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Nominal Group as Qualifier to 'Someone'

Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna, Sri Wahyuni

Abstract

The paper titled *Nominal Group as Qualifier to 'Someone'* investigated types of qualifiers which are embedded to the head 'someone' in a nominal group. This research was conducted in the light of Systemic Functional Linguistics analysis. The data was analyzed, classified then described using descriptive qualitative method. This research produced four classifications of nominal group as qualifier, which were clauses, prepositional phrases, nominal groups, and linked independent element. The clause as qualifier is sub-classified into finite and non-finite clauses. Further sub-classification is conducted over finite clause into Full Relative Clause (FRC), Relative Clause with Preposition (RCP), and Contact Clause (CC). Further sub-classification over non-finite clause resulted in Operative Imperfective Non Finite Clause (OINFC), Receptive Imperfective Non Finite Clause (RINFC), and Operative Perfective Non Finite Clause (OPNFC). This research also found qualifiers which consisted of two or more linked non-embedding elements.

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Nominal Group as Qualifier to '*Someone*'

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Abstract

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Keywords: nominal group, 'someone' as head, qualifier

1. Introduction

Nominal Group or NG in general is an interesting phenomenon in systemic functional linguistics analysis. On the one hand, systemic functional linguistics as a general linguistics can be applied in studying and describing human language in general (Halliday, 2006; Huang, 2007a in Li, 2015). As Jaelani and Sujatna (2014) argue Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) is defined as the theory of choice. Despite its existence in the second lowest rank in the Metafunction, a great deal of information can be compressed through its 'modifier constituency' system, 'structure' in formal grammar terminology. This research focuses specifically on 'someone' as the head in nominal group, while 'someone' as a pronoun is said to be not normally susceptible to further specification (Halliday, 2004). However, pronouns as one type of the head in a nominal group defined interpersonally by the speech unit (Halliday, 2004). The attempt to define which person 'someone' in concern is may be done through the modifying words placed just before or after the head. The words placed after and embedded to the Head are combined to form a qualifier, containing all information to define and specify 'someone'. This research aimed at finding out the classifications of qualifier to 'someone' in the data and formulating the constituency structures of each classification.

2. Theoretical Background

This part describes the theoretical background applied in this research. There are three main keywords discussed as mentioned in the title: nominal group or NG, qualifier, and the word someone as the head.

2.1 Nominal Group

NG is a group which can function as subject and complement in a clause and complement of a preposition in a prepositional phrase (Bloor and Bloor, 2004: 285). It has a head word, typically a thing, and includes all additional information related to that noun. The additional information modifies or specifies the head by answering the questions 'which thing', 'how many things', 'what qualities the thing has', 'what type of Thing', or else, realized in modifiers preceding the head (pre-modifiers) or following it (post-modifier/ qualifier). Pre-modifiers may be a deictic, numerative, epithet, or classifier. A nominal group can consist of a thing only (Gerot, 1995 in Sujatna, 2013). The NG below shows the relationship between its head and its modifiers: