

## **Chapter 1: Introduction**

In this chapter, the researcher focuses on the research background (reason to choose the topic, research object, and reason to choose the novel *If I stay*). In addition, the researcher concentrates on the research question, research purpose, scope, and significance of the study.

### **Background of Study**

Many misunderstandings occur in speech, particularly in the speaker's utterances. People are unable to comprehend the speaker's intended meaning, which is one of the misunderstandings. Sometimes, the speaker has also the assumption that such information is already understood by people without being asserted. For example, the words *Lucy stops swimming* has two implicit assumptions that *Lucy stops swimming* and *she used to swim*. This utterance undoubtedly conveys non-asserted knowledge about what follows as a presupposition

Presupposition means as an implicit assumption or the other word, it is the background's belief of the speaker when he produces the utterance. Based on Yule (1996:25) presupposition is the speaker's assumption of such thing to be a previous case to produce the utterances. In fact, presupposition can be found in the reality of humans' life such as family, friends, and musicians. These lives situation often involves the language elements in their conversation as a real phenomenon. Considering this, the presupposition may concern with the utterances referred to the human's real conversation.

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Moreover, the topic of presupposition in the conversation among family, friends, and musicians' lives contains many kinds of presupposition. Existential presupposition, factive presupposition, non-factive presupposition, lexical presupposition, structural presupposition, and counter-factual presupposition are the six forms of presupposition identified by Yule (1996:27). First, Existential presupposition is an assumption that in general is possessive in a specific noun phrase. For instance, the utterance 'Tina has a pet' means that the girl Tina has a pet is an entity of an existing. Nevertheless, the second type called factive presupposition assumed that the utterances followed the information involved several verbs of 'know', and 'realize', also the verbs 'aware' and 'glad' directly lead to something's fact. The next presupposition is non-factive, as the utterance assumes that it is not truly involved in the words 'dream', 'imagine', and 'pretend'. Forth, Lexical presupposition. It is the type of frequent assumption to assert certain forms of habitude that are asserted in another utterance. For example 'Lusi stops reading' means that Lusi used to read before. Next, the structural presupposition is the type of presupposition to assume an utterance structurally with a true assumption of presupposition mentioned before. For example, 'Julian regrets telling Mark the truth', means that Julian tells Mark the truth. Last, counter-factual presupposition. It is about a presupposition that is not based on the reality or contrasted with true. For instance, 'if I were Julian, I will not be telling Mark the Truth' means that the speaker is not Julian.

The topic of conversation situation in the aspect of family, friends, and musicians can be seen in many different objects. One of them is from the

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literature text. Peer (2008:170) states that literary text is the set of linguistic signs produced and acquired in a cultural context that operates on at least three dimensions: existential, self-reflective, and functional. This indicates that literary are inextricably linked to the language aspect. An example of the literary object which relates to human conversation is a novel. It is because in the novel, there are many conversations that closely to human reality particularly the aspect of family, friends, and musicians. These conversations in the novel often have an ambiguous meaning following the utterances from the characters. The novel not only a life representation but also a subject that has a particular method in finding the data than a movie. Instead of watching and identify the conversation within the duration, the novel provides the data from the amount information through its written text.

As an illustration the data of presupposition in the novel can be found in the novel *If I Stay* page 39 which can be seen :

Mia and her family are in the living room. At that time, they was enjoying their breakfast. When dad has an idea to have a barbecue, Mia asked if Adam can come.

Mia: "Can Adam come?"

Mom: "Of course, we haven't seen much of your young man lately"

Mia: "*I know, things are starting to happen for the band*" (**Factive**)

From the conversation, the situation above happens when everyone thinks of the idea to prepare the barbecue. Then, Mia asked them if Adam can come, and her mom replied that everyone have not seen Adam lately. Whereas, Mia replied that "*I know, things are starting to happen for the band*". The researcher concludes

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this utterance as a factive presupposition. This can be seen in the words "*I know*" which has the implicit meaning contained the fact of what she assumed that Adam is not appearing lately. More importantly, the words "*things are starting to happen for the band*" provide the information of the reason why he does not appear lately. Characters in the novel are more likely to engage in this type of discourse. Specifically, the characters in the novel are the significant element as they form the interaction of human conversation.

According to Abrams (1999) states that character is the named genre of literature which a short one, and typically witty, sketch in prose of a distinctive person kind. It means that the character is the part of the novel that explains someone's personality and how the behavior particularly in conveying the interaction. Character is used by the writer to perform such as dialogue among the family, friends, and musicians aspects. Moreover, the use of character is to describe the story to the reader and to enact the story more interesting. In addition, there are two categories of characters: antagonist and protagonist. The antagonist character is the one who causes struggle for the protagonist, whereas the protagonist is the primary character of the story who revolves around him and is considered the most important aspect of it. This means that the main character generally has plenty of utterances compared with others characters.

In the novel *If I Stay*, the main character namely Mia has a lot of presuppositions object in the conversation with her family, friends, and musicians. This is found in the informative of her utterances. Therefore, this novel

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is then chosen by the researcher to find out the presupposition types in Mia's utterances.

### **Previous Research**

The researcher equates and differentiates the research from other previous researches to find out the gap. First, DewiYuliana (2015) published a study called *The Descriptive Analysis of Presupposition in the Maleficent Movie*. The focus of her research is to find out the types of presupposition and the most dominant type found in the Maleficent movie. She applied the distributional method and the result she discovered is there are 73 utterances where the existential presupposition is the most dominant in the movie. The researcher and her research can be distinguished from the use of the data subject. First, her study analyzed the data from the movie script whereas the researcher analyzed the data from the novel. Second, her limitation study focused on the dominant presupposition in the "Maleficent" movie script whereas the researcher limitation study focused on the dominant of the main character presupposition. The similarities with her study are that both research problems are focused on the types of presupposition and the same theory applied.

Second, Yerry Yuniardi (2015) published *Presupposition As Found in The Dark Knight Movie*. His study focused to find out the types of presupposition and the technique he applied is observation and note-taking which the aim is to find out the types of presupposition. Existential presupposition, structural presupposition, factive presupposition, non-factive presupposition, and counterfactual presupposition are six forms of presupposition he found as a result

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of his research. As the difference between the researcher's study and his study is from the subject to find out the data, Yuniardi analyzed the data from the movie which means he applied an observational technique by watching the movie and pay attention to its dialog whereas the researcher applied the technique by reading the novel. However, the similarities with his research are from the same theory. Both researchers applied the theory of Yule (1996).

Third, Sitti Nur Hikmah (2017) entitled *An Analysis of Language Presupposition in Advertisement of TV Channels in Indonesia*. Her research intended to describe the presupposition types as proposed by Yule's theory in the advertisement of TV channel in Indonesia. The qualitative method and note-taking technique were the methods she employed. She discovered three categories of presupposition: existential presupposition, structural presupposition, and counterfactual presupposition, according to the findings. The resemblance between this study and hers stems from the fact-finding process. Both describe the presupposition types as proposed by Yule's theory. Moreover, both also similar from the method and technique applied which qualitative method and note taking technique. However, the difference her research and this research is from the data object. Sitti's research used the advertisement whereas this reseach used the novel.

Based on the three previous kinds of research above, the researcher formulates the research entitled "Presupposition in Mia's Utterances in the Novel *If I Stay (A Novel Written by Gayle Forman)*".

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### **Research Question**

The research question in this study is what are the types of presupposition in Mia's utterances in the novel *If I Stay*?

### **Research Objectives**

The research objective is to describe the types of presupposition in Mia's utterances in the novel *If I Stay*

### **Research Scope**

The scope of this research focused on the presupposition in Mia's utterances for example "*I know, things are starting to happen for the band*" (p.93) found in the novel *If I Stay*.

### **Research Significance**

This study will be expected to contribute to academic aims, both theoretical and practical. Theoretically, this research is expected to develop the linguistic field particularly in pragmatic that concern with presupposition in analyzing the implicit assumption in the speaker utterances. In addition, the result of this study is also expected as the study material for other researchers in comprehending the pragmatic topic consider with their research problem. Practically, this research will have a positive contribution to English learning process that is able to enlarge the teaching materials for students and lecturers in studying the speaker's meaning and provide a broad example of presupposition types in conversation.