

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the writer introduces the topic. It is divided into the following sections: Background of the Study, Research Questions, Definition of the Key Terms, Objectives of the Study, Significances of the Study, and Organization of the Thesis.

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

Language is a tool that humans use to express their thoughts and emotions. People use language to communicate with one another in everyday life. Because of its importance, language is one of the first things we learn since we were born. Language is also one of the things that distinguish us from other creatures. Without language, humans will certainly not be able to express their thoughts and feelings as they are today.

In language, there are rules that we must follow in order to use and apply them correctly. By following the rules that exist in a language that we use, others can understand our language well. English is no exception; English also has rules that we must follow to communicate correctly and adequately, whether orally or in writing.

When we learn about English, there are four skills in the English language: Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing that we should master to be able to make good communication with other people. These four skills cannot

be separated from each other. It is also a must for us to learn about Grammar to cover all of those four skills to supports us to be able to speak well, to listen well, to read well and to write well. Without learning about grammar in English and even in any other language, our sentences will be unstructured and incorrect. Hence, it will be hard for other people to understand our sentences.

In linguistic fields, there are several fields of study in English such as Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, etc. Radford (1997) says that grammar is classically subdivided into two inter-related studies: Syntax and Morphology. Syntax deals with the construction and understanding of phrases and sentences. On the other hand, Morphology deals with how words are created out of smaller units called morphemes. In English Syntax, there is a study of construction of the sentence that is called causative verbs. A causative verb is a verb that is utilized to show that the subject is not straightforwardly liable for the activity that happens. However, some other person or thing is doing the action instead. It has a unique pattern of English syntax because the causative construction adds one participant, namely the causer, to the sentence.

The reason why the writer chooses causative verbs to be analyzed is that the writer wants to know how the native English speaker is structuring causative verbs. Another reason is that it is essential for us to nonnative English speakers to know and to learn about the proper structure on how to write or talk about something that someone else does for us or another person in English because causative verb: have, get, make, and let has a different form and degree in use even though they have a close in meaning, but they are not the same.

Because as we know, based on the culture of the language, it is different from the native speaker and nonnative speaker like in Indonesia, where the meaning of causative verbs are different from what we usually know. People and students in Indonesia usually know that have means “mempunyai”, make means “membuat”, and get means “mendapatkan”, and based on the reasons above, it is quite difficult to study about causative verbs. Thus, analyzing how causative verbs are being structured by the native speaker is a great way to learn about it so we can use the causative verbs correctly.

The writer chooses a novel written by Harper Lee entitled "To Kill a Mockingbird" because after intensive reading of this novel, it is an excellent object to harvest causative verbs, and it has a good amount of causative verbs in it. The novel also has written text which helps the writer to be able to analyze the causative verbs deeply. Another reason the writer chooses this novel is because it contains a racial discrimination theme in which the powerful people is discriminating the minor people. Next, this novel is also one of the most successful and widely read novel in the United States. The incredible storyline and Harper Lee's magnificent writing style make this novel sold more than 40 million copies and has been translated into 40 different languages.

Harper Lee was born in Monroeville, Alabama, on April 28, 1926. She was the youngest of four children, to Amasa Coleman Lee and Frances Finch Lee. His father was a lawyer and editor of a local newspaper. As a child, he was very close to his school friend and neighbor, Truman Capote. Having attended Huntington College of Montgomery, he later continued to study law at the

University of Alabama. It was at the campus that he honed his writing talent by joining the editor at the campus humor magazine, Ramma-Jamma. *To Kill a Mockingbird* won the 1961 Pulitzer Award, Harper Lee was awarded the 2007 Presidential Medal of Freedom, The Highest Civilian Honor USA.

Several moral values are contained in this novel, including: do not judge someone by their appearance, actions speak louder than words, and always protect the innocent. From this novel, we can take moral value about the importance of respecting fellow human beings and not judging someone as we like. This novel also teaches us that actions are always more important than mere words. Lastly, we should not disturb or hurt people who are not guilty. It is well known that this novel contains many moral values that are useful for us to apply in this life.

The novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" has won two awards: the Pulitzer Prize in the fiction category in 1961 and the Quill Award for Audiobook in 2007. The film adaptation of this novel has also received several awards. Including the Academy Award for Best Writing (adapted screenplay) in 1963, Writers Guild of America Award for Best Written Drama in 1963, Golden Globe Award for Best Film Promoting International Understanding in 1963, and Hall of Fame – Motion Pictures in 1999. This novel becomes a classic novel that is still loved by readers worldwide to this day.

## **B. Research Questions**

Based on the background above, the writer has two research questions, which are:

1. Which are the forms of causative verbs are used in “To Kill a Mockingbird” Novel by Harper Lee?
2. What are the types of causative verbs used in “To Kill a Mockingbird” Novel by Harper Lee?

### **C. Definition of the Key Terms**

To avoid understanding, the key terms used in the study are defined as follows:

#### **1. Grammar**

According to Hirai (2009: 98), grammar investigates language unit functions and how they are used in a sentence to convey meaning. Futhermore, Gerot and Wignel (1995: 2) describe grammar as the theory of language that demonstrates how language works.

#### **2. Causative Verbs**

Based on Azar & Hagen (2017: 349), causative verbs can be used to express the idea that "X" causes "Y" to do something. In other words, when a person does something for them, he or she causes it to happen. Thus, the person does not actually do anything, but asks or forces others to do it for them. This is the interpretation of the causative verb.

#### **3. Novel**

Sumardjo (1998: 29) declares that novel is a story in which the writing structure is lengthy. This lengthy form implies that the story includes a complicated plot and has many different characters and settings.

#### 4. To Kill a Mockingbird Novel

To Kill a Mockingbird is a novel published in 1960 and written by American writer Harper Lee, this novel brings the readers an amazing story on how the human beings behave in different circumstances, to honesty and experience, thoughtfulness and savagery, love and scorn.

#### 5. Harper Lee

Harper Lee is an American writer who was born in Monroeville, Alabama, on April 28, 1926. She wrote the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" and won the 1961 Pulitzer Award. She was also awarded the 2007 Presidential Medal of Freedom, The Highest Civilian Honor USA.

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the research questions, the writer determines the objectives of the research, as follows:

1. To find out which are the forms of Causative Verbs used in "To Kill a Mockingbird" Novel
2. To find out the types of Causative Verbs used in "To Kill a Mockingbird" Novel

### **E. Significances of the Study**

The writer expects the result of the study contributes several benefits, such as: theoretically, this study can be used as a reference to the next researcher who conducts this kind of study. Practically, this study gives knowledge to writer and readers about causative verbs. It also improves the writer's skill to write an

academic writing. Pedagogically, this study invites the English teacher to analyze any kind of discourse.

#### **F. Organization of the Thesis**

To make this study easy to understand, the writer divides it into five chapters: Chapter I describes introduction. It consists of the background of the study, the research questions, the definition of the key terms, the objectives of the study, the significances of the study, and the organization of the thesis. Chapter II describes the review of related literature. It consists of the theoretical study, the previous studies, and the theoretical framework. Chapter III describes the method of investigation. It consists of the research design, the source of data, the technique of data collection, and the technique of data analysis. Chapter IV covers the findings and interpretation. Chapter V is the conclusion and suggestions.



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