

SEMANTIC ROLE: A CASE GRAMMAR APPROACH IN “THE MINISTER’S BLACK VEIL”

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Abstrak :

Penelitian ini berjudul Semantic Role: A Case Grammar Approach In “The Minister’s Black Veil”. Penelitian ini membahas tentang jenis-jenis peran semantik dan struktur semantik beserta jenis- jenis kata kerja berdasarkan studi kasus, yang ditemukan dalam cerita pendek yang berjudul, “The Minister’s Black Veil”.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode dokumentasi yang berarti pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan membaca dan mencatat data yang akan dianalisis. Metode ini terdiri dari beberapa teknik, diantaranya adalah membaca cerita pendek secara keseluruhan, kemudian mengumpulkan data, lalu mengelompokan data sesuai dengan jenisnya. Teori dasar yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori studi kasus dari Cook (1979) yang mengklasifikasikan jenis kata kerja menjadi tiga jenis yaitu kata kerja pernyataan, kata kerja proses dan kata kerja aktif. Data yang terkumpul kemudian dianalisis berdasarkan teori studi kasus. Kemudian, kalimat dengan kata kerja yang terjadi lebih dari sekali dihilangkan dari data, karena hanya salah satunya adalah penggunaan. Selanjutnya, data dianalisis dalam hal struktur permukaan kalimat untuk mengetahui struktur semantik dari kata kerja dan juga untuk mengidentifikasi peran semantik yang jelas dari kata kerja.

Kata Kunci: Semantik, peran, jenis.

1. Background

Case Grammar is a system which viewed the deep structure of a sentence as a set relation between a verb and a series of case-marked noun phrases or NPs. These series of NPs constitute a set of roles which are useful in defining verb in terms of the case frame in which they occur. Fillmore (in Cook, 1979:19) suggests that verb

should be classified according to their case frame. For example, according to the case environments which they are associated in the deep structure.

According to Fillmore (in Cook, 1979:19), each verb selects a certain number of deep cases which form its case frame. Thus, a case frame describes important aspects of semantic valency, of verbs, adjectives and nouns. Case frames are subject to certain constraints, such as that a deep case can occur only once per sentence. Some of the cases are obligatory and others are optional. Obligatory cases may not be deleted, at the risk of producing ungrammatical sentences. For example, *Mary gave the apples*. This sentence is ungrammatical in this sense.

2. Problems

The research problems can be formulated as follows:

1. What types of verbs are found in the clause structures encountered in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*"?
2. What are the semantic structures of the verbs found in the clause structures encountered in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*"?
3. What are the semantic roles of the verbs found in the clause structures encountered in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*"?

3. Aims of the Study

The aims of the study are:

1. To find out the types of verbs occurred in the clauses structure in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*".
2. To identify the semantic structure of the verbs found in the clauses structure in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*".
3. To analyze the semantic roles of the verbs found in the clauses structure in the short story "*The Minister's Black Veil*".

4. Method

Data for this study were collected by using library research method. The data were taken from the written source containing construction that relate to the topic of this study, and it includes the following steps:

The collecting data begins from determining the subject of the research. Next, reading the story, and then collecting the data in accordance with the parameters required, and searching for sentences in the data source that has only one single verb or one clause which then used as the data.

The data of this study were taken from the short story *The Minister's Black Veil* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, published by American Literature on August 30, 2005. This story provides data of the types of verb in case grammar. The data source is

chosen because it can fulfill the need of data that have relevance to the types of verbs according to the Case Grammar Matrix Model.

5. Analysis

5.1 Types of Verbs in Case Grammar

There are three types of verb in case grammar. They are state verb, process verb and action verb.

5.1.1 State Verb

1. Mr. Hooper *laughed*. (Hawthorne: 8)
According to Chafe (1970: 98), State Verb expresses a notionally stative situation or condition and it specifies that an object is in certain state or condition. It is accompanied by an Object noun which specifies what it is in that state.

5.1.2 Process Verb

2. Suddenly, the young man *died*. (Hawthorne: 7)
According to Cook (1979), a process verb is a verb which specifies that an object undergoes a change of state or condition. It is accompanied by an object noun which specifies what it is that changes its state or condition.

5.1.3 Action Verb

3. Mr. Hooper *raised* a glass of wine. (Hawthorne: 11)
An action verb expresses an activity, something which someone does. It is accompanied by an Agent noun which specifies the instigator of the action and an object noun which specifies the object affected or effected

by that activity. The Object noun may also be a complement which merely completes the meaning of the verb (Chafe, 1970: 98).

5.2 Semantic Structure of English Verbs

5.2.1 Semantic Structure of State Verbs

State verbs require the occurrence of Object case. Object case in state verb analysis indicates the stative object which is in a certain state or condition.

For example:

(3) Mr. Hooper *believed* the minister.
Os

The case frame analysis: *believed (Adjective)* + [_ Os]

5.2.2 Semantic Structure of Process Verbs

On its semantic structure, a process verb demands the occurrence of Object case, specifying the entity that undergoes a change of state or condition.

For example:

(17) Suddenly, the young man *died*.
O

The case frame analysis: *die (Vint.)* + [__ O]

5.2.3 Semantic Structure of Action Verbs

An action verb requires the occurrence of Agent case and Object case on its semantic structure. Agent case is the case required by an action verb which specifies the instigator of the action. So, agent case will occur and only occurs in the case frame of action verbs.

For Example:

(27) Mr. Hooper had ascended the stairs.
A O

The case frame analysis: *pass (Vtr.)* + [__A-O]

5.3 Semantic Roles of English Verb

5.3.1 Semantic Role of State Verbs

The state predication such as “*agreed*” and “*large*” in sentences below require only one argument. This single argument (*The Minister* and *The Minister*) are the entities that are in a certain state or condition. The semantic relation of the predicates to these arguments is as an Object.

(4) The Minister *agreed* with Mr. Hooper.
Os

The case frame analysis: *agreed (Adj.)* + [__ Os]

(5) The Minister’s house *is large*.
Os

The case frame analysis: *large (Adj.)* + [__ Os]

5.3.2 Semantic Role of Process Verbs

Basic Process Verb “*flickered*” and “*flushed*” in sentences (20) and (23) possess only one argument. These single arguments (*he* and *Mr. Hooper*) are the entity undergoing a change of a state or condition (undergoing process). With the relation to its verb, this single argument has the semantic role as the Object.

For example:

(18) He flickered about his mouth.

O

The case frame analysis: *flicker (Vint.)* + [__ O]

(21) Mr. Hooper flushed a little.

O

The case frame analysis: *flush (Vint.)* + [__ O]

5.3.3 Semantic Role of Action Verb

Basic State Verbs such as “*made*” and “*sent*” in sentence (24) and (25) must be accompanied by two arguments. The first ones (*Elizabeth and Parson Shute*) are the instigator of the action denoted by the meaning of the verbs. The second arguments, *he and excuse* are the entity to which the actions are done. The semantic relations of these arguments to their verbs are as Agent and Object respectively.

For example:

(42) Elizabeth took it up for him.

A

O

The case frame analysis: *take (Vtr.)* + [__ A-O]

(23) Parson Shute sent to excuse him yesterday.

A

O

The case frame analysis: *send (Vtr.)* + [__ A-O]

6. Conclusions

All the three types of verbs in case grammar proposed by Cook, which are State Verb, Process Verb and Action Verb, are found in the available data. The semantic structures of the English verbs are showed by the case frames configuration of the verbs themselves. The semantic roles of State Verbs are Experiencer, Benefactive, Stative Object and Locative. Meanwhile, Process verbs have the semantic roles of Experiencer, Benefactive, Object and Locative.

7. Bibliography

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