

# Subordinating Conjunction Expressing Purpose and Reason Used in Some Novels

Nyoman Sujaya<sup>1</sup>, Ni Kadek Setyarini<sup>2</sup>  
{nyomansujaya@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, setyarini@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>}

<sup>12</sup>Faculty of Letters, Universitas Warmadewa Denpasar-Bali, Indonesia

**Abstract**— This present study focuses on analyzing the kinds and functions of conjunction expressing reason and purpose. This study is designed by using qualitative approach. The data sources were taken from five novels. Based on the result of analysis, it was found that there are two types of conjunction expressing purpose, such as: so and so that and there are five types of conjunction expressing reason, such as: as, because, in case, just in case, and since. It can be concluded that all of conjunctions functioned to connect two clauses, independent clause and dependent clause.

**Keywords**— Conjunction, expressing purpose, purpose and reason, subordinating

## 1 Introduction

Most of languages which are used by people in all over the worlds are different from one country to the other, both meaning words, grammar as well as other elements such as phonem and allophone. This is why language is unique due to diversity within. This distinguishes, consequently, make every people who is curious to learn a certain language must recognize the sentence structure of language itself. At least the simple sentence structure, without knowing the knowledge about constructing a sentence otherwise that person can not be able to construct a complex sentences, for instance a) 'I read a book'. It is a simple sentence in English which consist of Subject, Verb and Object. Simply when a reader found that sentence in text he/she did not need to do an analysis, it is easy to understand its meaning. Compare with the following sentence, b) My friend believes that he can do anything if he has a lot of money, but I cannot agree with him. It is a compound complex sentences, it looks more complete than example previously, whereas in constructing sentence (b), it needs relative pronoun 'that' and other subordinator 'but' to connect the next clause.

Furthermore, Compound-complex sentence is a sentence contains two or more independent clauses and at least one subordinate clause [1], it is a combination of two or more independent clauses and more than one dependent clause. For example, His mother bought a book and he had finally arrived home [2]. The first example is a compound-complex sentence. It is a sentence containing two independent clauses. His mother bought a book is independent clause, his mother is a subject, bought is a verb, a book is object. He had finally arrived home is independent clause. He is a subject, had is a verb, finally arrived home is as

adverbial. However, in this present time, in some books such as novel, magazine, newspaper, textbooks and any other documents those sentences were constructed not only in simple sentence but more than that, even were constructed in compound complex sentence too.

Relating to complex sentence, a reader sometimes questions why complex sentence were constructed in text?. This question definitely can be answer by saying every message that were going to be conveyed sometimes needs to be hidden, in this case just to make readers more critical in understanding a certain idea. But, the most important issue, truly, readers should know what are the elements in constructing a complex sentence. Further, in this current study would be explained, a complex sentence in English particularly. Understanding a complex sentence we need to see the subordinating conjunction which is attached of it. In other words, the subordinating conjunction will assist those readers to construct and to understand the point which is expressed in a complex sentence. This study will focus on analyzing the kinds of subordinating conjunction expressing purpose and reason used in some novel.

In line with conjunction, there are two kinds of conjunctions [3] they are coordinating conjunction and subordinating conjunction. Coordinating conjunctions are conjunctions which are used to join together clauses of equal rank, while subordinating conjunctions are conjunctions which are used to join together clauses of unequal rank [1]. Therefore, subordinating conjunction is type of conjunctions that connected the main clause and subordinate clause. For example, He is studying mathematics in order to qualify for better job, We camped there as it was too dark to go on .

In the examples above, in the first example 'in order to' is conjunction or called as subordinating conjunction. The conjunction in order to connects the main clause "he is studying mathematics" and subordinate clause "qualify for better job". The conjunction 'in order to' indicate the purpose of an action in the sentence. While 'as' in the second example is conjunction. Here 'as' is subordinating conjunction. It connects the main clause "we camped there" and subordinate clause "it was too dark to go on". The conjunction 'as' indicates reason conjunction has various kinds and functions.

Likewise, other kinds of sentences also argued by some experts. As we know-well, compound sentence is a sentence which consists of two or more coordinate clauses [1]. Similarly, [4] study states that a compound sentence is a part of multiple sentences, a sentence consists of two or more coordinate main clause, for examples, 1) I went to Agra and I visited the TajMahal [1], 2) I admire her reasoning but I reject her conclusion [4].

Loot at the first example as one compound sentence form. This sentence consists of two coordinate main clauses namely, the first independent clause 'I went to Agra' can be divided into some elements, such as I is a pronoun function as subject, went is a verb function as predicate, to Agra is a preposition phrase function as adverbial of place of the sentence. The next independent clause is 'I visited the TajMahal' can be divided into some element; I is a pronoun function as subject, visited is a the verb function as predicate, the TajMahal home is noun phrase functions as adverbial of place.

The second example as compound sentence also consists of two coordinate main clauses, namely the first independent clause 'I admire her reasoning' can be divided into some element; I has function as subject, admire is a verb functions as predicate and her reasoning is a noun phrase function as object. The second main clause is 'I reject her conclusion' It can be divided into some elements that are 'I' as a subject, reject is verb function as predicate and her conclusion is noun phrase function as object. Moreover, Complex sentence consists of more than one clause, it is formed by one independent or main clause and one or more dependent clause where the dependent clause is not able to stand alone, it should depends on the independent clause, i.e. she got a job after she had complicated her studies. This example constitute as

complex sentence that consists of more than one clauses, it is formed by one independent 'She got a job' and one dependent clauses 'After she had complicated her studies'. It is obvious that the dependent clause cannot stand alone as a sentence, it always needs independent clauses. The latest study [5] examined about Subordination Errors in Students' Writings: A Study of Selected Teacher Training Colleges in Ghana. The result showed that the errors manifested in the discussions are clear evidence that the students clearly do not understand the nature of the clause, i.e. what constitutes a clause. Clear examples are the responses given to different questions where respondents provided only the subordinators when, if, that, etc as answers. The important constituents of the clauses were eliminated. They do not also understand clause function- subject, object, complement and adjunct as in question 6 where respondents were to underline the object complement in "We made John who he is today." Students' responses included who, he is today, John, he, etc when the correct answer was who he is today.

Thus, based on the background above, this present study aim to analyze the function of subordinating conjunction to express purposes or reasons and to identify the kinds of subordinating conjunctions that used to express or reasons.

## 2 Method

This study is designed by using descriptive qualitative method. The main source of data is text in which whole data were taken from five novels that are *The Girl On The Train* narrated by Paula Hawkins, *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom, *The Light Between Oceans* [6] and *Ultra Marathon Man* by Dean Karnazes. The reason of choosing some novels due to data needed for the research can be easily found in many novels and these novels have many forms of the subordinate conjunction. In analyzing the data, researcher focuses on classifying the kinds of subordinating which were found in the five novels. Those novels above are considered as the proper novels to be the object of research.

## 3 Results And Discussion

The following is the description of the research results that have been analyzed from five novels as the main sources data used in this study.

### A. Conjunction Expressing Purpose

Based on the analysis of the data, were found two kinds of conjunction expressing purpose namely *so* and *so that*.

#### 1. Conjunction 'so'

They were an hour's drive from the beach so there wasn't all the evidence of the beach activities [7]

He lifted his sunglasses so she could see his eyes [7]

I just need to know how long it'll take so I can tell you where to meet me [8]

My electric garage door wouldn't work so I couldn't get my car out [8]

The word *so* in every sentences above belongs to a conjunction purpose and categorized as subordinating conjunction because it has function to connect the independent clause for instance "they were an hour's drive from the beach" and dependent clause "there wasn't all the evidence of the beach activities"

## 2. Conjunction 'so that'

My eyes firmly on the detective so that I didn't catch Cathy's eye.

She was remaining silent so that I would become so uncomfortable.

He spun the laptop round so that I could see the screen.

I turned my back to the path so that I couldn't see the runner [9]

The word so that in every sentences above constitutes a subordinating conjunction because it has the function to connect the independent clause for instance "My eyes firmly on the detective" and dependent clause "I didn't catch Cathy's eye". This case, the dependent clause always needs independent clause to make sense of its meaning. Besides, so that is conjunction that has the meaning to indicate the purpose of an action. In this example so that is to explain the purpose of an action mentioned in the independent clause "My eyes firmly on the detective. So that is conjunction may mean in order that. The conjunction so that here can be replaced by conjunction in order that and then the example becomes as follows My eyes firmly on the detective in order that I didn't catch Cathy's eye . The conjunctions so that has similar meaning with conjunctions in order that.

### B. Conjunction Expressing Reason

Conjunction expressing cause or reason is conjunction that has meaning to indicate reason for something in a meaning of sentence. Conjunction expresses reason that are as, because, in case, just in case and since. It conjunctions probably comes on the first of sentence.

#### 1. Conjunction 'as'

It was approaching midnight as I wove up the deserted road

As I grew older, I became more passionate about pushing small body to extremes

As they carried him into the medical tent, swollen and cramping, he was smiling defiantly [8]

The word as is a conjunction is a kind of subordinating conjunction. As has function relates the independent clause i.e. "I wove up the deserted road" and the dependent clause "It was approaching midnight". Conjunction as here has the meaning to indicate reason. Here, as is used to express the reason an action in the independent clause I wove up the deserted road. Besides, it is called express the reason because it can answer the reason why the action of the independent clause I wove up the deserted road happened. The conjunction as may mean with conjunction since, the conjunction as can be replaced by conjunction since and then the example becomes as follows it was approaching midnight since I wove up the deserted road.

#### 2. Conjunction 'Because'

He had to hold his legs up high because the monkey bars were so low to the ground. [7]

He had kept it by his bed few years, because there were mornings when he no longer had the strength to get up without it. [10]

I remember I called her Hovering Harper to myself because she seemed to hover about Renata all the time. [7]

I hoped he would pursue it, because I now saw the value of having the right training partner (Kernazes,2006:259)

I can't wait for him to shut the door because I know I'm going to cry [9]

It can be seen from the sentences above, the word 'because' has the meaning to indicate reason for action or statement. In this case it is used to express the reason why the statement on the independent clause He had to hold his legs up high happened. And then the function of conjunction because here connects the independent clause He had to hold his legs up high and dependent clause the monkey bars were so low to the ground. Because here may mean since, the conjunction because can be replaced by conjunction since and then the example becomes like He had to hold his legs up high since the monkey bars were so low to the ground. In this

case the dependent clause cannot stand alone it needs the independent clause to make complete of its meaning.

### 3. Conjunction 'in case'

We had a place we hid it, in case one of us lost our keys or forgot them or something [9]

He checked that his flies were buttoned; glanced behind him, in case she was observing someone else [6]

I'm not going to say goodbye, in case God hears and thinks I'm ready to go (Steadman, 2012:356)

From the above example "in case" is a conjunction. It is a kind of subordinating conjunction and it belongs to compound subordinator. Conjunction in case here is categorized as a subordinating conjunction because it has function to join the independent clause "We had a place we hid it" and dependent clause "one of us lost our keys or forgot them or something". Here, dependent clause cannot stand alone it needs independent clause to make complete its meaning. This conjunction has the meaning to indicate cause or reason, in other word to explain the reason in the independent clause "we had a place we hid it". Besides, it can answer the question why the action "we had a place we hid it" occurred.

### 4. Conjunction 'Just in case'

I went over the stuff about Evie as well—the attempted abduction—just in case she'd forgotten.

My fingers trailing against the iron fence, just in case I need to hold on tight. (Hawkins, 2015: 309, 327)

The conjunction 'just in case' in the first example has the functions to connect independent clause I went over the stuff about Evie as well—the attempted abduction—and dependent clause she'd forgotten. The dependent here cannot stand alone it needs the independent clause to make clear its meaning. This conjunction is a kind of subordinating conjunction and it has the meaning to indicate the reason of an action. In this example it conjunction is used to express the reason of an action mentioned in the independent clause I went over the stuff about Evie as well—the attempted abduction. It can answer the question why I went over the stuff about Evie as well—the attempted abduction happened.

The next example, the second, showed that 'just in case' is a conjunction. It is a kind of subordinating conjunction. And then it belongs to compound subordinator. Here, there are two clauses, the independent clause "My fingers trailing against the iron fence" and dependent clause I need to hold on tight. The function of conjunction just in case connects the independent clause my fingers trailing against the iron fence and dependent clause I need to hold on tight. The dependent clause needs independent clause to make complete its meaning. The conjunction just in case here has the meaning to indicating reason for something action. In this case it is called expressing a reason because the conjunction just in case is used to express the reason why in the independent clause my fingers trailing against the iron fence occurred

### 5. Conjunction 'Since'

Since I was certainly the slowest "team" of all, my start line was set the day before the others [8]

It was the first time it had happened since she was born [9]

I can't describe how it's been, since that story came out. [9]

Conjunction since is found in the frist example is one of subordinating conjunction. In this example the position of conjunction since is found in before the independent clause. The meaning of conjunction since is to indicate the reason for something action or statement. Here, the conjunction since in this example is found in before the independent clause my start line was set the day before the others. So, in this case since said that expresses reason because it is

used to express the reason why the statement in the independent clause my start line was set the day before the others is occurred. In this example there are two clauses, the independent clause my start line was set the day before the others and independent clause I was certainly the slowest “team” of all. And then the function of since relates the independent clause my start line was set the day before the others and dependent clause I was certainly the slowest “team” of all. Furthermore, in the second example since is a kind of subordinating conjunction. It belongs to simple subordinator. The meaning of conjunction since expresses a reason of an action. In this case it is used to express the reason why the independent clause it was the first time it had happened occurred. The function of conjunction since here connects the independent clause it was the first time it had happened and dependent clause she was born. In this example the dependent clause cannot stand by itself it needs independent clause to make complete of its meaning. Then, the last example, there are two clauses, the independent clause I can’t describe how it’s been and dependent clause that story came out. There is since as a conjunction and it is a kind of subordinating conjunction. It is conjunction belong to simple subordinator. In this case shows that the function of conjunction since connects the independent clause I can’t describe how it’s been and dependent clause the story came out. In this example the dependent clause cannot stand by itself it needs independent clause to make clear of its meaning. Conjunction since has the meaning to indicate the reason for something action or statement. It conjunction is called express reason because in this example since is used to explain the reason in the independent clause I can’t describe how it’s been. Besides, it can answer the question why I can’t describe how it’s been can happened.

#### 4 Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the subordinating conjunction expressing purpose and reason, that used in five novels, was found there are two kinds of the conjunction expressing the purposes found, namely conjunction so and so that. It has the meaning indicating purpose of an action. It has the function to connect two clauses, independent clause and dependent clause. The conjunction expressing reason found in the novels are conjunction as, because, in case, just in case and since. Here, the conjunctions can be replaced by other conjunction without changing the meaning of its sentence. It has the meaning to indicate the reason of an action. These conjunctions have the function to connect two clauses, independent clause and dependent clause. The conjunctions expressing purpose and reason are kinds of subordinating conjunction.

#### Reference

- [1] J. D. Murty, *Contemporary English grammar for scholars and students*. New Delhi: Book Palace, 2003.
- [2] C. Cobuild, *English Grammar*. London: Collins Publisher, 1990.
- [3] A. V. Thomson, A, J and Martinet, *A Practical English Grammar*. London: Press, University, 1986.
- [4] R. Quirk, *A Comperhensive Grammar of the English Languge*. New York: Longman, 1985.
- [5] A. A. Adjei, “Analysis of Subordination Errors in Students’ Writings: A Study of Selected Teacher Training Colleges in Ghana,” *Journal of Education and Practice*, vol. 6, no. 8, pp. 62–78, 2015.
- [6] M. L. Stedman, *The Light Between Oceans*. Australia: Vintage Books, 2012.

- [7] L. Moriarty, *Big Little Lies*. Australia: Pan Macmillan Australia, 2014.
- [8] D. Karnazes, *Ultra Marathon Man*. London: Penguin Books Ltd, 2006.
- [9] P. Hawkins, *The Girl on the Train*. London: Black Swan, 2015.
- [10] M. Albom, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. New York: Hachette Books, 2003.