A Syntactic Analysis of Sentence Pattern Used in Westlife's Song Lyrics

ULFA MUTHI'AH FUAD[1], EDDY SETIA[2], ELY HAYATI NASUTION[3]
[1]UniversitasSumatera Utara, Dr. T. MansyurStreet, Medan, Indonesia
ulfa.muthiah@gmail.com
[2]UniversitasSumatera Utara, Dr. T. MansyurStreet, Medan, Indonesia
eddy12457@yahoo.com
[3]UniversitasSumatera Utara, Dr. T. MansyurStreet, Medan, Indonesia
elyzain10@gmail.com

Abstract

This study aims to analyze about sentence patterns that used in Westlife's song lyrics. It was qualitative descriptive research with tree diagram theory by Bornstein. The data source of this study is Westlife album entitled *Coast to Coast* produced in 2000. To collect the data, the writer chooses three songs lyrics such as *My Love, I Lay My Love on You* and *I Have a Dream*. The findings of this research were in the first song *My Love* there are 5 types of sentence patterns S →NP + VP (10 data), S→VP + NP (3 data), S→CP + NP + VP (3 data), S→Adv. P + NP + VP (2 data), S→PP+ NP (7 data). In the second song *I Lay My Love on You* there are 6 types of sentence patterns S→Adv.P + NP + VP (2 data), S→NP + VP (10 data), S→CP + NP + VP (1 data), S→NP + CP +NP (2 data), S→Adj.P + VP (1 data), S→ PP + NP + VP (2 data). In the third song *I Have a Dream* there are 4 types of sentence patterns S→NP + VP (13 data), S→VP + NP (2 data), S→CP + NP + VP (4 data), S→Adj.P + CP + NP (1 data).

Key words: syntax, sentence patterns, song lyrics, tree diagram, westlife

Analisis Sintaksis dari Pola Kalimat yang Digunakan di Lirik Lagu Westlife

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis tentang pola kalimat yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu Westlife. Jenis penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan teoridiagrampohon (*tree diagram*) dari Bornstein. Sumber data dari skripsi ini adalah album Westlife berjudul *Coast to Coast* yang diproduksi pada tahun 2000. Untuk mengumpulkan data tersebut, penulis memilih tiga lirik lagu yaitu *My Love*, *I Lay My Love on You* dan *I Have a Dream*. Hasil yang ditemukan pada penelitian ini ialah pada lagu pertama *My Love* terdapat 25 kalimat dengan 5 jenis pola kalimat S→NP + VP (10 data), S→VP + NP (3 data), S→CP + NP + VP (3 data), S→Adv. P + NP + VP (2 data), S→PP+ NP (7 data). Pada lagu kedua *I Lay My Love on You* terdapat 18 kalimat dengan 6 jenis pola kalimat S→Adv.P + NP + VP (2 data), S→NP + VP (10 data), S→CP + NP + VP (1 data), S→NP + CP +NP (2 data), S→Adj.P + VP (1 data), S→PP + NP + VP (2 data). Pada lagu ketiga *I Have a Dream* terdapat 20kalimat dengan 4 jenis pola kalimat S→NP + VP (13 data), S→VP + NP (2 data), S→CP + NP + VP (4 data), S→Adj .P + CP + NP (1 data).

Kata kunci: sintaks, pola kalimat, lirik lagu, diagram pohon, westlife

INTRODUCTION

Bloomfield and Kess (1983) says Linguistics is a science, as well as physics and chemistry is a science. Linguistics has two branches, one of them is Micro-linguistics, A field of linguistics concerned with the abstract study of language systems, without regard for the meaning or national content of linguistic phrases. Language is reduced to the abstract conceptual elements of syntax in microlinguistics. (Gleason, 1961) defines syntax as the principles of arrangement of the construction formed by the process of derivation and inflection (word) into larger construction of various kinds. According to the preceding definition of syntax, syntax is the grammatical rules-based arrangement and relationship of words, phrases, and clauses that make sentences or bigger compositions.

Chomsky (1965) says that syntax is the rules of sentence formation. Alsosyntax represents the component of the mental grammar that represents speakers'knowledge of the structure of phrases and sentences. Syntax, on the other hand, is the study of phrase, clause, and sentence architecture. Furthermore, syntax is required for the proper arrangement of words in phrases, while the perfect sentence will provide clarity to the reader.

Sylado (1983) states that music nowadays is regarded as the universal language; music is an art and science of combining vocal and instrument sound or   tone in varying melody, harmony, rhythm, and timbre, especially so as to form structurally complete and emotionally expressive compositions. According to Greek history, music occupied a main part as an expression of thinking and feeling (Sylado, 1983)

Students, or ordinary people who are interested in song lyrics can break them down into small pieces by their expertise. The language characteristics that were examined included: parts of speech (verb, noun, adjective), sentence construction (clause, and sentence), and micro-linguistics (morpheme, phoneme, and affixation). Burton (1986:34) says that the students must distinguish between the category and function of a constituent because most phrase categories include a range of functions. Although the subject is always a noun phrase, this does not imply that every noun phrase serves as the subject. The aspect of sentence patterns in Westlife's album *Coast to Coast* song lyrics is examined in this study.

Westlife is an Irish boy band that was formed in Sligo, Ireland, in 1998. They split up in 2012 before reuniting in 2018. Simon Cowell signed them in the UK, Clive Davis in the US, and Louis Walsh and Sonny Takhar managed them.

For a band since the Beatles, and for a pop band and act since ABBA, the group had the most successive number-one studio albums in the UK and Ireland in a decade. They hold the following Guinness World Records: the first pop group to have seven consecutive number-one singles in the UK, the most public appearances by a pop group in 36 hours, the most singles to debut at number one on the UK chart, and the top selling album group in the UK in the 21st century.

Their second album, was released a year later and became their first UK No. 1 album. It was the fourth best-selling album in the United States in 2000. In Ireland, this was their second No. 1 album. Westlife set an unexpected record for the most consecutive No. 1 singles in the UK, with their first seven singles debuting at the top by a debuting act and group, and by an act, a group, a male group, a pop act and a pop group in the UK, and became the fastest number one music act, beating Elvis Presley's previous record of three years versus 23 months.

TheTransformational Grammar is a generative grammar that approach towardslanguage, inaugurated in 1957 by Noam Chomsky. He wrote Syntactic Structure by TGG, whose purpose is to build and specify transformational grammar in each sentence in a language with two levels of representation: deep structure and surface structure. When a set of phrase structure rules generates a deep structure. Diane Bornstein's theory is used by the author. Bornstein (1977) says that "Transformations bring about various kinds of changes; they can rearrange elements

in a string of symbols, add elements that were not there before, delete elements, and substitute one element for another". Bornstein (1977) Also, phrase structure is depicted in Transformational Grammar (TG) through tree diagrams called phrase makers, which show the hierarchical structure of sentences.

Tree diagram is a diagram which resembles layers of constituent. According to Crystal (2011), tree diagram is defined as "a two-dimensional diagram used in Generative Grammar as a convenient means of displaying the internal Hierarichal Structure of Sentences as generated by a set of rules" by using tree diagram, the structures or patterns of sentences can be displayed.

A grammatical structure should have a certain goal. 1) to analyze a sentence solely based on the function, category, and nucleus of a word, 2) to simplify a sentence (using a diagram tree), and 3) to break it down into micro units (modifier or determiner).(Chomsky, 2009) says that term such as "transformation" can give theimpression that theories of Transformational Generative Grammar are intended as amodel for the process through human mind constructs and understand sentences.

The beginning symbol(S, P, and O), auxiliary symbol (NP, VP, PP, Ad.P), and terminalsymbol (NP, VP, PP, Ad.P) are used to evaluate the structure of TGG (micro element of grammatical structure, divided into small lexicons).Westlife's music is simple and the song lyrics had simple sentence pattern and easier to understand, the writer chose Westlife as the subject of the study. And their song is popular not only among their generation, but also among the younger generation.

The basis for conducting this research is based on the idea that linguists study sentence patterns, which will be represented in the song lyrics in this case.As a result, the writer was drawn to investigate Westlife's songs due to the simplicity of the lyric on the music. The author is excited to explore the sentence pattern discovered in this song's lyrics and analyze the way the lyrics are created using a tree diagram.

METHOD

In this study, the researcher conducted research in a library. One of the strategies used is library research, which involves gathering data or information from references written by linguists or other professionals. The descriptive qualitative method was utilized by the author. It indicates that the study is based on the features of events and that the data was examined using descriptions rather than statistics.

Qualitative research relies heavily on narrative description. Creswell and Creswell (2017) define it as Qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. It indicates that the researcher's intention is solely to report the data gathered

while establishing the fields. This research looked at the syntactic analysis of phrase patterns in Westlife's song from their second album, Coast to Coast, released in 2000.

FINDINGS

In analyzing the data, the writer uses theory of Bornstein. Bornstein (1977)) stated that a transformation grammar phrase structure is illustrated by means of tree diagrams. The description of the analysis is generated by following selected song through purposive sampling method. This analysis generates the sentence patterns in song lyrics of each selected song. This research used three westlife's songs in their second album *Coast to Coast* there are three songs titled *My Love, I lay My Love on You* and *I have a Dream.*
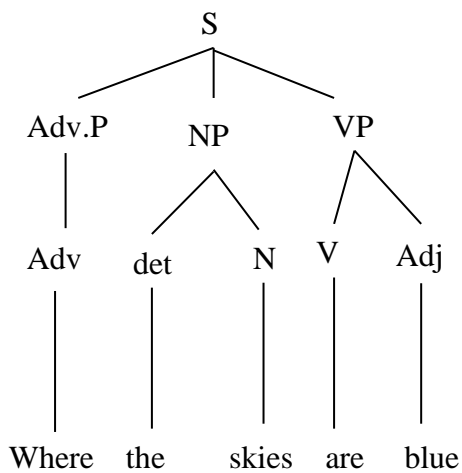
1. My Love

    Line 7: So, I say a little prayer
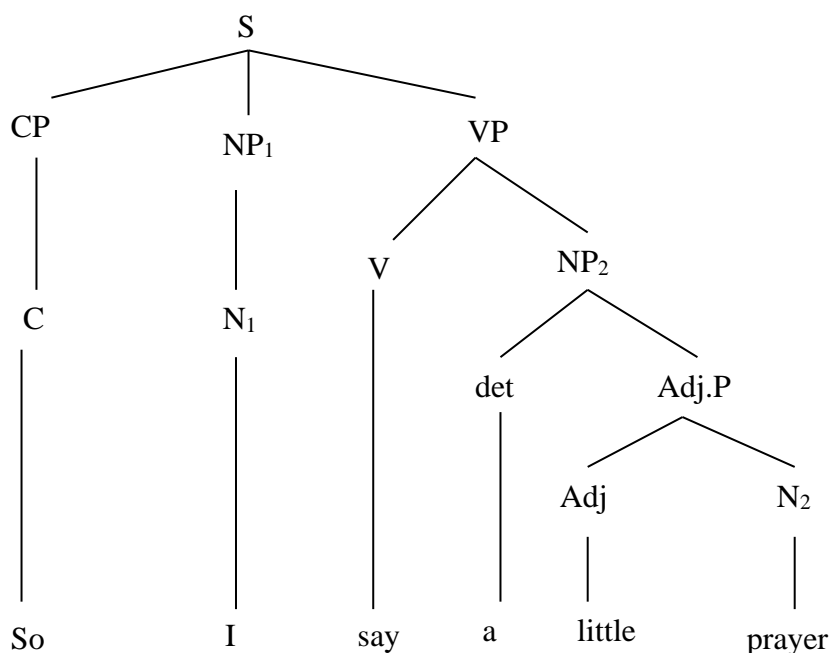
    PS Rules: S➔CP + NP$_1$ + VP

             VP➔V + NP$_2$

             NP$_2$➔Det + Adj.P

             Adj.P➔Adj + N$_2$
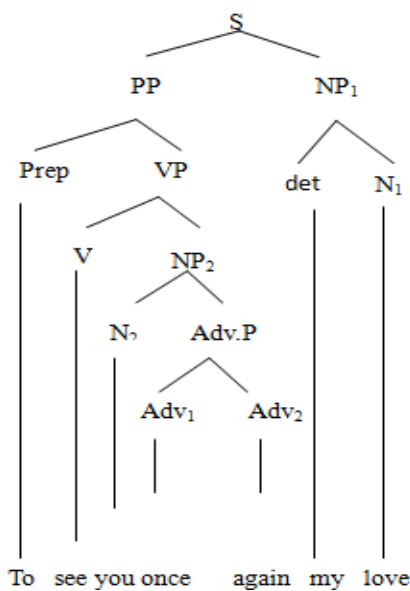
Line 9: Where the skies are blue

```
                        S
          ┌─────────────┼─────────────┐
       Adv.P           NP             VP
         │          ┌───┴───┐      ┌───┴───┐
        Adv        det      N      V      Adj
         │          │       │      │       │
       Where       the    skies   are    blue
```

PS Rules: S→Adv.P + NP + VP

                NP→ det + N

                VP→ V + Adj

Line 10: To see you once again my love

```
                        S
              ┌─────────┴─────────┐
             PP                  NP₁
          ┌───┴───┐           ┌───┴───┐
        Prep      VP         det      N₁
          │     ┌──┴──┐       │       │
          │     V    NP₂      │       │
          │     │  ┌──┴──┐    │       │
          │     │  N₂   Adv.P │       │
          │     │  │  ┌──┴──┐ │       │
          │     │  │ Adv₁ Adv₂│       │
          │     │  │  │    │   │      │
          To  see you once again  my love
```

PS Rules:

     S→PP + NP₁

     PP→Prep + VP

     VP→V + NP₂

     NP₂→N₂ + Adv.P

     Adv.P→Adv₁ + Adv₂

     NP₁→det + N₁

2. I Lay My Love on You

Line 4: I know that I'll be okay now
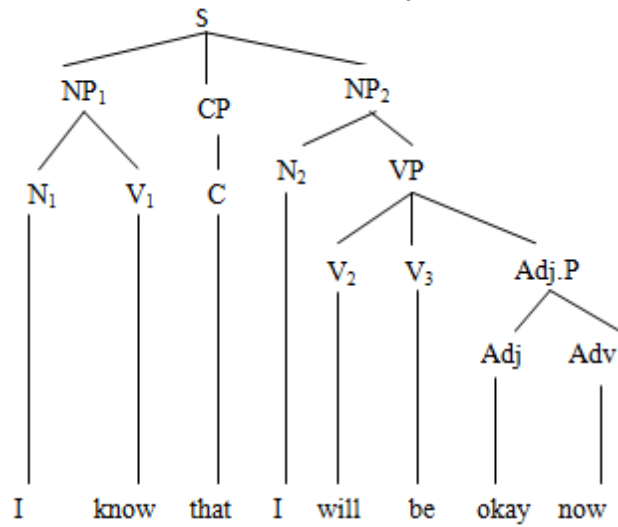
PS Rules: S→NP$_1$ + CP + NP$_2$

NP$_1$→N$_1$ + V$_1$

NP$_2$→N$_2$ + VP

VP→V$_2$ + V$_3$ + Adj.P

Adj.P→Adj + Adv

Line 8: Every time I breathe I feel brand new
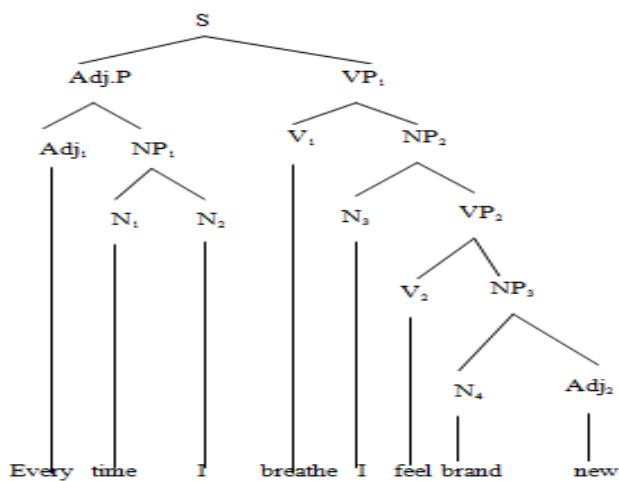
PS Rules: S→Adj.P + VP$_1$

Adj.P→Adj$_1$ + NP$_1$

NP$_1$→N$_1$ + N$_2$

VP$_1$→V$_1$ + NP$_2$

NP$_2$→N$_3$ + VP$_2$

VP$_2$→V$_2$ + NP$_3$

NP$_3$→N$_4$ + Adj$_2$

Line 10: As I lay my love on you
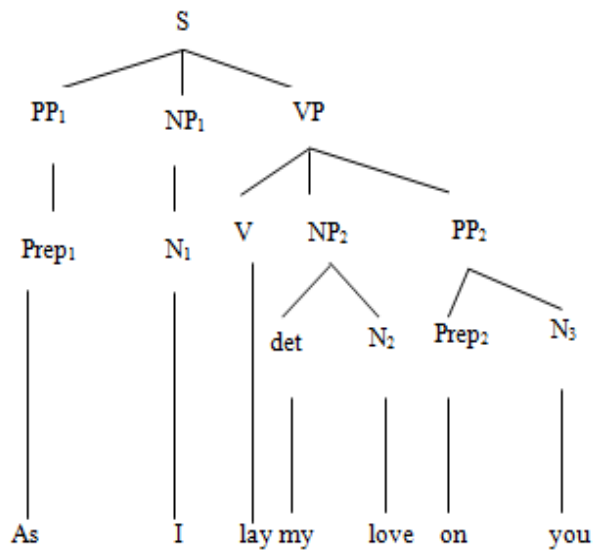
PS Rules: S→ PP$_1$ + NP$_1$ + VP

VP→ V + NP$_2$ + PP$_2$

NP$_2$→ det + N$_2$

PP$_2$→ Prep$_2$ + N$_3$

3. I Have a Dream

Line 1: I have a dream

PS Rules: S→NP$_1$ + VP

VP→V + NP$_2$

NP$_2$→det + N$_2$

Line 3: To help me cope with anything
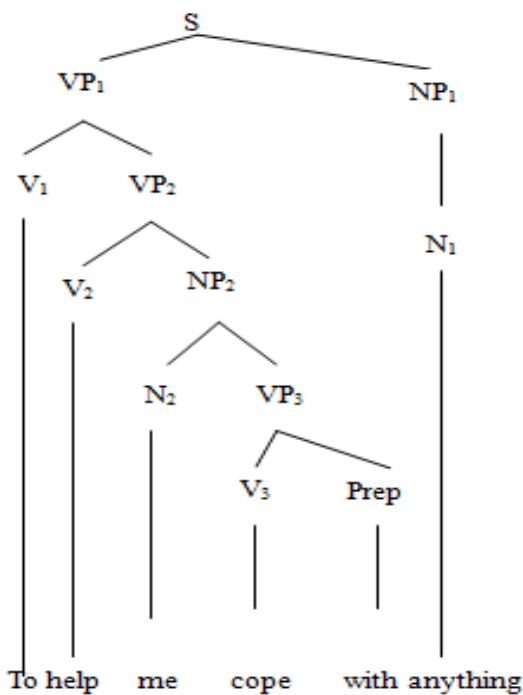
PS Rules:

$S \rightarrow VP_1 + NP_1$

$VP_1 \rightarrow V_1 + VP_2$

$VP_2 \rightarrow V_2 + NP_2$
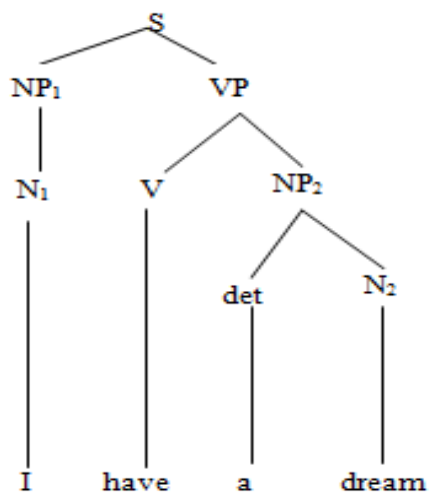
$NP_2 \rightarrow N_2 + VP_3$

$VP_3 \rightarrow V_3 + Prep$

Based on the syntactical analysis in Westlife's song lyricsusing tree diagram theory, there are sentence patterns in the lyrics. There are 9 sentence patterns in three selected songs, those are:

1.	Pattern 1	$S \rightarrow NP + VP$
2.	Pattern 2	$S \rightarrow VP + NP$
3.	Pattern 3	$S \rightarrow CP + NP + VP$
4.	Pattern 4	$S \rightarrow Adv. P + NP + VP$
5.	Pattern 5	$S \rightarrow PP + NP$
6.	Pattern 6	$S \rightarrow PP + NP + VP$
7.	Pattern 7	$S \rightarrow NP + CP + NP$
8.	Pattern 8	$S \rightarrow Adj.P + VP$
9.	Pattern 9	$S \rightarrow Adj.P + CP + NP$
10.	Pattern 10	$S \rightarrow PP + NP + VP$

DISCUSSION

As the result of this article there are ten sentence patterns found in three selected songs from Westlife. In these selected songs mostly found subject consist of noun phrase plus verb phrase (S➔NP + VP). In the first and second song there are 10 data of subject consist of noun phrase plus verb phrase and in the third song there are 13 data. Because most of the lyrics has a simple pattern that means the sentences use simple present mostly. It makes easily to understand and elaborate the sentence.

CONCLUSIONS

This research aims to find the sentence patterns in Westlife's song lyrics with a transformation grammar phrase structure is illustrated by means of tree diagrams. The lyrics are almost simple structure that makes easier to analyze. Based on the result in the first song *My Love* has 25 sentences there are 5 types of sentence patterns, the second song *I Lay My Love on You* has 18 sentences there are 6 types of sentence patterns, and the last song *I Have a Dream* has 20 sentences there are 4 types of sentence patterns.

In this research, the songs are selected as the object of the research to analyze the sentence patterns so the readers can understand easily. Westlife has many songs that all people know, it also has simple lyrics that make people remember the songs.

REFERENCES

Bloomfield, L., & Kess, J. K. (1983). *An Introduction to the Study of Language* (New ed.). J.

Bornstein, D. (1984). *An Introduction to Transformational Grammar*. University Press of America.

Chomsky, N. (1965). *Aspects of the Theory of Syntax*. Multilingual Matters: MIT Press.

Chomsky, N. (2009). Syntactic structures. In *Syntactic Structures*. De Gruyter Mouton.

Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2017). *Research design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Sage publications.

Crystal, D. (2011). *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics*. John Wiley & Sons.

Gleason, H. A. (1961). *An Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics*. New York: Holt. Rmehart & Winston.

Sylado, R. (1983). *Menuju apresiasi musik*. Angkasa.