### **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the background of study, statement of the Problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope & limitation and definition of the key terms.

### 1.1 Background of the Study

As the developing science and technology in this world, there are many things can be provided as well as we want. Then, everything can be done as fast as possible. It can not be well-developed as nowdays without some helping elements. One of them is a language. Human uses language as the way to communicate. Language is a tool for people to communicate each other in their daily life.

Kreidler (1998: 19) defined language as a utility that can be used for creating an interaction and allow us to communicate with other people in our daily activity wherever we are, such as in public place, an institution, tourism object, family, etc. In addition, it can be concluded that language is the communication tool to communicate each other. The discipline of language studies is called as Linguistics.

Kreidler (1998: 3) states that the term linguistics is a general study close to a language. Linguistics is concerned with identifying the meaning elements of specific languages. Linguistics also deals with the meaning expressed by modulations of a speaker's voice and the processes by which hearers and readers relate new information to the meaning they already have. So that why to know more about the study of meaning, we should study about pragmatics and semantics. In this study, the writer focuses on semantics.

According to Alfred Korzybski (1930: 17) Semantics is the study of linguistic development by classifying and examining changes in meaning and form. Saeed (1997: 3) also states that Semantics is the study of meaning communicated through language. Löbner (2002: 71) adds that Semantics is the part of linguistics that is concerned with meaning. Something that can be noticed is that there is no complete agreement. For some, semantics concerns the study of meaning as communicated through language, while for some others, semantics studies *all* aspects of meaning and they have to add the label "linguistic" to arrive at a more precise definition. This distinction, however, is not generally given much importance and leaving aside special formulations, probably all authors would agree with Kreidler's definition (to choose just one of them): linguistic semantics is the study of how languages organize and express meanings. Having been familiar with every part of the word used is a must. It can be observed from the Modality.

According to Kreidler (1998: 240), Modality is a resource speakers and writers use when they are staking claims to knowledge. Kreidler adds his statement that modality has various kinds, various used, various function, and of course various meaning.

In addition in the previous study in understanding modality, as stated by Kreidler (1998: 239), People talk about factual matters-what is true and what is not true, what has happened and what has not happened-but we also talk about what may be true or not, what ought to be and what ought not to be, what certain individuals are capable of and what is impossible for them, what obligations we have to do or to refrain from doing. Modality is the complex grammar that needs deep understanding to apply it. The complexity is not only the way to apply or use it but also the way for the reader to translate or take a meaning of it. All these notions together constitute modality. To discuss modality itself consists of any kind of subjects. One of them is literary works. It can be poetry, prose and novel. Here, the writer wants to discuss the written modality in novel.

Novel is the story which is written longly (Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary 2011: 298). Furthermore, According to the free dictionary, Novel is a fictional prose narrative of considerable length, typically having a plot that is unfolded by the actions, speech, and thoughts of the character. The writer chooses one of the best novel in that era. That is The Mayor of Casterbridge novel.

The Mayor of Casterbridge Novel is one of the popular novel which is written by Thomas Hardy. He was born on June 2, 1840, in Higher Bockhampton in Dorset, a rural region of southwestern England that was to become the focus of his fiction. The novel follows the fortunes (and misfortunes) of a man named Michael Henchard, who becomes a grain merchant and the mayor of a town called Casterbridge. Unfortunately for Henchard, he made some bad decisions as a young man that come back to haunt him just as things really seem to be looking up for him.

Underlying the theoretical and practical reasons used, the writer emphasized to a study of modality in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel. This study deals with the modal verbs in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel. So, to elaborate and answer the statement problems, the writer uses Kreidler's theory.

In this research, the writer chooses this tittle because modality has much uniqueness. The first, modality is almost always used by people in spoken and written. The second, modality is one of the basic of English study. So, the writer is interested in analyzing about modality. In other side, the writer chooses this novel to be analyzed because of some factors. The first, Thomas Hardy wrote the novel according to the conventions of serialization (the process of publishing a work in periodic installments). The second, this novel is the inspirational story which inspires to the readers. It can be called as the inspirational story because the author described the main character did many mistakes and finally in the end of the story he really apologized for those mistakes. Besides, this novel shows modality which is used by some characters inside the novel. The modality itself can be found by reading the novel carefully.

In description above, the writer wants to give understanding about modality in Novel The Mayor of Casterbridge. Thus, the points of this topic which the writer wants to analyze are the kinds of modality that used in Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge and the function of modality that used in Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge Novel.

### **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above this study will focus on the following problems:

- 1. What are the types of modality in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel?
- 2. What are the interpretations of modality used in *Thomas Hardy's The* Mayor of Casterbridge Novel?

# 1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are to help the readers know and understand about modality used in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge*. Besides, this study also provides the answers from the research problems of the study. The objectives of the study are:

- To find the types of modality applied in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel.
- 2. To describe the interpretations of modality used in Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

The finding of this study is expected to give both theoretical and practical contribution in Linguistics, especially in analyzing modality used by some people in their communication. Theoretically, the outcomes of this study are expected to give input in developing the study and analyzing on linguistics studies.

Practically, it is expected to be more practical. The students who learn English are expected to be able to recognize and analyze modality used in spoken language. In addition, the result of the study is expected to be a contribution to others who are interested in doing similar field of the research as a previous.

### 1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

There are many topics related with semantics studies. Regarding to the statement in research problem, the writer is going to focus on the type of modality in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel by using Keidler's theory. In other hand, the writer limits this study only on chapter one until chapter five of *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel.

## 1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

Here, provided some terms to help this research problem; The modality in *Thomas Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge* Novel.

**Modality** means the referring expression of the subjective attitudes and opinions of the speaker including possibility, probability, necessity and etc. (Kreidler, 1998: 247)

**Semantics** is the branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of word, phrase, sentence, or text. (Alfred Korzybski, 1930: 17)

The Mayor of Casterbridge is the novel which is written by Thomas Hardy as conventions of serialization. On the other hand, it was written because of the condition of industrials in England.

