Abstrak

Kata kunci : gramatika, gramatika transformasi, kategori sintaksis,

BACKGROUND
There are some meaning of grammar developed by some linguists namely traditional grammar, structural grammar, and transformative generative grammar. Transformative generative grammar is an approach to the study of language dating from the late 1950s to present by Chomsky, while an approach to the study of language dating from 1930s to the 1950s is structural grammar developed by Bloomfield mainly in United State of America (Brinton, 2000 : 12). Meanwhile, traditional grammar is an approach to the study of language dating from Greek times.

There are also terms of prescriptive grammar and descriptive grammar. Prescriptive grammar is an attempt to establish and maintain a standard of correctness in the language to prescribe and proscribe certain ways of speaking, but this has little to do with the actual working of the language. Meanwhile descriptive grammar is an attempt to formulate the speakers’ grammar in a set of rules, though it is probably fair to say that they have not been able to do so completely for any language (Brinton, 2000 :8). In this paper we want to discuss more about grammaticality and ungrammaticality according to transformative generative grammar’s Chomsky.

Noam Chomsky (1928-) is an American linguist whose theories have revolutionized much of the subject in the second half of the 20th century. In his first book Syntactic Structure (1957), and in his most important single work, he overturned the strategy of analysis developed by the post Bloomfieldians and replaced it with a formal theory of generative
grammars and the concept of an evaluation procedure as a means of justifying them. In his next major book, Aspect of the Theory of Syntax (1965), he proposed a theory of levels which included, in particular, the distinction between deep structure and surface structure. From the end of the 1960s Chomsky’s work has been directed above all to the development of a theory of universal grammar, conceived as an account of what is so inherited, and by implication, to conforming that such a universal grammar does exist (Matthews, 1997: 53).

**Grammaticality**

Grammaticality is description of a well-formed sequence of words, one conforming to rules of syntax (Fromkin et al., 2003: 583). It is also variously a property either assigned to sentences by a specific grammar (Matthew, 1997: 151). To get more comprehensive understanding about grammaticality, let us discuss first what the meaning of the grammar is. It is important to outset to be clear about the meaning of the ambiguous term grammar. In linguistics, the term is used to refer the rules or principles by which a language works, its system or structure (Brinton, 2000: 8). The meaning of grammar is often restricted to relation among units that have meaning (Matthews, 1997: 150). Grammar also the knowledge of a language developed in the minds of its speakers.

The part of the grammar that represents a speaker’s knowledge of sentences and their structures is called syntax (Fromkin et al., 2003: 118). It is also the study of grammatical relations between words and other units within the sentence (Matthew, 1997: 368). In other word, syntax is the study of the order and arrangement of words into larger units, as well as the relationships holding between elements in these hierarchical units (Brinton, 2000: 11). The aim of this paper is to show you what syntactic structure is and what the rules that determine syntactic structure are like. Let us star our discussion with what the meaning of the grammar is.

Grammar of the a language consist of the sound patterns, the basic units of meaning such as words, and the rules to combine all of form sentences with the desired meaning (Fromkin et al., 2003: 14). It represents our linguistics competence. The term competence is the knowledge of a language represented by mental grammar that accounts for speakers’ linguistic ability and creativity, for the most part, linguistics competence is unconscious knowledge. Grammar is also any systematic account of the structure of a language; the patterns that it describes; the branch of linguistics concerned with such patterns, often restricted to relations among units that have meaning. (Matthew, 1997: 150).

Now, let us discuss more about the sentence. Before we discuss more about the sentence, we must answer the question first, “What is the meaning of sentence?” Sentence usually conceived, explicitly or implicitly, as the largest unit of grammar, or the largest unit over which a rule of grammar can operate (Matthews, 1997: 337). A sentence is a group of words expressing a complete thought (Roberts, 1964: 1). From this definition, there is one question: What group of English words express complete thoughts? To get more clear comprehension, let us have a look at the examples below.

(1) A student drives a the car.
(2) Car drives student a the

Example (1) is a grammatical sentence of English, but (2) is not. In English and in every language, every sentence is a sequence of words, but not every sequence of words is a sentence (Fromkin et al., 2003: 119). They add that sequence of words that conform to the rules of syntax are well formed or grammatical sentence, and those that violate the syntactic rules are ill formed or ungrammatical sentence. So it is clear for us what the meaning of express complete thought. Let us discuss more about strings of words as grammatical or ungrammatical below.

(3) Him and me went to movie.
There is sense in (3), in other word, it is an English sentence. Its forms are used commonly and consistently by people whose native language is English (Robert, 1964 :9), although usually not by educated people so that it is acceptable but ungrammatical. There is no sense in (4), in other word, it is not an English sentence. Its forms are not used commonly and consistently by people whose native language so that it is both unacceptable and ungrammatical. Sentence (5) is also ungrammatical because there is no determiner such as the, this, every or a (Roberts, 1964 : 11) but it is acceptable. Grammaticality does not depend on whether the sentences is meaningful or not (6), does not depend on the truth of the sentence (7), and does not depend on having heard the sentence before (8) (Fromkin et al, 2003 : 121). In other word, untrue sentence can be grammatical so that sentences (6), (7), and (8) are grammatical.

Ambiguous Sentence

Syntactic knowledge goes beyond being able to decide which strings are grammatical and which are not (Fromkin et al, 2003 :121).It accounts for multiple meaning or ambiguity. Sentences have hierarchal structure as well as word order. Hierarchal structure is the groupings and subgroupings of the parts of a sentence into syntactic categories. (Fromkin et al, 2003 : 584). They add hierarchal structure is generally depicted in a tree diagram. Let us have a look at the example below.

(9) The police killed the thief with the knife.

The example (9) is ambiguous sentence, it has two meaning, they are “The police killed the thief using a knife” and “The police killed the thief who brought the knife”.

Ambiguous sentences have more than one phrase structure tree, each corresponding to a different meaning (Fromkin et al, 2003 : 143). Its two meanings correspond to the following two phrases structure trees. One meaning of the sentence is “The police used a knife to kill the thief.” The first phrase structure tree represents this meaning. The key element is the position of the Prepositional Phrase (PP) directly under the Verb Phrase (VP). Although the PP is under VP, it is not a complement because it is not selected by the verb. The verb see selects an Noun Phrase (NP) only. In this sentence, the PP has an adverbial function and modifies the verb. Below it is the complete sentence structure tree of the first meaning.
In its other meaning, “The police killed thief who brought a knife”, the PP with the knife occurs under the direct object NP, where it modifies the noun thief. In this second meaning, the complement of the verb kill is the entire NP – the thief with the knife. The PP in the first structure is generated by the rule : Verb Phrase (VP) → Verb (V) Noun Phrase (NP) Prepositional Phrase (PP). Two interpretations are possible because the rules of syntax permit different structures for the same linear order of words. Below it is the complete sentence structure of the second meaning.
Diagram 2.
Sentence Structure Tree Of The Second Meaning

Syntactic knowledge also enables us to determine the grammatical relation in a sentence, such as subject, predicate and object and how they are to be understood. Consider the following sentences:

(10) The dog barked.
(11) The dog bit the child.

In (10), we saw that a sentence contains at least two elements: an action and somebody or something doing the action. The action is referred to by the finite verb. Two elements mentioned in sentence (10) are traditionally called subject and predicate. A syntactic element e.g. in English which is traditionally seen as representing someone or something of which something is said is called subject (Matthews, 1997 : 357). Subject also can be variously defined as the topic, the actor, or that which is spoken about. Meanwhile, predicate is a part of a clause or sentence traditionally seen as representing what is said of the subject. Predicate also can be defined as the comment, the action, or that which is said about the subject; it says something true or false about the subject (Brinton, 2000 : 168). The grammatical relation in (10) subject and predicate because it is declarative sentence. The predicate says the action of the subject. Moreover, the verb used is intransitive so that it does not need an object. The sentence is grammatical and acceptable.

In (11), we saw that a sentence contains subject, predicate and object. Object of a sentence is an element in the basic sentence construction of a language such as English which characteristically represents someone or something, other than that represented by the subject.
that is involved in an action, process, etc. In (11) same as (10) but the verb used is transitive so that need an object. The sentence is grammatical and acceptable.

Fromkin et al (2003 : 123) said that syntactic rules reveal the grammatical relations among the words of a sentence and tell us when structural differences result in meaning differences and when they do not. Moreover, the syntactic rules permit speakers to produce and understand a limitless number of sentences never produced or heard before – the creative aspect of language use. Consider the examples below.

(12) The dog chased the cat.
(13) The dog chased the cat that ate the cake.
(14) The dog chased the cat that ate the cake that came from the mouse.
(15) The dog chased the cat that ate the cake that came from the mouse.

In each sentence the speaker could continue creating sentences by adding an adjectives, or a noun connected by and or relative clause. In principle this could go forever. All languages have mechanism such as these – modification, coordination, and clause insertion – that make the number of sentences limitless. The syntactic rules in a grammar account for at least six features (1) the grammaticality of sentences, (2) word order, (3) hierarchal organization of sentences, (4) grammatical relations such as subject and object, (5) ambiguity, (6) the creative aspect of language (Fromkin et al, 2003 : 123). A major goal of linguistics is to show clearly and explicitly how syntactic rules account for this knowledge. A theory of grammar must provide a complete characterization of what speakers implicitly know about their language.

**Sentence structure**

According to Fromkin et al (2003 : 123) syntactic rules determine the order of words in a sentence and how the words are grouped. Consider the sentence below.

(16) The man found the sword

The sentence may be grouped into (the man) and (found the sword), corresponding to the subject and predicate of the sentence. A further division gives (the man) ((found) (the sword)) and finally the individually words : ((the) (man)) (((found) ((the) (sword)))). It is easier to see parts and subparts of the sentence in a tree diagram. The tree is upside down with its root being the entire sentence. The tree conveys the same information as the nested parentheses but more clearly. The grouping and subgrouping reflects the hierarchical structure of the tree:

![Diagram 3. Tree Diagram Of The Sentence: The Man Found The Sword](image-url)
the sword, but not found the. Pronoun can also substitute for natural groups. In answer to the question "where did you find the sword?" a speaker can say, “I found it in the park.”

Syntactic Categories

Each grouping in the tree diagram of The man found the sword is a member of a large family of similar expression. For example The man belongs to the

The natural grouping of a sentence or a syntactic unit in a phrase structure tree are called constituents (Fromkin et al, 2003 : 578). In our knowledge may be graphically represented as a tree structure like having mentioned above. Various linguistic tests reveal the constituents of a sentence. For example, the set can be used to answer a question. So in answer to the question “what did you find?” a speaker might answer, family that includes the civil servant, the security, the little boy, this yellow cat and countless others. We can substitute any member of this family for the man without affecting the grammaticality of the sentence, although the meaning of the sentence of course would change. By mutually substitutable, we mean that we can substitute one for another and still have grammatical sentence (Bleckford 1998 : 38). Consider following example.

(17) The civil servant found the sword
(18) The security found the sword
(19) The little boy found the sword
(20) This yellow cat found the sword

A family of expression that can substitute for one another without loss of grammaticality is called syntactic category (Fromkin et al 2003 : 125). In other word, syntactic category is any class of units distinguish in the syntax of a language. The civil servant, the security, the little boy, the yellow cat and so on belong to the syntactic category Noun Phrase (NP), one of several syntactic categories in English and every other language in the world. NPs may function as the subject or as an object in the sentence. They often contain some form of a noun or proper noun, but may consists of pronoun alone, or even contain a clause or a sentence. Although a proper noun like John and pronouns such as he and him are single words, they are technically NPs because they pattern like NPs in being able to fill a subject or object or other NP slot, like the example below.

(21) Alex found the sword
(22) She found the sword
(23) The police found the sword

NPs that are more complex are illustrated by following sentence :

(24) The vegetable seller who passed in the road found the sword which is new.

The NP subject of this sentence is “The vegetable seller who passed in the road” and the NP object is “the sword which is new.”

Part of syntactic component of a grammar is the specification of the syntactic categories in the languages, since this constitutes part of a speaker’s knowledge. The speakers of English know that only items in the following list are Noun Phrases even if they have never heard the term before.

(25) A lion
(26) The little boy
(27) The gild who is smiling

There are other syntactic categories. The expression found the sword is a Verb Phrase (VP). Verb Phrase always contain a Verb (V) and they may contain other categories, such as a Noun Phrase or Prepositional Phrase (PP), which is a preposition followed by a Noun Phrase.
Other syntactic categories are Sentence (S), Adjective Phrase (AP), Determiner (Det), Adjective (Adj), Noun (N), Preposition (P), adverb (Adv), and Auxiliary Verb (Aux). Some of these syntactic categories have traditionally been called part of speech. All languages have such syntactic categories. In fact, categories such as Noun, Verb, and Noun Phrase are present in the grammars of all they do not know the technical terms. Out knowledge of the syntactic classes is revealed when we substitute equivalent phrases and when we use various syntactic test just discussed.

CONCLUSION

According to transformative generative grammar, the term grammar is not only the study of morphology and syntax but also include phonology. The grammaticality of a sentence does not depend on having heard the sentence before, does not depend on whether the sentence is meaningful or not, and does not depend on the truth of sentences. Grammaticality is description of a well-formed sequence of words, one conforming to rules of syntax. Sentences have hierarchical structure as well as word order. Hierarchical structure is the grouping and subgrouping of the parts of a sentence into syntactic categories.

REFERENCES


