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Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna

Understanding English Syntax

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Understanding English Syntax
by Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna.

Published by
Unpad Press
Gedung Rektorat Lt. IV
Jl. Raya Bandung-Sumedang km 21 Jatinangor
Sumedang - Indonesia

Cover design by Nada Sekar Martani Sugianto

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First published, November 2014

ISBN: 978-602-9238-88-4

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Preface

This book is entitled *Understanding English Syntax*. It is written for the teachers, researchers, students, or learners who are interested in learning English Syntax.

This book is divided into two major parts. The first part discusses English Syntax based on the Formal Grammar while the second part based on Systemic Functional Linguistics.

The first part discusses Scope of Syntax, Phrases, and Clauses and Sentences. The second part discusses Another Perspective: Systemic Functional Linguistics, Groups and Phrases, and Clauses and Clause Complexes.

Many thanks should go to Prof. Dr. Dudih A. Zuhud, M.A. for his careful review and feedback to each chapter of this book.

The writer hopes this book can be a great help for the readers to understand deeper about English Syntax relates to Formal Grammar and Systemic Functional Linguistics. The writer will really appreciate constructive feedback and comments for the improving of this book.

Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna

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This book is dedicated to
Agung Sugianto
Larasati Puspa Martani Sugianto
Nada Sekar Martani Sugianto

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Ad	:	Adverb
AdP	:	Adverb Phrase
Adj	:	Adjective
AdjP	:	Adjective Phrase
Art	:	Article
C	:	Complement
Cc	:	Closed Class
Cs	:	Subject Complement
Co	:	Object Complement
Conj	:	Conjunction
Conj. Adj	:	Conjunction Adjunct
Cont	:	Continuative
DW	:	Degree Word
Det	:	Determiner
F	:	False
Fn	:	Finite
HW	:	Head Word
Interp	:	Interpersonal
M	:	Modifier
N	:	Noun
NG	:	Noun Group
NP	:	Noun Phrase
O	:	Object
Oc	:	Open Class
Od	:	Direct Object
Oi	:	Indirect Object
P	:	Preposition
Pred	:	Predicator
PP	:	Preposition Phrase
Post-M	:	Post Modifier
Pre-M	:	Pre Modifier

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S	:	Subject
SFL	:	Systemic Functional Linguistics
T	:	True
Top	:	Topical
Verb	:	Verb
Voc	:	Vocative
VP	:	Verb Phrase
Vm	:	Verb main
Vaux	:	Verb auxiliary

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Chapter 1

Scope of Syntax

Introduction

Have you ever heard the word Syntax? What is syntax on your mind? The word syntax derived from Ancient Greek *σύνταξις* "coordination" from *σύν syn*, "together," and *τάξις* táxis, "an ordering". Linguistically, it can be described as the study of rules, or “patterned relations” that govern the way the words in the sentence come together. Pay attention to the following examples:

(1) *Read *The Fault in Our Stars* Laras in her bed room.
(2) *In her bed room read *The Fault in Our Stars* Laras.
(3) **The Fault in Our Stars* read Laras a in her bed room.
(4) Laras read *The Fault in Our Stars* in her bed room.

The examples (1) to (3) above have the same words in every sentence as those in the example (4). But although the first three examples have the same words as the fourth, the example (1) to (3) cannot be called sentences. The arrangement of the words in the first three sentences is not correct so that they are not accepted as sentences in English (* = expresses ungrammatical in English). The correct arrangement in English is only the example (4). Now you pay attention to the next examples.

(5) Amir hit Irfan.
(6) Irfan hit Amir.

Syntactically, the two examples (5) and (6) are the same, one subject, one verb, and one object. Both of the examples above have the same elements, but they have different meanings. Semantically,