A SYNTACTICAL ANALYSIS ON FUNCTION OF PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES IN "HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN" FILM SCRIPT

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Abstract

A prepositional phrase is an element of words that begins with the preposition and followed by the object of the preposition. This study analyses the function of prepositional phrase in the film script Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. The aim of this research is to identify and classify the function of prepositional phrase in the film. Data are taken from the complete script of the film Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban then analysed qualitatively to identify the function of prepositional

phrase, namely adjective phrases and adverbial phrases in sentence construction. The findings of this research show that there are 959 prepositional phrases which consist of 203 adjectival phrases and 756 adverbial phrases. The results of this study show that adverbial phrases are more often used than adjective phrases in the film script. It shows that prepositional phrase has an important role in clarifying meaning and providing broader information in the film narrative. These findings enrich the understanding of the use of prepositional phrases in film script and contribute to further studies in syntactical analysis.

Keywords: *Syntactical Analysis, Function of Prepositional Phrase, Film Script, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.*

A. Introduction

Language is the primary foundation for everyday human interaction, playing a crucial role in conveying thoughts, feelings, and ideas. More than just a communication tool, language reflects cultural diversity and social norms within society. Through language, individuals can create shared understanding, bridge differences, and form the collective identity of a community (Umam et al., 2023: 613). The study of language or Linguistics becomes key in understanding the complexity of language structure and function in social contexts. Linguistics involves not only the analysis of elements such as Phonology and Syntax but also reveals how language plays a crucial role in shaping culture, identity, and social interaction (Losi et al., 2023:2). By preserving language diversity and supporting the conservation of minority languages, society can maintain cultural heritage, ensure the continuity of traditions, and foster a deeper understanding of human diversity through language.

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Syntax as one aspect of Linguistics that examines the structure of sentences, clauses, and phrases, involves analyzing how words are arranged and connected to form meaning. Syntax is not just a set of grammatical rules; it is closely related to how the arrangement of words influences the meaning of a sentence. Through an understanding of syntax, the role of each element in a sentence, such as subject, predicate, object, and modifier, is comprehended (Susanti et al., 2023: 133).

Syntactical Analysis as the study of language structure, encompasses the examination of various aspects, one of which is the prepositional phrase. This research focuses on the prepositional phrase by discussing the arrangement of the preposition and its object, forming a construction that significantly contributes to the meaning of a sentence. Syntactic analysis of the prepositional phrase not only considers its grammatical aspects but also explores how its usage affects the overall sentence structure (Shpit, 2023: 147).

In syntactical analysis understanding the prepositional phrase helps break down how the relationship between these elements modifies and complements the meaning of a sentence (Agajie, 2020: 368). This research can unravel the structural complexity of the prepositional phrase, providing a deep understanding of its role and influence in constructing sentences. Syntactic analysis of the prepositional phrase can reveal how the placement of the preposition and its object influences the overall meaning of the sentence, thus making a significant contribution to clarity and expressiveness in language communication. Therefore, understanding the Syntax

of the prepositional phrase brings meaningful contributions to exploring language structure comprehensively.

The upcoming research on the syntactic analysis of the prepositional phrase in the script of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" aims to connect syntactic concepts with the unique and complex language context within the film. The focus on the Syntax of the prepositional phrase is driven by the linguistic diversity present in the script of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban." The selection of this film is based on its popularity. "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" has won several awards, such as Booklist Editor Choice Award 1999, Bram Stoker Award for Best Work for Young Readers 1999, FCBG Children's Book Award 1999, Locus Award for Best Fantasy Novel 2000. This book was also nominated for the 2000 Hugo Award for Best Novel in the Best Novel category, the first Harry Potter novel to be nominated for this award. In addition, this book was named the American Library Association Notable Children's Book in 2000 as well as one of the best books for teen readers. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban also won the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize Gold Medal in the children's 9–11 book category and topped the New York Times Best Seller list. Moreover, not only based on its popularity it is also because the film presents syntactic challenges, especially with the diversity of characters, settings, and magical elements that enrich the language structure.

By analyzing the function of prepositional phrase from popular film scripts such as "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," this research is expected to make a significant contribution to understanding particularly in the context of function of prepositional phrase usage.

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B. Literature Review

This part reviews theories related to syntactical analysis, function of prepositional phrases, and prepositional phrases.

1. Syntactical Analysis

Syntax in the study of Linguistics is a very important field because it focuses on the internal structure of language and the relationship between various language elements such as words, phrases, clauses and sentences. As Linguistics has developed, understanding of Syntax has grown and experts have made important contributions in defining and explaining this concept.

According to Khairah (2022: 9), Syntax is the study of the way in which words, phrases, clauses or sentences interact with each other and form meaning in a discourse. The origin of the term "Syntax" from Greek, which consists of the words "sun" which means "with" and "tatein" which means "to put", describes the essence of the process of organizing words into groups of words or sentences.

This definition is supported by Carnie (2021: 12) who states that Syntax is a science that examines the internal structure of language by paying attention to the relationships between language elements. This view is also emphasized by Santoso (2020: 146) who emphasizes that Syntax is the study of how words are arranged together into groups of words or sentences. Muslimah (2022: 76) adds a new dimension by stating that Syntax also studies the complexity of phrases, clauses, sentences and discourse.

In language learning, syntactic analysis is very important. Sy (2019: 164) emphasizes that understanding sentence structure is the key to understanding language. Syntactic analysis of simple sentences is an inseparable basis for language learning.

Avan and Benahnia in Risthayani (2024: 11) add that syntactic analysis involves the process of determining the relevant parts in a sentence and explaining them grammatically. This process also includes deconstruction of constituents or sentence components. Thus, syntactic analysis is not only important in language learning, but also in linguistic analysis as a whole.

2. Function of Prepositional Phrases

A deep understanding of the use and function of prepositional phrases is essential in language teaching and learning. By understanding how prepositional phrases can be used in different contexts, language learners will be able to develop their ability to construct appropriate and coherent sentences and expand their vocabulary in communication. Therefore, Indrianty et al. (2024: 171) add that learning about prepositional phrases not only helps language learners to understand sentence structure better, but also improves their ability to use language more effectively and variedly.

Frank in Astri et al. (2019: 42) divides types of Prepositional Phrases functions into two positions, namely:

a. Adjective Function

Prepositional phrases function as adjectives when they modify or provide additional information about a noun or nominal phrase. This phrase usually answers

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questions like "which one?" or "what kind of?". Adjectival prepositional phrases usually appear after the noun they modify and provide additional details to identify or characterize the noun. Example:

1) Sirius Black in the Animagus form
   Prepositional Phrase: in the Animagus form. It describes the noun "Sirius Black," specifying the state or form he is taking.
2) Remus Lupin with the werewolf transformation
   Prepositional Phrase: with the werewolf transformation. It describes the noun "Remus Lupin," providing information about his condition.
3) Hermione Granger with the time-turner
   Prepositional Phrase: with the time-turner. It describes the noun "Hermione Granger," identifying what she is carrying.

b. Adverbial Function
   Prepositional phrases function as adverbial when modifying verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. These phrases provide additional information about an action, state, or way something is done. They answer questions like "how?", "when?", "where?", "why?", and "to what extent?". Adverbial prepositional phrases modify adjectives and verbs must go after the words they modify. Like intensifiers, they tell to what extent. They can also tell why or in what way or in what circumstances. Example:

1) Don't tell me you have been staying with this boy again, Vernon. Prepositional Phrase: with this boy. It modifes the verb "staying" explaining with whom
   Stan Shunpike, and this is Ernie Prang. So, where abouts are you headed? Prepositional Phrase: About. It modifes the verb '"headed" explaining the direction.
2) Oh, no. It's all right, Ron. We'll help you find Scabbers. Oh, look! It's a cat! Ron, don't freak out. He likes you! He's curling up in your lap.
   Prepositional Phrase: in your lap. It modifes the verb "curling up" explaining where the cat is curling up.

3. Prepositional Phrases

Phrases are an important part of language structure which have a significant role in forming meaning and sentence structure. Tarmini (2019: 8) explains that a phrase is a grammatical unit consisting of one or more words that functions as a unit in a sentence and has certain functional limitations. In other words, a phrase is a combination of words that are related to each other grammatically and form a unit that has meaning.

Prepositional phrases are one of the most commonly used types of phrases. Zhang (2022: 4) notes that prepositional phrases are the most common form of post-modification found in various types of text, including non-fiction writing, everyday conversation, and fiction. Furthermore, Van (2021: 5) adds that in many cases, prepositional phrases can be transformed into complete relative clauses with almost

equivalent meaning, thus showing their flexibility in use in sentences.

Based on Indrianty et al. (2024: 171), prepositional phrases have various functions in sentences, depending on the context and communicative purpose. Apart from providing information about place, time, or conditions, prepositional phrases can also be used to express position, cause, purpose, or relationship between objects in a sentence. In addition, prepositional phrases can also be used to provide richer and more detailed descriptive information in a sentence. By adding prepositional phrases, speakers or writers can describe situations or contexts more specifically.

C. Method of Investigation

The writers apply descriptive qualitative method. The sources of the data the film script of 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" (2004). The film script is taken from:https://www.gazettedusorcier.com/wpcontent/uploads/2012/10/pdf_Azkabanscript.pdf (accessed on 22 December 2023 at 14:22). To collect the data, the writers use qualitative researchers to collect and analyze data by watching and downloading the film script to get the documentation of the data.

To analyse the data, the writers implement these steps: watching the film, reading and trying to understand the Prepositional Phrases in the script of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" (2004) film, identifying and classifying the function of Prepositional Phrases contained in the "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" (2004) film script

whether adjectival phrase or adverbial phrase, the fourth step is presenting the analysis of the data, the last step is drawing conclusion and interpretation.

D. Findings and Discussion

This research discusses about function of prepositional phrases in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of the Azkaban film script. There are two functions of prepositional phrase based on Frank (2019) such as adjectival phrase and adverbial phrase. There are totally 959 sentences which consist 203 of adjectival phrases and 756 of adverbial phrases.

After identifying the sentences in the previous section, the writers interpret the data analysis as follows:

1. Classification the Function of Prepositional Phrases
   a. Adjectival Phrases

   These phrases function as modifiers for nouns or pronouns, providing additional detailed information. Example:
   1) ”of James & Lily Potter" – Explains who is in the photograph
   2) "of fluff" – Describes the type of "bit" Petunia picked up from Dudley's sweater.
   3) "of pound notes" – Explains that the fan is made of pound notes.
   4) "of Sirius Black" – Added information about Harry's "knowledge".
   5) "of Azkaban" – Describes the prison from which Sirius Black escaped.
   b. Adverbial Phrases

   Prepositional phrases in this category modify a verb, adjective, or adverb, providing additional information about time, place, manner, or purpose. The examples are:

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1) "down the hall" – Modifies the verb flushes to provide information about the location of the action
2) "into the front hall" – Describes where Harry jumped.
3) "with light" – Modifying the verb blooms explains how the "tent" lights up.
4) "in Harry's hand" – Describes where the parchment is.
5) "into the teeming rain" – Explains the direction of Uncle Vernon's movement.

2. Variations in the Use of Prepositional Phrases

   Prepositional phrases in this text show a wide variety of uses, especially in describing places, directions, times, and ways. They provide important visual and emotional details in the narrative.

   a. Examples of prepositional phrases for location and direction:
      1) "down the hall" – Indicates the direction of movement
      2) "across the ceiling" – Indicates the location of the bouncing action
      3) "into the hall" – Shows where Harry jumped
      4) "from the second floor window of Number Four" – Shows the origin of the sparkling light
      5) "into the pouring rain" – Shows where Uncle Vernon is moving
   b. Examples of prepositional phrases for time and conditions:
      1) "at once" – Indicates when something happens.

2) "in hand" – Shows the condition of the suitcase in Uncle Vernon's hand.
3) "in that ungrateful tone" – Shows how Harry speaks.
4) "with heart-stopping speed" – Shows how Harry and Buckbeak move.
5) "in quiet contentment" – Shows Harry's mood when looking around.

4. The Role of Prepositional Phrases in Character Development and Relationships Between Characters

Prepositional phrases also play an important role in character development and depict relationships between characters, showing deeper emotions and interactions. Examples of prepositional phrases that support character development:

a. "with Hedwig" – Shows that Harry is not alone, but together with Hedwig.
b. "in Harry's hand" – Shows Harry's connection to the parchment he is holding.
c. "at the sight of his and Buckbeak's shadow" – Shows Harry's emotional reaction to seeing his reflection.
d. "on his shoulder" – Shows Scabbers place, strengthening the connection between Ron and his rat.
e. "with Uncle Vernon" – Shows who is following Harry behind Marge.

In the context of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," the greater use of adverbial phrases than adjectival phrases can be interpreted as a result of the narrative's strong focus on action and character development. This film is filled with dynamic moments that require explanations of how, when, and where

something happened, so adverbial phrases become an important tool to describe events in more detail.

Additionally, the magical worlds of these stories often require atmospheric descriptions that bring the scene to life, and adverbial phrases are especially effective in providing additional context regarding the environment, time, or how an action is performed. While adjective phrases focus more on characterization and description of the nature or quality of objects, film narratives tend to require more information related to actions and events, which makes adverbial phrases appear more often.

Thus, adverbial phrases provide greater enrichment to the narrative and dynamics of a fast-paced story, explaining their predominance of use in this film.

E. Conclusion

This research aims to identify and examine the syntactic function of prepositional phrases in the film script Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban using a syntactic approach analysis. Based on the analysis carried out, it is found that prepositional phrases in the text function as adjective and adverbial phrases. The writers find several examples of those functions of prepositional phrases. Based on the findings, after identifying the sentences in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, there are 203 which consist of adjectival phrase and 756 adverbial phrases. Adjective prepositional phrases function to modify nouns by providing additional information that clarifies the description of the object in the sentence. Meanwhile, adverbial prepositional phrases function to modify

verbs, by providing further information about the action, location, time, or how an action occurs.

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