THE TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF JUSTIN CHADWICK’S *THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL* MOVIE SCRIPT

By: Tuniyah

Faculty of Teacher Training and Educational Sciences, Muhammadiyah University of Purworejo

[Nia91bahagia@gmail.com](mailto:Nia91bahagia@gmail.com)

Abstract

This research is aimed to find what processes are there in a text, what participants participating, and what circumstances involved using transitivity analysis in functional grammar approach. The researcher reaches this aim by analyzing a movie script in Justin Chadwick’s *The Other Boleyn Girl.* This research is stated as descriptive qualitative research. The researcher will focus on understanding about transitivity in *The Other Boleyn* *Girl* movie script. Main data for this research is a movie script. Those clauses are taken from a movie script entitled *The Other Boleyn Girl* as the source of the data*.* The researcher takes the steps of watching movie, downloading movie script, dividing clauses, analyzing clause and explaining how the process occurs. The result of the research shows that there are six processes occurred in *The Other Boleyn girl* movie script. They are material, mental, behavioral, verbal, relational and existential process. The participants which accompany the processes are all found; actor, goal, recipient, senser, phenomenon, behaver, sayer, verbiage, receiver, carrier*,* attribute, token, value, and existent. The circumstances which appear in those clauses are circumstance of time, circumstance of place, circumstance of accompaniment, circumstance of cause behalf, circumstance of manner quality, and circumstance of matter.The researcher hopes that the students, especially English students in university, can gain the better knowledge from many sources whether they are textbooks, authentic materials or research writings because functional grammar has been one of the subjects to learn in the university.

Keywords: Transitivity analysis, movie script, *The Other Boleyn Girl*

1. Background

In the previous grammar study, grammar is seen as set of rules which specify all the possible grammatical structure of language (Lock, 1996:1). Richards and Schmidt (2002:230) define grammar as a description of the structure of a language and the way in which linguistic units such as words and phrases are combined to produce sentences in the language. When we communicate with sentences and utterances, we use them to represent some experiences or describing the real or unreal world. In the sentences we made, there is event or process described, participant included, and circumstance conditioned. We call that situation as transitivity.

Transitivity analysis has been widely used to understand the writers’ or speakers’ language. Transitivity talks about the function of the clause as representation. It explore the clause in its what-does-what-to-whom, who/what-what/who, when, where, why, and how function (Gerot and Wignell, 1995:52). Transitivity analysis examines the structure of sentences which are represented by processes, the participants involved in those processes, and the circumstances in which the participants are involved in those processes. In this context, process is described as kind of event or state.

Materials, mental and relational are the main types of process in the English transitivity system. However, there are further categories located in the three boundaries which are not so clearly set apart. Between ‘material’ and ‘mental’ are the behavioral processes. Between ‘mental’ and ‘relational’ is the category of verbal processes. Between the ‘relational’ and the ‘material’ are the processes concerned with existence, the existential (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004:171). The participant is the actor, the sayer, or the senser of the process described. The circumstance specifies when, where, why, and how of the processes.

The problem statement of this study is what types of process, participant, and circumstance are found in Justin Chadwick’s *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script. The objective of this study is to find the types of process, participant, and circumstances found in Justin Chadwick’s *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script.

1. Research Method

The researcher, in this research, uses a descriptive qualitative research which focuses on understanding about transitivity of *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script. The researcher is the key instrument to examine the document formed as movie script as the data. The qualitative researchers collect data themselves through examining documents, observing behavior, and interviewing the participants (Dawson, 2007:38).

Richard and Schmidt (2002:142) states that data is information, evidence or facts gathered through experiments or studies which can be analyzed in order to better the understanding of a phenomenon or to support a theory. The main data for this research is a movie script. The script will be divided into clauses because transitivity explore clause as representation. Those clauses are taken from a movie script entitled *The Other Boleyn Girl* as the source of the data.

The researcher makes the analysis easy using coding data because the researcher uses some shortening on the name of the processes and circumstances which may be found on the clauses (e.g. Material process: Mat P., Mental process: Men P.). The researcher collects the data she need in *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script in the form of clauses. Each clause in the movie script will be analyzed for their processes, participants, and circumstances as the components of transitivity. Here are the steps of collecting data in this research: Watching *The Other Boleyn Girl*, downloading the movie, dividing the movie script into clauses, taking some random clauses for each process to analyze, deciding the participants and circumstances in each process and explaining how the process occur in the clauses. The researcher divides the clauses to classify them into types of process, the participants involved, and the circumstances with the transitivity analysis. Consider the following examples:

I received a request for marriage today. (Taken from The Other Boleyn Girl movie script)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| I | received | a request for marriage | today |
| Actor | Mat P. | Goal | Circ T. |

I is pronoun acts as actor

Received a verb, represents the process o doing, so the verb “received” is material process

A request for marriage is the goal

Today is circumstances of time

The clause employs material process because receive is to get or accept something sent or given. It physically does something.

1. Finding and Discussion

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NO | KIND OF PROCESS | PROCESS | PARTICIPANT | CIRCUMSTANCE |
| 1 | Material | have found, got up, will spend, has arranged, will give, have shown, will go | Actor (e.g. you)  Goal (e.g. the right man)  Recipient (e.g. Henry Tudor) | Circumstance of time (e.g. in the middle of the night)  Circumstance of place (e.g. here )  Circumstance of manner means (e.g. by stamping their little feet)  Circumstance of manner quality (e.g. simply)  Circumstance of manner comparison (e.g. a lot better  than a merchant's son)  Circumstance of accompaniment (e.g. with the king)  Circumstance of matter (e.g. of a daughter)  Circumstance of cause behalf (e.g. for her own protection)  Circumstance of cause reason (e.g. because I trust you)  Circumstance of cause purpose (e.g. for yourself  and for this family)  Circumstance of role (e.g. as your sister's daughter) |
| 2 | Mental | like, understands,  knows, have forgotten, have loved, saw, will hear | Senser (e.g. Anne)  Phenomenon (e.g. His face) |
| 3 | Behavioral | snores, bleeds,  have lain, takes,  can’t listen, may give birth | Behaver (e.g.  the queen) |
| 4 | Verbal | said, 've persuaded, have to tell, have been summoned, says,  was going to suggest, has requested | Sayer (e.g. He)  Addressee (e.g. father)  Verbiage (e.g. to spend a year or two)  Receiver (e.g. him) |
| 5 | Relational | are, will be, must be, is, have been,  ‘s | Carrier (e.g. The king)  Attribute (e.g. some kind of gift or surprise)  Token (e.g. she)  Value (e.g. the most ambitious little serpent) |
| 6 | Existential | ‘s, have been,  are, is | Existent (e.g. a strain) |

All the kind of processes can be found in *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script from the main processes (material process, mental process and relational process), and the additional processes (verbal process, behavioral and existential process). The participants which are found follow the kind of process they participate, for example, actor and goal participate in material process. The researcher writes such a complex discussion and a clear explanation to get in-depth understanding about transitivity analysis which reveals the occurrence of the participants, processes, and circumstances in English clauses generally. The researcher views that every process in the clauses at least employs one participant, for example, the material process is enough to employ just actor to be a complete clause. However, circumstance is not appeared in every clause because the need of it is optional. Also, circumstance is not the central of transitivity.

1. Conclusion and Recommendation

After doing the analysis of transitivity, the researcher concludes that all six processes are found in *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script. They are material, mental, behavioral, verbal, relational and existential process. All participant roles appear to accompany each type of the process in *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script such as actor, goal, recipient, senser, phenomenon, behaver, sayer, verbiage, receiver, carrier, attribute, token, value, and existent. The circumstances appeared in 42 clauses which are taken from *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie script such as circumstance of time, circumstance of place, circumstance of accompaniment, circumstance of cause behalf, circumstance of manner quality, and circumstance of matter.

For the readers of this research, they need to deepen their study about functional grammar that views language as the source for making meanings, on the language function as representation, in this context including transitivity system. Because many aspects in functional grammar can be used to do in future research, the researcher hopes that the future researchers are able to do the analysis on the other aspect of functional grammar such as theme / rhyme or mood / residue that is applied to the other texts. The researcher hopes that the students, especially English students in university, can gain the better knowledge from many sources whether they are textbooks, authentic materials or research writings because functional grammar has been one of the subjects to learn in the university.

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