

การตีความเชิงอรรถศาสตร์ของโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยค¹ ในนวนิยายและข่าวการเมืองและข่าวกีฬา

Semantic Denotations of Adverbial Clauses in Novels and Political News Articles and Sports News Articles

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บทคัดย่อ

งานวิจัยนี้ศึกษาเกี่ยวกับการตีความเชิงอรรถศาสตร์ของโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคในนวนิยาย ข่าวการเมืองและข่าวกีฬา งานวิจัยก่อนหน้านี้ให้ความสำคัญกับการศึกษาโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคในเอกสารวิชาการ งานศึกษาโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคในครั้งนี้จึงเลือกตัวบทที่แตกต่างคือนวนิยาย ข่าวการเมืองและข่าวกีฬา คลังข้อมูลนวนิยายเก็บรวบรวมมาจาก *I am sort of a loser* (Smith, 2014), *The Little Prince* (De Saint-Exupéry, 2019), *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (Rowling, 2016) และ *Alice in the Wonderland* (Carroll, 2018) ซึ่งเป็นนวนิยายขายดี www.amazon.com คลังข้อมูลข่าวการเมืองเก็บรวบรวมมาจากหนังสือพิมพ์ *Bangkok Post* ระหว่างวันที่ 17-30 มกราคม 2565 คลังข้อมูลข่าวกีฬาเก็บรวบรวมมาจาก BBC news ระหว่างวันที่ 17-30 มกราคม 2565 คลังข้อมูลการศึกษาโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคประกอบด้วยจำนวน 200,000 คำ ซึ่ง 100,000 คำถูกเก็บรวบรวมมาจากนวนิยายและ 100,000 ถูกเก็บรวบรวมมาจากข่าว โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคจำนวนทั้งสิ้น 364 ประโยคแบ่งออกเป็น 250 ประโยคจากนวนิยายและ 114 ประโยคจากข่าว การวิเคราะห์โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคทำตามแบบของ Swan (2016) เพื่อ ความน่าเชื่อถือของการวิเคราะห์ข้อมูล อาจารย์สอนภาษาอังกฤษจำนวนสามท่านทำการตรวจสอบการ วิเคราะห์โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคในการศึกษานี้ ผลการศึกษาแสดงให้เห็นว่าโครงสร้างวิเศษณานุ ประโยคเกี่ยวกับเวลาpubในความถี่ที่สูงทั้งสามคลังข้อมูล อย่างไรก็ตาม โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยค เกี่ยวกับการให้เหตุผลpubในความถี่ที่สูงในข่าวการเมือง นักวิจัยหวังเป็นอย่างยิ่งว่าการศึกษานี้จะเป็น ประโยชน์ต่อผู้เรียนภาษาอังกฤษเป็นภาษาต่างประเทศและผู้เรียนภาษาอังกฤษเป็นภาษาที่สองในเชิงการ ใช้โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยคในตัวบทที่แตกต่าง

คำสำคัญ: การตีความเชิงอรรถศาสตร์ โครงสร้างวิเศษณานุประโยค นวนิยาย ข่าวการเมือง ข่าวกีฬา

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Semantic Denotations of Adverbial Clauses in Novels and Political News Articles and Sports News Articles

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Abstract

This study examines semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in English novels, political news articles and sports news articles. While previous studies focused on the study of adverbial clauses in academic research, this study contributes to the view of different reading materials. The data of English novels were derived from *I am sort of a loser* (Smith, 2014), *The Little Prince* (De Saint-Exupéry, 2019), *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (Rowling, 2016) and *Alice in Wonderland* (Carroll, 2018) in which all of them were best-selling novel in www.amazon.com. The data of political news articles were derived from *Bangkok Post* during January 17-30, 2022. Sports news articles in this study were derived from BBC news during January 17-30, 2022. The total number of data collection in this study is 200,000 words. 100,000 words were derived from English novels and 100,000 comes from news articles. With a total of 364 tokens, referring to sentences, English novels contains 250 tokens, but the two columns of news articles provide 114 tokens of different adverbial clauses. The data analysis of semantic denotations follows Swan (2016). To gain the data validation, three English instructors were asked to check accuracy and reliability of the data analysis. The results show that temporal adverbial clauses occur frequently in both genres. However, adverbials clauses of reasons are only outstandingly used in political news articles due to justification. It is expected that the results of this study will be beneficial for learners of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) and learners of English as a Second Language (ESL) in terms of theoretical concepts and how to apply adverbial clauses in various text varieties.

Keywords: semantic denotations, adverbial clauses, novels, political news articles, sports news articles

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Introduction

In the present time, English is commonly used as an international language. 1.35 billion people around the world speak English, while approximately two billion people use English as a Second Language (ESL) and as a Foreign Language (EFL) (Kirkpatrick, 2020). This information allows us to see that English substantially plays an important role in many countries around the world (Kirkpatrick, 2020, p. 24). As an international language, English is bought to be used in various conventional fields, such as the government, diplomacy and education (Wei & Su, 2012, pp. 1-14). Today, not only do people around the world formally employ English in their life, but they also use English to access news, novels and websites to gain new knowledge, information and entertainment. With these advantages, English has become increasingly important to us. Although the English language contains a variety of subdivisions, numerous English language learners claimed that they have problems with English grammar, particularly the use of complex sentences (Zuhriyah, 2017, p. 4). With this problem, Radford (2009, p. 2) indicated that to know a language is to know the grammar of a language. It would help increase our *linguistic competence* or the ability to use language more fluency and accurately.

One of the grammatical features in complex sentences that are usually used to modify sentences are adverbial clauses. Since adverbial clauses are *dependent clauses*, they cannot stand alone. Studying them in context would create better understanding.

(1) *When I was young, I liked drawing pictures.*

In (1), *when I was young* is an adverbial clause, syntactically classified as *dependent clause* (DC) (Radford, 2009, pp. 33-34). Placing it alone results in ungrammaticality. Adverbial clauses contain different forms and different functions. In this study, the study of semantic denotations of adverbial clauses is a major focus. Studying the meaning of adverbial clauses is significant because of the roles they play in discourse or for coherence and cohesion.

Grammar used in different texts is likely to be used differently. With this belief, this study focused on different text varieties to investigate adverbial clauses in context in order to support English language learners regarding how to employ the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in the right situation.

This study selected the data of English novels because it is a source of reading where we can practice our English with self-entertainment at the same time. As a citizen of a country, updating political news is regarded as important to know what is

going on inside his/her own country. Sports news articles are a source of reading material where everyone can read and it is suitable for everyone.

With this information, this study examines the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in English novels, political news articles and sports news articles. It is expected that the results of this study will be empirical evidence for learners of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) and learners of English as a Second Language (ESL) learners to study the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in different text varieties. This research will provide insights into the theory and use of adverbial clauses in English novels, political news articles and sports news articles. This information leads to the research objective and the research question as follows:

Research Objective

To examine the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in novels, political news articles and sport new articles

Research Question

What are the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in novels, political new articles and sports new articles?

Literature review

This section reviews semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in English. After that, information about adverbial clauses and text variety is given subsequently.

Semantic Denotations of Adverbial Clauses

Adverbial clauses are dependent clauses (DC), interchangeably known as *subordinate clauses* (Swan, 2016, p. 125). They are used with the main clauses in order to provide additional information regarding the matrix clause. Adverbial clauses normally give information about time, place, condition, reason, manner, purpose and concession (Swan, 2016, p. 127). Typically, there are eight types of adverbial clauses in English.

One of them is adverbial clauses of time, sometimes called *temporal adverbial clauses*. They are used with various coordinators, such as *after*, *before* and *when*, as in (2).

(2)

- (a) *After Mary got married, she moved to London.*

- (b) I was showering *when Peter came back home*.

In (2), *after Mary got married* and *when Peter came back home* are analysed as temporal adverbial clauses. These adverbial clauses are usually found with the coordinators *after*, *when*, *while* and *before* (Swan, 2016, p. 125).

Besides temporal adverbial clauses, another category of adverbial clauses is called *adverbial clauses of place*, as in (3).

- (3) Peter usually buys some chocolate *whenever he goes to Switzerland*.

Whenever he goes to Switzerland shows the semantic denotation of adverbial clauses of place, which is introduced by the subordinator *whenever*. In addition, it can be used with the coordinator *where* (Swan, 2016, p. 125).

The next category of adverbial clauses is called *adverbial clauses of comparison*. They are used to compare one thing with another, as in (4).

- (4) Miriam walked through *as if Peter had not seen her*.

As if Peter had not seen her is analyzed as an adverbial clause of comparison. Normally, adverbial clauses of comparison are introduced by the coordinators *as* and *as if* (Swan, 2016, p. 125). In addition to that, there is an adverbial clause of reason, as in (5).

- (5) I like to listen to pop music *as it sounds beautiful*.

As it sounds beautiful is adverbial clauses of reason, which is introduced by the coordinator *as*. In addition, other coordinators under this category are *since* and *because*.

Aside from adverbial clauses of reason, there are *adverbial clauses of condition* as exemplified, as in (6).

- (6) I will go shopping *if the weather is nice*.

If the weather is nice represents an example of adverbial clauses of condition. They are normally introduced by *whether*, *if* and *unless*.

Adverbial clauses of concession describe contrasting statements as introduced by *though* and *although*, as in (7).

- (7) It rained *though they enjoyed their walk*.

In addition to adverbial clauses of concession, *adverbial clauses of purpose* are exemplified in (8).

- (8) The meal was *so delicious that we made it again the next day*.

So delicious that we made it again the next day represents an example of purpose. They are usually introduced by *so...that* and *in order to*. These classifications

of adverbial clause by Swan (2016) will be used as a framework to analyse semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in this study. With this information, the study of adverbial clauses in different text varieties is reviewed in the following section.

Adverbial Clauses and Text Varieties

Previous studies observed adverbial clauses in different text varieties, such as academic texts, narrative writing, textbooks, newspapers, cookbooks and research articles. One of the studies paid attention to adverbial clauses in new articles. Gregor (2021, p. 15) found that temporal adverbial clauses were frequently used in news articles. Similar results applied to the study of adverbial clauses in cookbooks, which was studied by Wongkittiporn (2021, pp. 72-104). In addition to that Tuchscherer (2016, pp. 1-79) studied adverbial clauses in the science texts for 4th grade students. The result shows that adverbial clauses of condition were found the most in this type of text. Similar results apply to Gustilo's (2021, pp. 22-44) study of Philippine English research articles where the results showed that the percentage of adverbial clauses of condition are the highest occurrence.

Moreover, Durrant, Brenchley and Clarkson (2020, pp. 420-450) conducted adverbial clauses in children's writing. The data was collected from a corpus of 240 texts, written by English children whose age ranged between 6 and 16 years old. The results clearly show that the children differently use finite and non-finite adverbial clauses according to their ages. For example, secondary-school children prefer to use non-finite adverbial clauses with various semantic denotations.

Gustillo (2010, pp. 22-24) studied three types of adverbial clauses which are adverbial clauses of condition, concessive adverbial clauses and adverbial clauses of purpose in academic research papers. These adverbial clauses were discovered and compared in different sections of research, such as introduction, methodology, result, discussion and conclusion. The results indicate that adverbial clauses of conditions were used frequently in the section of introduction. The adverbial clauses of result were used the most in the section of discussion.

Apart from that, McGarry & Kiser (2017, pp. 771-781) focused on adverbial clauses in the scope of sex and gender sociolinguistically. There were three types of adverbial clauses which were adverbial clauses of condition, adverbial clauses of purpose and concessive adverbial clauses. The results show that women frequently

used adverbial clauses of condition and adverbial clauses of purpose, while men were more likely to use concessive adverbial clauses more than women.

Adverbial Clauses in Novels and News Articles

When it comes to this study, several types of text varieties were selected in this study, including novels and new articles. English novels are the reading materials that everyone can read. It does not only help us improve our English ability while reading, but it also entertains us. These could be regarded as the advantages to learn English grammar and meaning in novels. The data in English novels can be used as empirical evidence to teach EFL and ESL learners how to use adverbial clauses.

Since this study focuses on the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in news articles including political news articles and sports news articles, it's important to briefly identify the features of news articles. Biber and Conrad (2019, p. 35) addressed that the objectives of news articles is to deliver information to the readers, not to build a personal relationship. Because there is no reference to the reader or the journalist in text, first and second person pronouns, such as *I* and *you* are rarely used. According to Biber and Conrad (2019, p. 35), news articles put the emphasis on current events. As a result, proper nouns are frequently used in news articles. In news articles, Biber and Conrad (2019, p. 35) addressed that adverbial clauses frequently appear in the final position. The most common adverbial clauses in news articles are time and place. The selection of the data to be analysed in this study is further explained in the section of methodology.

Method

Data Collection

The total data in this study is 200,000 words. 100,000 words were derived from the following novels and 100,000 words come from the section of new articles. There are a total of 364 tokens, referring to sentences to study different semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in English.

This study selected a novel *I am sort of a loser* by Smith (2014), a British author as it is an English novel that has received a best seller (www.amazon.com) and it can be read by everyone.

Another data to study adverbial clauses in this study is *The Little Prince* (De Saint-Exupéry, 2019). *The Little Prince* was written to express his feelings about the war,

loneliness and instability in his life. It is famous among children and adults. This led *The Little Prince* to become a best-seller (www.amazon.com) and it is made into movies, animations and the musicals in many countries.

Harry Potter is a fiction novel as written by Rowling (2016). It is about a magic story run by a boy named Harry Potter and his friends, Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* was selected to examine the adverbial clauses. Moreover, the fiction was produced into a movie and received much feedback from fans overwhelmingly.

Another collected data in this study is *Alice's in Wonderland* (Carroll, 2018). It is children literature known as one of the best-known works of Victorian English novels. It is a narrative fantasy genre.

The researcher selected online political news articles in *Bangkok Post* (www.bangkokpost.com) during January 17-30, 2022, an English daily newspaper in Thailand. Political news articles contain current events about the political concern, the management of government and the senate. The text will be about policy news, national administration and local government.

With regard to the data of sports new articles, this research has selected resources that are accessible to all and the most popular to read. All analysis results will be added to the BBC Sport website during January 17-30, 2022. The BBC Sports website is for sports fans. It has a wide selection of sports. The main goal of BBC Sports is to keep all sports fans up-to-date with accurate and up-to-date information as the news is constantly updated.

Data Analysis

The semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in this study follow Swan's (2016) principle of analysis which provides eight types of adverbial clauses as follows:

Table 1 Semantic Denotations of Adverbial Clauses

Semantic Denotations	Examples
Temporal adverbial clause	<i>When I got home</i> , dinner was ready.
Adverbial clause of place	Peter always has lunch <i>where he works</i> .
Adverbial clause of purpose	Jane goes to school hurriedly <i>in order that she will be the first</i> .
Adverbial clause of reason	Jack did not eat at all <i>as he was ill</i> .

Semantic Denotations	Examples
Adverbial clause of result	We feel <i>so</i> tired <i>that</i> we cannot work anymore.
Concessive adverbial clause	I like Durian <i>while</i> my husband likes mango.
Adverbial clause of comparison	Lu acts <i>as if</i> he is smarter than everyone else.

Data Validation

To ensure the accuracy of the data analysis, the process of data validation is explained as follows.

Table 2 The Process of Dada Validation

Semantic Denotations	Examples	1		2		3	
		A	D	A	D	A	D
Temporal adverbial clause	He said all the plans are prepared from the bottom up and they are vetted by parties concerned <i>before they are reviewed by the cabinet</i> .	✓		✓		✓	
Adverbial clause of place	It took me a long time to learn <i>where he came from</i> .						
Adverbial clause of reason	Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ordered the cabinet to speed up implementation of projects to benefit the people <i>as the government has only one year left in office</i> .	✓		✓		✓	
Adverbial clause of result	We feel <i>so</i> tired <i>that we cannot work anymore</i> .	✓		✓		✓	
Concessive adverbial clause	Each political party in the coalition government will be allowed a free vote on the matter, <i>while PPRP MPs will vote for the motion</i> .	✓		✓		✓	
Adverbial clause of comparison	Jocelyn makes a face <i>like she didn't know what was more funny</i> .	✓		✓		✓	
Adverbial clause of condition	The debate would be concluded in four days as planned <i>if there were no unnecessary protests or attempts to block the opposition from doing its job</i> .	✓		✓		✓	

In regard to the data validation of this study, three English instructors were asked to check the accuracy of the semantic denotations of the data. In doing this, if two or three instructors places a tick in column A, referring to agreement, the data analysis gained reliability. However, if two or three English instructors placed a tick on the column D, referring to disagreement, the data need to be re-analysed. With this method, the results and discussion are provided as follows:

The Results and Discussion

As a total of 200,000 words. The selected novels contain 250 tokens of adverbial clauses. Political news articles contain 40 tokens, while sports news articles contain 74 tokens. The frequency and percentage of adverbial clauses in this study are given as follows.

Table 3 Frequency and Percentage of Adverbial Clauses in Novels and News Articles

Adverbial Clauses	Frequency Percentage (%)		
	Novels	Political News Articles	Sports News Articles
Temporal adverbial clause (i.e., He said all the plans are prepared from the bottom up and they are vetted by parties concerned <i>before they are reviewed by the cabinet.</i>)	136 (54.40)	19 (47.50)	59 (79.73)
Adverbial clauses of place (i.e., It took me a long time to learn <i>where he came from.</i>)	10 (4.00)	0 (0.00)	6 (8.11)
Adverbial clause of reason (i.e., Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ordered the cabinet to speed up implementation of projects to benefit the people <i>as the government has only one year left in office.</i>)	28 (11.20)	13 (32.50)	3 (4.1)
Adverbial clauses of concession (i.e., Each political party in the coalition government will be allowed a free vote on the matter, <i>while PPRP MPs will vote for the motion.</i>)	13 (5.20)	6 (15.00)	3 (4.1)

Adverbial Clauses	Frequency Percentage (%)		
	Novels	Political News Articles	Sports News Articles
Adverbial clause of comparison (i.e., Jocelyn made a face <i>like she didn't know what was more funny.</i>)	28 (11.20)	0 (0.00)	2 (2.70)
Adverbial clause of condition (i.e., Ask her <i>if she saw anything.</i>)	35 (14.00)	2 (5.00)	1 (1.35)
Total	250 (100)	40 (100)	74 (100)

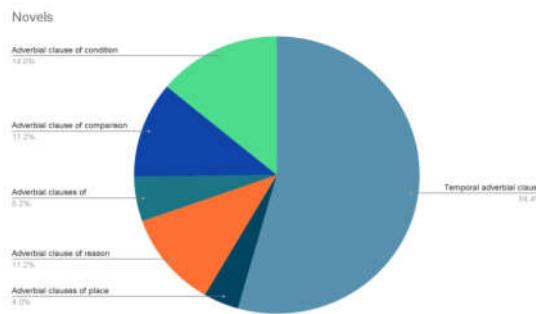


Figure 1 Adverbial Clauses in English Novels

Table 3 shows that the percentage of temporal adverbial clauses occur the most in English novels at 54.40 percent. The percentage of adverbial clauses of reason and comparison occur in the second place at 11.20 percent. However, the percentage of adverbial clauses of place and adverbial clauses of condition occur at 4 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

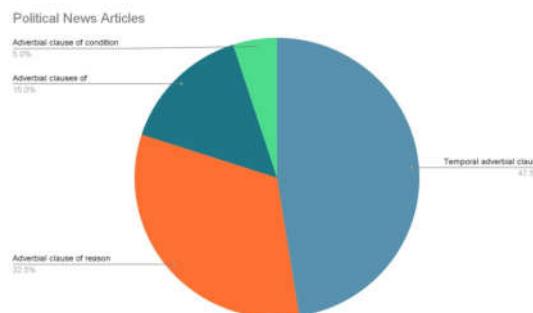


Figure 2 Adverbial Clauses in Political News Articles

Aside from novels, political news articles are made up of 40 tokens of adverbial clauses. Temporal adverbial clauses occur the most at 47.50 percent. The second place is adverbial clauses of reason at 32.50 percent. The use of adverbial clauses of concession and adverbial clauses of condition occur at 15 percent and 5 percent, respectively.

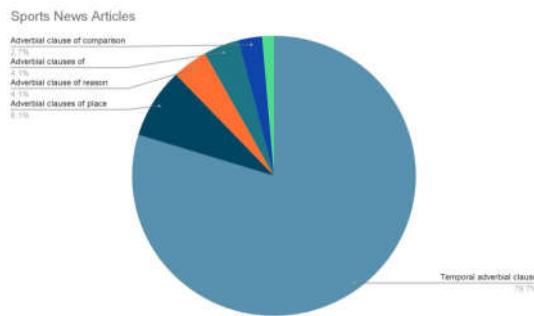


Figure 3 Adverbial Clauses in Sport News Articles

Concerning the adverbial clauses in sports news articles, the highest frequency occurs with the temporal adverbial clauses at 79.73 percent. Adverbial clauses are also used with the semantic denotation of adverbial clauses of places at 8.1 percent. Adverbial clauses of reason, adverbial clauses of concession and adverbial clauses of condition occur at 4.1 percent, 4.1 percent and 2.70 percent, respectively.

The corpus of news articles contains 114 occurrences of adverbial clauses found from the *BBC Sport* websites and political news articles in *Bangkok Post*. In the part, the clauses were classified according to their semantic denotation. When it comes to the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses, the most common occurrence was temporal adverbial clauses. This is consistent with previous research (Gregor, 2021), which found that temporal adverbial clauses were the most common category in news articles (Gregor, 2021). Temporal adverbial clauses are commonly used in news articles to connect the event in the matrix clause to other events.

Temporal adverbial clauses occur the most often in the three datasets. The temporal adverbial clauses in novels, political news articles and sport news articles 54.40 percent, 47.50 percent and 79.73 percent, respectively. The high frequency of temporal adverbial clauses in novels could be because time is important in narrating the stories. As mentioned by Ashida and Kojiri (2018), when the writers depict the story,

one of the common questions that they need to ask themselves is when the scene happens (Haryanti, Haryono, Setyandari & Widayanti, 2021). It is importance for the writer to explain the story in sequence what happen first, next and at the end of the story in order to avoid the readers' confusion (Haryanti, Haryono, Setyandari & Widayanti, 2021). This is similar to sports competitions as most sports competitions are controlled by time (McGarry, Anderson, Wallace, Hughes, & Franks, 2002). When it comes to political news articles, most news usually tell what is happen is currently, so time plays an important role in news reports.

(9)

- (a) 'You might just as well say,' added the Dormouse, who seemed to be talking in his sleep, 'that *'I breathe when I sleep'* is the same thing as *'I sleep when I breathe'*! (novels)
- (b) Mr. Nattawut announced he had called off a planned rally at Asok intersection *after hearing that he may be served with a warrant*. (Political news articles)
- (c) The season-opening triumph was Kang's first LPGA title *since winning the Marathon Classic in 2020*. (Sports news articles)

In (9a), the writer presented the event of breathing and sleeping happening at the same time. In (9b), the writer talks about the cancellation of the political rally. In (9c), *Kang get the first title since he won the marathon in 2020*. From the data, temporal adverbial clauses in novels could help us see the two events that happen at the same time. Aside from that, the use of temporal adverbial clauses in sports news articles allows us to see the change of someone's status after the competition.

When it comes to adverbial clauses of place, this only occur in the data of novels and sports news articles. The setting of places seems very important in writing a novel as the writer need to ask themselves when and where this event occurs (Ashida & Kojiri, 2018). The same thing applies to sports news articles to the point that the competition take place.

(10)

- (a) Barty clenched both fists as she dropped to her haunches, before running over to the side *where she beckoned former doubles partner Casey Dellacqua, now a television analyst, on to court for a warm hug*. (Sport new articles)
- (b) Just at this moment Alice felt a very curious sensation, which puzzled her a good deal until she made out what it was: she was beginning to grow larger

again, and she thought at first she would get up and leave the court; but on second thoughts she decided to remain *where she was as long as there was room for her.* (Novels)

(c) A golfball-size lump was throbbing on Harry's head *where he had hit the windshield.*

(Novels)

In (10a) heighted that the tennis players called for her friend who joins her on the court. In (10b), the writer notes the place where Alice decided to stay. In (10c), the place where the lump appears on harry potter head is highlighted.

While adverbial clauses of place are mostly used with novels and sports new article, the use of adverbial clauses in political news articles is about reasons at 32.50 percent. It is important for politician to be able to provide reasonable information to people in order to accept their speech.

(11) Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ordered the cabinet to speed up implementation of projects to benefit the people *as the government has only one year left in office.*

Example (11) shows that semantic denotations of adverbial clauses of reason is outstanding in this text variety. The government provides the reason of time limitation as to why they have to speed up their project.

While the adverbial clauses of comparison do not outstandingly occur in political news articles and sports news articles, they are used quite frequently in novels at 11.20 percent. This is because comparative technique allows the readers to see the picture in more vivid ways (Burn, 2005).

(12)

(a) The Dodo had paused *as if it thought that somebody ought to speak*, and no one else seemed inclined to say anything. (novels)

(b) They had not gone far before they saw the Mock Turtle in the distance, sitting sad and lonely on a little ledge of rock, and, as they came nearer, Alice could hear him sighing *as if his heart would break.* (novels)

(12c) Dodo is an animal in the story, and it is depicted as if it is a human being who can

think. Similarly, the adverbial clauses of conditions occur frequently in novels as 14 percent.

(13)

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- (a) A red-hot poker will burn you *if you hold it too long.* (novels)
- (b) She felt sure she would catch a bad cold *if she did not get dry very soon.* (novels)
- (c) “Ask her *if she saw anything,*” (novels)
- (d) “We wanted to ask you *if you’ve seen anything funny lately,*” said Hermione quickly (novels)
- (e) “But it can’t hurt you *if someone throws something at you,*” said Harry, reasonably.
- (novels)

The use of adverbial clauses of condition in novels is hypothetical. It could boost the readers’ imagination about what might happen in the next scene if the protagonist decides to perform a certain action. For example, in (13a) holding a red-hot poker for a long time can cause a burn.

Conclusion

This study investigated the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in English novels and news articles in order to answer the following research question.

“What are the semantic denotations of adverbial clauses in novels, political news articles and sports news articles?”

Based upon the political news articles, sports news articles and English novels, they are regarded as good sources for EFL and ESL learners to study temporal adverbial clauses. Temporal adverbial clauses occur frequently in these datasets. Moreover, adverbial clauses of reason and adverbial clauses of condition often occur in the data of novel in order to boost the readers’ right hemisphere referring to vividness and imagination while reading the story. So English novels could be used as beneficial sources for ESL and EFL learners to learn temporal adverbial clauses and adverbial clauses of condition.

It is also highly practical for English language learners to select political news articles to learn adverbial clauses of reason as politicians usually provide reasons to convince people to believe them.

When it comes to sport news articles, temporal adverbial clauses are used the most. This is because sports competition is controlled by duration, so sports news articles are considered as beneficial sources of materials to study temporal adverbial clauses.

The results of adverbial clauses in this study are only limited to English novels, political news articles and sports news articles. Generalizing the findings of this study to other sets of data may not be applicable to the optimal levels. For future research papers, it is suggested that examining the adverbial clauses in other types of texts, such as movies and songs would contribute something new to the field.

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