the room is empty” [12] Eleven types of adjectives in English according to [13] are as below:
- a) Descriptive Adjective  
Descriptive adjective is used to give a person, animal, object, or location an attribute or qualification in order to explain its characteristics, for example: She is beautiful, I have a big house.
  - b) Proper Adjective  
Proper adjective is a type of adjective that refers to the name of a specific person, place, or thing. Words denoting languages, nationalities, and ethnic groups (such as "Japanese," "Dayak," and "French") as well as terms formed from people's names (such as "Bayesian," "Orwellian") are examples of proper adjectives, for example: The Elizabethan era ended with the death of Queen Elizabeth, I am Chinese.
  - c) Quantitative Adjective  
Quantitative adjective refers to how much/amount of a thing. It is used with uncountable nouns that includes any, half, whole, little, much, some, etc, for example: Mr. Johnson has much money.
  - d) Numeral Adjective  
Numeral adjective refers to how many or in what order people/things are. It is used with countable nouns that includes several, few, many, four, second, etc, for example: Her score is 9.5, She got second chance to win that game
  - e) Demonstrative Adjective  
Demonstrative adjective is used to indicate whether the noun changing is singular or plural and how far it is positioned from the speaker or writer. It includes this, that, these and those, for example: That big house is luxurious.
  - f) Interrogative adjective  
Interrogative adjective is used to change the word in the form of question. An interrogative adjective is a word that modifies a noun or pronoun in order to ask a question. It includes which, what, and whose, for example: Which cakes do you choose?
  - g) Possessive Adjective  
Possessive adjective is used to show possession of a noun by someone or something. It includes my, your, his, her, our, their, its, for example: That man is my uncle.
  - h) Distributive Adjective  
Distributive adjective is used to alter a word by breaking it apart or dividing it into several pieces. It refers to member of a group to emphasize the distribution of the items within the groups. It includes each, every, either, neither, any, for example: Every student gives donation to Palestine.
  - i) Emphasizing Adjective  
Emphasizing adjective is used to emphasize the noun by underlining or emphasizing the texts and used to give importance to the noun. It includes extremely, incredibly, very, totally, etc, for example: Eating an ice – cream in a hot day is extremely bliss.

- j) Exclamatory Adjective  
Exclamatory adjective is used with a noun by using interjection. It is used to express strong emotions or feelings. It is typically found to convey surprise, excitement or other strong emotions. It includes what, for example: what a big house it is!
- k) Relative Adjective  
Relative adjective are those that are used to introduce relative sentences and modify nouns and it is used within a sentence, for example: I do not know what language they use.

Khamying's theory has a number of advantages. Its capacity to clarify meaning differences between grammatically related languages is one of its primary benefits. Additionally, this theory could predict potential sentence patterns that might be used in a specific language and explain meaning gaps in structurally distinct languages.

## 2. Method

According to Bogdan and Biklen (as cited in [14], qualitative research has the following features:

- a) The primary tool in qualitative research is the researcher, who also serves as a direct source of data.
- b) Research regarded as qualitative is descriptive. Instead of using numbers to represent the data, words and images are used.
- c) Rather than focusing only on results or products, qualitative research evaluates the process.
- d) Inductive data analysis is a usual technique in qualitative research.
- e) The qualitative approach requires the concept of "meaning".

To sum up, qualitative research includes the importance of people's subjective experiences and meaning-making process and acquiring a depth of understanding. Based on Sugiyono's theory, this research belongs to descriptive qualitative.

According to Widoyoko (as cited in [15]), in collecting data sources, researchers can use audio, books, documents, and even other printed materials. In conducting this research, the researcher uses a novel written by Sophie Kinsella entitled *confessions of a shopaholic* as the data source.

according to [16], the unit of analysis is how a research element is analyzed for particular topic and it is crucial to make conclusions from this. Clauses found in Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* serve as the analytical unit for this study.

The Method of collecting data is using documentation method. Documentation method is method that finds out the data about things or variables such as note, transcript, book, newspaper, magazine, epigraph, etc. These sources provide valuable information in helping researchers understand central phenomena in qualitative studies [17]. In collecting data, the researcher takes several steps as the following:

- a) Reading the novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic*.
- b) Comprehending the novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic*.
- c) Finding the adjectives found in the novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic*.

## 3. Findings

In analyzing the data, the researcher uses Khamying's theory. The theory states there are eleven types of adjective: Descriptive, Proper, Quantitative, Numeral, Demonstrative, Interrogative, Possessive, Distributive, Exclamatory, Emphasizing and Relative. The objective of the research is to find out the types of adjectives in the Sophie Kinsella's novel [18] and to describe the application of the adjectives found in the novel in teaching writing. The finding of the research can be seen in the table below:

Table 1. Types of adjectives found in the Sophie Kinsella's novel

*Confessions of a shopaholic* based on Khamying's Theory

No	Types of Adjectives	Frequency	Percentage
1	Descriptive	170	54.8%
2	Proper	14	4.6%
3	Quantitative	8	2.7%
4	Numeral	23	7.4%
5	Demonstrative	10	3.3%
6	Interrogative	10	3.3%
7	Possessive	47	15.3%
8	Distributive	15	4.4%
9	Exclamatory	5	1.6%
10	Emphasizing	2	0.7%
11	Relative	6	1.9%
Total		310	100%

The most dominant type of adjective found in the novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* based on Khamying theory is descriptive with the total of 310 (54.8%). While the least dominant type of adjective found is emphasizing with the total of 2 (0.7 %).

#### 4. Discussion

The researcher finds eleven types of adjectives from Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* based on the theory of Khamying. There are 310 adjectives that have been found by researcher. Based on their position in the sentence and its function, adjective is divided into two parts; attributive and predicative. Attributive adjectives are adjectives that are directly adjacent to the noun or pronoun they modify, for example: She has beautiful eyes. Predicative adjectives are adjectives that modify or describe the subject of a sentence or clause and are linked to the subject by a linking verb, for example: She is beautiful. The detail explanations are as follows:

##### a. Types of Adjectives found

##### 1) Descriptive Adjective

- a) *Mum's terrible. She's always buying new stuff for the kitchen.* (P 49, L 36)

In this sentence, *terrible* is a descriptive adjective because it provides additional information about the quality or nature of the person being described. From the position, it is predicative adjective because it follows the linking verb "is"

- b) *I thought we'd just have a nice quiet supper.* (P 196, L 25)

The adjective *nice* is a descriptive adjective because nice modifies the noun supper and could imply positive feeling associated with the meal. Based on the position, it is attributive adjective because nice is adjacent to the noun supper.

##### 2) Proper Adjective

- a) *I'm really interested in Korean art.* (P 98, L 29)

The adjective *Korean* is a proper adjective because it refers to the name of a specific place and modifies the noun art.

- b) *I know, but I'm as excited as a little kid on Christmas Day.* (P 244, L2)

The adjective *Christmas* is a proper adjective because it refers to a specific event and begin with a capital letter and modifies the noun Christmas.

##### 3) Quantitative Adjective

- a) *Part of my brain knows that I've got plenty of time to get to Denny and George.* (P 32, L 7)

The adjective *Plenty of* is a quantitative adjective because it tells the amount of time and it modifies the noun time.

- b) Instead of wasting lots of money on an expensive takeaway. (P 94, L 24)  
The adjective *Lots of* is a quantitative adjective because it tells the amount of money and modifies the noun money.
- 4) **Numeral Adjective**
- a) *Although she's twenty-five, like me, her parents still give her pocket.* (P 36, L 18)  
The adjective *Twenty-five* is a numeral adjective because it modifies pronoun she with the position after linking verb called a predicative adjective. It also gives information about its quantity.
- b) *This was the crucial third date.* (P 38, L 29)  
The adjective *Third* is a numeral adjective because it is an adjective that expresses a numerical order and modifies the noun date.
- 5) **Demonstrative Adjective**
- a) *These grey trousers don't really flatter me.* (P 130, L 33)  
The adjective *These* is a demonstrative adjective because it modifies the noun trousers and these indicates the trousers are close to the speaker in space.
- b) *In a few minutes those balls are going to fall.* (P 58, L 8)  
The adjective *Those* is a demonstrative adjective because it modifies the noun balls and those is used to specifically describe the position of something in space.
- 6) **Interrogative Adjective**
- a) *So, they started applying to Metalwork Monthly and what investment plan it is?* (P 18, L 7)  
The adjective *what* is an interrogative adjective because it modifies the noun investment plan by asking a question.
- b) *More to the point, how much money must Flagstaff Life have saved?* (P 236, L 1)  
The adjective *how much* is an interrogative adjective because it modifies the noun money and functions to ask about the quantity.
- 7) **Possessive Adjective**
- a) *She's sorting all her letters into neat piles.* (P 13, L 30)  
The adjective *her* is a possessive adjective because it shows possession of the noun letters and modifies the noun letters.
- b) *Their scarves and pashminas are so coveted.* (P21, L 21)  
The adjective *Their* is a possessive adjective because it shows possession of the noun scarves and pashminas and modifies the noun scarves and pashminas.
- 8) **Distributive Adjective**
- a) *Each candidates has his own strengths and weakness.* (P 123, L 18)  
The adjective *Each* is a distributive adjective because it refers to individual member of a group and emphasize that something applies to each member separately. *Each* modifies the noun candidates.
- b) *Every employee in the company is dedicated to their job.* (P 253, L 14)  
The adjective *Every* is a distributive adjective because it refers to individual member of a group. *Every* modifies the noun employee.
- 9) **Exclamatory Adjective**
- a) *Everyone talks all the time about what a man he is!* (P 22, L 33)  
The adjective *What* is an exclamatory adjective because it expresses strong emotion and typically followed by an exclamation mark (!). In this phrase, the exclamatory adjective expresses admiration. *What* modifies the noun a man.
- b) *God, what a job!* (P 263, L 17)  
The adjective *What* is an exclamatory adjective because it expresses strong emotion and typically followed by an exclamation mark (!). It is used to express strong disbelief. *What* modifies the noun a job.

10) **Emphasizing Adjective**

- a) *I can't move. It's taking place, before my very eyes.* (P 60, L 18)  
The adjective *very* is an emphasizing adjective because it is used to modify the noun eyes and emphasize the noun.
- b) *It's quite an easy time of the month for successful saving.* (P 77, L 22)  
The adjective *quite* is an emphasizing adjective because it is used to modify the noun time and emphasize the noun.

11) **Relative Adjective**

- a) *I'm just wandering along trying to work out what direction they're coming from.* (P 179, L 11)  
The adjective *What* is relative adjective because it modifies the noun direction and also relates the clause using "what"
- b) *Do you remember which company the policy was with?* (P 292, L 35)  
The adjective *Which* is relative adjective because it modifies the noun company and also relates the clause using "which".

**b. The Application of Adjectives Found in Sophie Kinsella's Novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* in Teaching Writing**

The Application of Adjectives Found in Sophie Kinsella's Novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* can be applied in teaching writing using teaching module of Merdeka Curriculum by identifying the different types of adjectives in the novel, explaining functions of adjectives in the novel and using adjectives effectively in student's writing.

Series of student's activities to use adjectives in their writing can be done. Some ideas are assigning creative writing tasks where students can employ their knowledge of adjectives to create vivid description, showing pictures of objects and then asking students to come up with adjectives to describe them, asking students to make assumptions about characters in the novel they do not know well and use adjectives to describe them.

**5. Conclusion**

The analysis of adjectives found in Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* has shown that the use of adjectives is a powerful tool in creating vivid and engaging writing. The novel uses a variety of adjectives to describe characters, settings, and emotions, which helps to create a rich and immersive reading experience. Based on the result of data analysis, there are eleven types of adjectives found in Sophie Kinsella's novel *Confessions of a Shopaholic* based on the theory of Khamying. The total of adjectives are 310. There are 170 descriptive adjectives (54.8,5%), 14 proper adjectives (4.6%), 8 quantitative adjectives (2.7%), 23 numeral adjectives (7.4%), 10 demonstrative adjectives (3.3%), 10 interrogative adjectives (3.3%), 47 possessive adjectives (15.3%), 15 distributive adjectives (4.4%), 5 exclamatory adjectives (1.6%), 2 emphasizing adjectives (0.7%) and 6 relative adjectives (1.9%). Based on the data analysis, the most dominant type is descriptive adjectives found. In addition, This research can be applied in teaching writing by encouraging students to use adjectives to create more descriptive and engaging writing. Instead of writing "The cat slept on the couch," students could write, "The sly, cunning cat stretched out lazily on the comfortable couch." By using adjectives to describe objects, actions, and emotions, writers can create more vivid and engaging stories, essays, and other forms of writing

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