# THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS

(A content analysis in the published academic articles of the Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004)

### THESIS

Submitted to the English Education Department
In Partial Fulfillment for the Degree of Islamic Scholar
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By

TATANG SUHERMAN 20040449

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#### **ABSTRACT**

TATANG SUHERMAN: "THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS: A content analysis in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004"

The syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verbs are theoretical descriptions concerning with the structural classification of linguistic constructions. The important work of this research is to identify the manifest content of irregular syntactic patterns of the phrasal verbs in the academic newspaper articles. However, the analysis was not only conducted from the perspective of syntax but also from the semantic aspects concerning with the meanings of the phrasal verbs.

In line with the aims of the research, the writer states three questions of the research: first, how are the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verbs; second, how are the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verb constituents; and third, how are the meanings of the phrasal verbs.

There are three aims to be achieved from this research: first, to identify the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verbs; second, to identify the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verbs; and third, to find out the meanings of the phrasal verbs.

Along the research, the writer takes the descriptive approach. The writer obtained the data by holding a documentation study as he accessed the host of The Jakarta Post in the internet web site namely <a href="http://www.thejakartapost.com">http://www.thejakartapost.com</a> in June, 2004. The writer took 4 academic articles containing 18 sentences with the phrasal verb constructions. The sentences are analyzed by using a content analysis technique to identify the manifest syntactic contents of the phrasal verbs in the sentence structure.

The writer identifies that of the 18 sentences, 14 phrasal verbs realizes the functions of predicator and are categorized as verb phrases. The rest 4 phrasal verbs realized the functions of complement and are categorized as infinitive (2) and gerund phrases (2). It means that the major syntactic functions realized by the phrasal verbs are the predicator, while it is very possible that the phrasal verb realizes different syntactic functions depending on the position in a sentence formation. The writer further identifies that the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verb constituents apply the same syntactic patterns. The syntactic functions and categories of the head and the modifier of the phrase are realized by the syntactic categories of the lexical verbs and the adverbial particles. Whereas, there are two different types of meanings of the phrasal verbs, the single and multiple meanings. Of the 18 phrasal verbs, 7 phrasal verbs have only one meaning and the rest 11 phrasal verbs have more than one meaning.



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By

TATANG SUHERMAN 20040449

Approved by:

The First Supervisor

Drs. Dedi Djubaedi M.A

NIP; 131 404 221

The Second Supervisor

Drs. Sukenda, M.Ed NIP; 130 320 494



#### RATIFICATION

The thesis which is entitled "THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS: A content analysis in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004" written by Tatang Suherman with the student's main number 20040449, has been examined on February 17, 2005. It has been received as one of the requirements for the Degree of Islamic Scholar in English Education of the Tarbiyah Faculty of the Cirebon State College of Islamic Studies (STAIN Cirebon).

Cirebon, February 17, 2005

Assembly of Examination

Chairman

Prof. Dr. H. Maksum Mukhtar, MA

STAGAMANIP : 150 235 951

Secretary

Drs. I. Ahmad Riyadi, M.Pd

NIP: 150 209 706

Concurrently Members

Examiner I

Drs. H. Djono, M.Ag

NIP: 130 320 494

Examiner II

Drs. Deden Sudirman, M.Pd

NIP: 150 254 670

# LETTER OF AUTHENTICITY

Bissmillaahirokhmaanirrokhiim

I herewith acknowledge that this thesis entitled in "THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS: A content analysis in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004" is really my own writing with quotations from some sources by using the acceptable scientific method of writing.

Honestly speaking, I have written this letter of authenticity according to the truth. I am sincerely responsible for any risk that will happen in the future if it is proved to offend the ethic of scientific writing.

Cirebon, February 02, 2005

The Writer

METERAL
TEMPEL
TOIL 20

6000
ENAM RIBU RUPAH

TATANG SUHERMAN
20040449

### **OFFICIAL NOTE**

Chairman of Education Department of STAIN Cirebon

In:

Cirebon

Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.

After guiding, analyzing, briefing, and correcting Tatang Suherman's thesis with the student's main number 20040449 entitled in "THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS: A content analysis in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004", we are of the opinion that his thesis can be presented to the educational department of STAIN Cirebon.

The First Supervisor,

Drs. Dedi Djubaedi, M.A NIP; 131 404 221 Cirebon, February 02, 2005

The Second Supervisor

Drs. Sukenda, M.Ed

### **AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

The writer's full name is Tatang Suherman. He was born in Cirebon, on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1979. He is a son of a father named Mr. Tubin and a mother named Mrs.Emi Said. The writer is the second of seven children.

Coming to the age of seven, the writer started his education in an elementary school in his hometown namely *SD Negeri 2 Cempaka Plumbon*. He entered this school in 1986 and graduated in 1992. After that, he entered a junior high school namely, *SMP Negeri Weru Cirebon* and graduated from the school in 1995. In the same year, he then moved to the senior high school of *SMU Negeri 2 Cirebon* and graduated in 1998. In the middle of 2000, he continued his education to the Cirebon State High School of Islamic Studies (*STAIN Cirebon*). In this college, he took the English Education Program or "*Tadris Bahasa Inggris*" as his specialty.

In the first and the second year of his college, the writer was active in a student program association namely, "English Program Student Association (EPSA)". However, in the outer circumstance, he was also active in a youth organisation namely, "Ikatan Putra Nahdatul Ulama Cirebon (IPNU Cirebon)" for the period of 2002-2004.

## To my extremely beloved mother and father:

"No words worth to be conveyed, no things elegantly to be given but only a sincere wish and some hopes that you would always forever in my sides motivating, encouraging, and supporting my every days till I come to my final destination.

Beyond my every efforts and any disputes of perfection, this unworthy paper and everything it represents, is absolutely dedicated to you".

Through this wonderful chance, I would like to sincerely give my truly appreciation to the following names:

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"No matter how bad things are today, tomorrow will be better"



#### **PREFACE**

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the world. The writer would like to express his sincere gratitude that he could eventually finish this thesis on time. May Shalawat and Salam always be devoted to our prophet Muhammad SAW; may Allah blesses and gives the prophet peace.

The thesis entitled in "THE SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS AND CATEGORIES OF THE PHRASAL VERBS: A content analysis in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004", is a descriptive research which applies a content analysis technique to identify the syntactic functions and categories of the phrasal verbs in the published academic articles of The Jakarta Post in the period of May 2004.

During the process of the arrangement of this thesis, the writer respectively received so many valuable contributions from the outsiders who gave their time, thinking, and energy to always support the writer in writing the thesis. Hence, the writer would like to express his sincere gratitude to them, namely:

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- 3. Drs. Deden Sudirman, M.Pd., the Chairman of English Education Department of the tarbiyah Faculty of STAIN Cirebon.
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Finally, the writer sincerely hopes that all their noble contribution will be

worthily rewarded by Allah SWT.

However, it should be noted that this thesis is still far from being perfect.

Therefore, the writer absolutely welcomes to some comments dealing with the

contents of this thesis.

Cirebon, February, 2005

The writer



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