

A Syntactic Analysis of Sentence Structure on Aesop's Fairy Tales

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the sentence structures of fairy tales. It was designed with a descriptive qualitative research to Aesop's fairy tales entitled *The Lion and The Mouse* and *The hare and The Tortoise* as the data source and by applying the method of rewriting rules in the tree diagram analysis of syntactical theory, called PSG (Phrase-Structure Grammar). The study took 26 data in which 13 sentences were taken directly from *The Lion and The Mouse* and the other 13 sentences were taken from *The Hare and The Tortoise*. The data focused on analyzing the five types of sentence structure based on Burton's theory including Noun Phrase, Verb Phrase, Adjective Phrase, Adverbial Phrase and Prepositional Phrase. The results showed that the noun phrase uses were found more dominant than the other types of sentence structure with the percentage 38%.

Keywords: sentence structure, tree diagram analysis, noun phrase



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Analisis Sintaksis pada Struktur Kalimat dalam Dongeng Aesop

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis struktur kalimat dalam dongeng. Penelitian ini didesain dengan metode deskriptif kualitatif terhadap dongeng Aesop berjudul *The Lion and The Mouse* dan *The Hare and The Tortoise* sebagai sumber data dengan menerapkan metode aturan penulisan ulang yang ada di dalam analisis diagram pohon dengan menggunakan teori sintaks, yaitu tata Bahasa struktur frasa. 26 data dipilih yang mana 13 kalimat diambil langsung dari dongeng *The lion and The Mouse* dan 13 data diambil dari dongeng *The Hare and The Tortoise*. Data penelitian skripsi ini berfokus pada lima tipe struktur kalimat oleh teori Burton yaitu frasa kata benda, frasa kata kerja, frasa kata sifat, farsa kata adverbial (keterangan) dan frasa preposional. Penemuan penelitian menunjukkan hasil bahwa frasa kata benda memiliki tingkat frekuensi yang paling menonjol diantara yang lain dengan presentase 38%.

Kata kunci: struktur kalimat, analisis diagram pohon, frasa kata benda

INTRODUCTION

Lim, (1975) defines that linguistics is the scientific study of language. Linguistics has also the framework or theoretical methods that could be categorized as the scientific method; in this case scientific method for human and social studies. Language analysis is done systematically within the framework of some general theory of language structure.

In general and based on the scope of the study, linguistics could be classified into two big classifications, namely microlinguistics and macrolinguistics. The term microlinguistics refers to the branches or fields of linguistics which studies language based only on the language itself; the study of language from internal side of the language. The fields or branches of linguistics which could be categorized as microlinguistics are theoretical linguistics, descriptive linguistics, and historical-comparative linguistics.

In this category, theoretical linguistics refers to the field of linguistics focusing on general theories and methods in linguistic studies. In this sense, descriptive linguistics (it is also called synchronic linguistics) is the branch of linguistics which studies the system of languages in certain time without paying attention to its development from one period to other periods. One of the fields of linguistics that includes the descriptive linguistics is syntax the study of sentence structure including phrase and clause.

Chomsky, (2009) states that Syntax is the study of the principles and processes by which sentences are constructed in particular languages. Syntactic investigation of a

given language has as its goal the construction of a grammar that can be viewed as a device of some sort for producing the sentences of the language under analysis.

The concept of structure is fundamental to the study of syntax. But it is a very general concept that can be applied to any complex thing, whether it's a bicycle, a commercial company, or a carbon molecule. When anything can be analysed in this way, we say that it has structure. The understanding of english structure is very important. to understand the english text, learners can try to identify simple sentence and try to create simple sentences in spoken or writing (Srijono, 2001).

Therefore, this research analyzed the sentence structure in the fairy tales and the dominant type of sentence structure in fairy tales using Burton's theory. In his book explained about the basic structure of English syntax which consist of some types of sentence structure that really need in this research. To make the researcher easier to make the structure of sentences, we can use tree diagram. Tree diagram is a diagram which resembles layers of constituent. According to Crystal (2008), 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.

Several related studies were conducted previously by some researchers :

1. Ariesta, (2014) studied the formula or the pattern of the relative clause, the structure and the types of relative clauses found in the Steinbeck's The Pearl Novel. The study found that the formula or the pattern of the relative clause, were Relative pronoun or adverb plus subject plus verb, Relative Pronoun as a subject plus verb, and Clause plus Relative Pronoun plus Clause and there were three types of relative clauses in the novel such as *Restrictive*, *Non-restrivtive*, and *Free*.
2. Septianingtias, (2015) studied sentence patterns in a collection of fairy tales from the match girl by HC Andersen. The study found that the syntactic structure of fairy-tale language forms sentence pattern based on the user, the pattern of imperative sentence, sentence pattern contains conjunction, and sentence pattern of complex sentences.
3. Puspita (2018) examined the types of sentences used in fairy tales and the dominant type of sentence used in fairy tales, and discovered that the table and tree diagram process helped the meanings be easily understood and successfully delivered to the listeners.
4. Mumrikoh, Agustina, and Kuspiyah, (2020) studied sentence structure by using a syntactic approach that portrayed in the tree diagram. The study found that there

are 191 sentences from the six selected text in the textbook consisting of the simple sentence which has 53 sentences (27,75%), the compound sentence has 79 sentences (41,36%), the complex sentence has 33 sentences (17,27%) and the compound-complex sentence has 26 sentences (13,61%) from the total number of the data.

The reason why the researcher selects fairy tales by Aesop as the object of this research because the researcher wants to make an easy research in order to make the readers easily understand about the sentence structure and in the Aesop's fairy tales as there are some sentence structure which readers need to know. The researcher also analyzes in simple way with the classification using the table and tree diagram process to find out the types of the sentence structure and dominant type of sentence structure in this fairy tales.

METHOD

This study was designed with a qualitative research method. The data were 26 sentences syntactically analyzed and take from *The Lion and The Mouse* and *The Hare and The Tortoise fairy tales*. There are some steps of collecting the data. First, search the library of congress Aesop's fairy tales *The Lion and The Mouse* and *The hare and The Tortoise* from a website called www.readgovaesop.com. Second, read the fairy tales repeatedly. Third, calculate the estimated number of sentences from the two fairy tales which are 26 data. Next, portray those sentence use the table and tree diagram. Then, calculate the percentage of type sentences and find out the dominant type. Last, draw a conclusion from the finding in the final chapter.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The overall amount of data which is 26 data were analyzed based on Burton's theory. The analyses of these sentences are portrayed in tree diagram by employing the rewrite rules, a method which is applied by breaking down the sentences into its individual components named 'heads'.

Findings

The whole data of the study is 26 sentences with 13 sentences which are directly obtained from Aesop's fairy tales 'The Lion and The Mouse' and 13 sentences which are taken from Aesop's fairy tales 'The hare and The Tortoise'. The whole data are simplified by using labelling. The data which are in the form of sentences are labeled by codes according to a particular serial number. In this data, the first sentence is labeled by the code "SS01" which "SS" stands for 'sentence structure' and the number 01 identifies the sentence as the first data to be analysed. The data are analyzed and portrayed in the table

to make it easier to read and understand by the readers and also the tree diagram as a method which is applied by divided the sentences into its individual components.

Table 1. Data Coding of The two fairy tales

NO.	FAIRY TALES	SENTENCES	COD ING
1.	THE LION AND THE MOUSE	A lion lay asleep in the forest, his great head resting on his paws.	SS01
2.		A timid little mouse came upon him unexpectedly, and in her fright and haste to get away, ran across the lion's nose.	SS02
3.		Roused from his nap, the lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny creature to kill her.	SS03
4.		"Spare me!" begged the poor mouse.	SS04
5.		"Please let me go and someday I will surely repay you."	SS05
6.		The lion was much amused to think that a mouse could ever help him.	SS06
7.		But he was generous and finally let the mouse go.	SS07
8.		Somedays later, while stalking his prey in the forest, the lion was caught in the toils of a hunter's net.	SS08
9.		Unable to free himself, he filled the forest with his angry roaring.	SS09
10.		The mouse knew the voice and quickly found the lion struggling in the net.	SS10
11.		Running to one of the great ropes that bound him, she gnawed it until it parted, and soon the lion was free.	SS11
12.		"You laughed when I said I would repay you." said the mouse.	SS12
13.		"Now you see that even a mouse can help a lion."	SS13
14.		A hare was making fun of the tortoise one day for being so slow	SS14

15.	THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE	“Do you ever get anywhere?”he asked with a mocking laugh.	SS15
16.		“yes,” replied the tortoise,”and I get there sooner than you think.	SS16
17.		I’ll run you a race and prove it.	SS17
18.		The hare was much amused at the idea of running a reace with the tortoise.	SS18
19.		But for the fun of the thing he agreed.	SS19
20.		So the fox, who had consented to act as judge, marked the distance and started the runners off.	SS20
21.		The hare was soon far out of sight, and to make the tortoise feel very deeply how ridiculous it was for him to try a race with a hare.	SS21
22.		He lay down beside the couse to take a nap until the tortoise should catch up.	SS22
23.		The tortoise menawhile kept going slowly but steadily and after a time, passed the place where the hare was sleeping	SS23
24.		But the hare slept on very peacefully.	SS24
25.		And when at last he did wake up,the tortoisewas near the goal.	SS25
26.		The hare now ran his swiftest, but he could not overtake the tortoise in time.	SS26

For the tree diagram sections, the researchers take two examples of each fairy tales.

- The Lion and The Mouse

Pic.1 Sentence Structure (SS01)

1. SS01: A lion lay asleep in the forest, his great head resting on his paws.

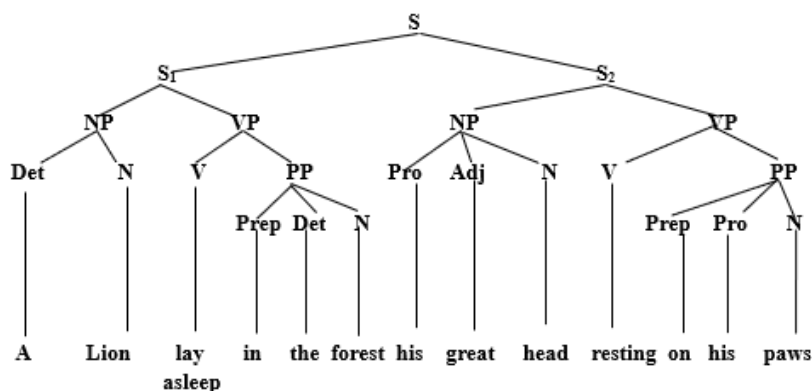


Table 2. Phrase Structure Rules SS01

Phrase Structure Rules	
$S = S_1 + S_2$	$S_2 = NP + VP$
$S_1 = NP + VP$	$NP = \text{Pronoun} + \text{Adj} + N$
$NP = \text{Det} + N$	$VP = V + PP$
$VP = V + PP$	$PP = \text{Prep} + \text{Pronoun} + N$
$PP = \text{Prep} + \text{Det} + N$	

Pic.2 Sentence Structure (SS02)

2. SS02: A timid little mouse came upon him unexpectedly, and in her fright and haste to get away, ran across the lion's nose.

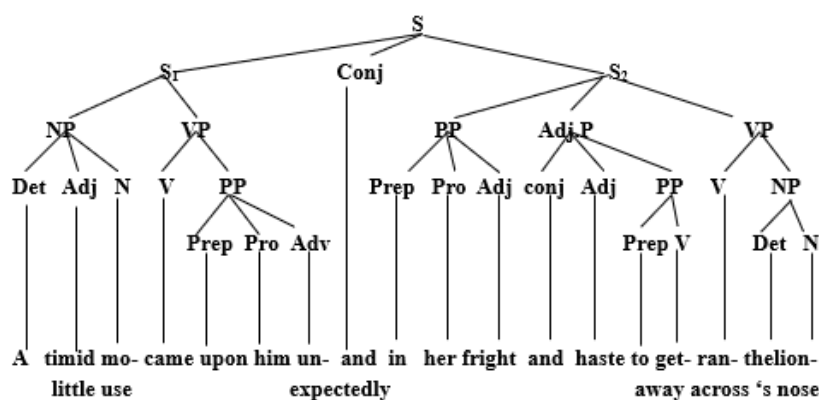


Table 3. Phrase Structure Rules SS02

Phrase Structure Rules	
$S = S_1 + \text{Conj} + S_2$	$S_2 = \text{PP} + \text{Adj.P} + \text{Vp}$
$S_1 = \text{NP} + \text{VP}$	$\text{PP} = \text{Prep} + \text{Pro} + \text{Adj}$
$\text{NP} = \text{Det} + \text{Adj} + \text{N}$	$\text{Adj.P} = \text{Conj} + \text{Adj} + \text{PP}$
$\text{VP} = \text{V} + \text{PP}$	$\text{PP} = \text{Prep} + \text{V}$
$\text{PP} = \text{Prep} + \text{Pro} + \text{Adv}$	$\text{VP} = \text{V} + \text{NP}$
	$\text{NP} = \text{Det} + \text{N}$

- The hare and The Tortoise

Pic.3 Sentence Structure (SS14)

1. A hare was making fun of the tortoise one day for being so slow.

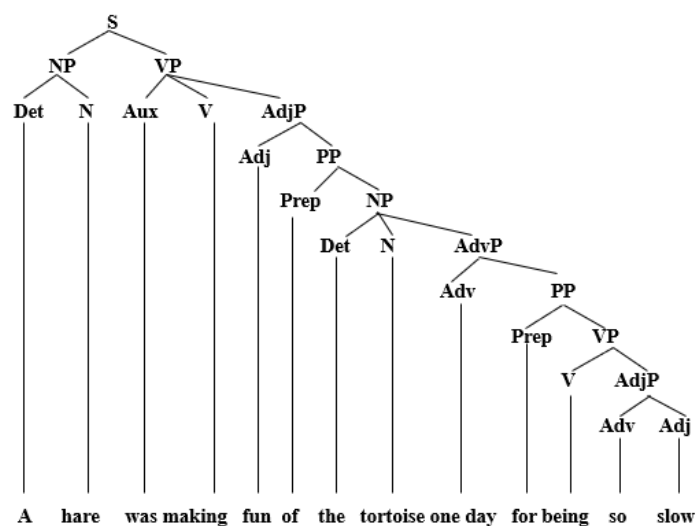


Table 4. Phrase Structure Rules SS14

Phrase Structure Rules	
$S = \text{NP} + \text{VP}$	$\text{NP} = \text{Det} + \text{N} + \text{AdvP}$
$\text{NP} = \text{Det} + \text{N}$	$\text{AdvP} = \text{Adv} + \text{PP}$
$\text{VP} = \text{Aux} + \text{V} + \text{AdjP}$	$\text{PP} = \text{Prep} + \text{VP}$
$\text{AdjP} = \text{Adj} + \text{PP}$	$\text{VP} = \text{V} + \text{AdjP}$
$\text{PP} = \text{Prep} + \text{NP}$	$\text{AdjP} = \text{Adv} + \text{Adj}$

Pic.4 Sentence Structure (SS15)

2. "Do you ever get anywhere?" he asked with a mocking laugh.

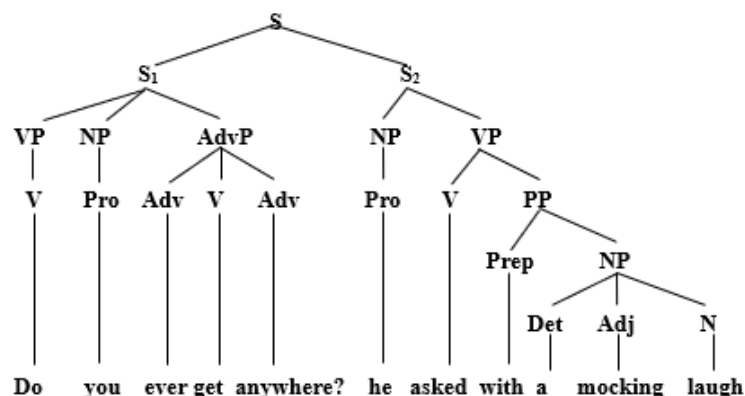


Table 5. Phrase Structure Rules SS15

Phrase Structure Rules	
$S = S_1 + S_2$	$S_2 = NP + VP$
$S_1 = VP + NP + AdvP$	$NP = Pro$
$VP = V$	$VP = V + PP$
$NP = Pro$	$PP = Prep + NP$
$AdvP = Adv + V + Adv$	$NP = Det + Adj + N$

Discussion

There are five types of sentence structure referring to Burton's theory. All types from Burton's theory are used in this fairy tales. The structure from each sentence has been analysed by using tree diagram and phrase structure rules. The types of sentence structure in this two fairy tales are Noun Phrase (NP), Verb Phrase (VP), Adjective Phrase (AdjP), Adverbial Phrase (AdvP) and Prepositional Phrase (PP). The total of Sentence Structure is 213 types of sentence with total of noun Phrase is 81, verb phrase is 73, adjective phrase is 11, adverbial phrase is 15 and prepositional phrase is 33.

Table 6. Percentage of Sentence Structure Based of Types of Structure

NO.	TYPES OF SENTENCE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1.	Noun Phrase (NP)	81	38%
2.	Verb Phrase (VP)	73	34,3%
3.	Adjective Phrase (AdjP)	11	5,2%
4.	Adverbial Phrase (AdvP)	15	7%
5.	Prepositional Phrase (PP)	33	15,5%
	TOTAL	213	100%

Based on the explanation above the result can answer the problem of this study. First, for the types of sentence structure, in this research all types of sentence structure from Burton's theory are used in this fairy tales. Second, after being analyzed using a tree diagram, it was found that the most dominant type of sentence structure is a noun phrase with 38%. The table and tree diagrams in this research are very helpful in analyzing sentence structure.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above analyses and findings, it can be concluded that the sentence structures in the two fairy tales have five types of phrases namely Noun Phrase (NP), Verb Phrase (VP), Adjective Phrase (AdjP), Adverbial Phrase (AdvP) and Prepositional Phrase (PP). By applying two theories of syntax namely Phrase structure Grammar (PSG) and Sentence Structure proposed by Burton in the tree diagram analysis, it can be seen that the method are quite effective to find the structure of the sentences because tree diagram is an effective tool to characterize the internal hierarchical structure of natural language. Tree diagram process proves that the meaning of sentences can be easier to understand. From the whole data, i.e. 26 data consist of all of the five types of phrases and Noun Phrase becomes the most dominant phrase among of sentence structure with the percentages of 38%.

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