AN ANALYSIS OF RELATIVE CLAUSE
IN THE NOVEL *PAPER TOWNS* BY JOHN GREEN

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Abstract

In novel, the author makes a sentence with it structure including grammar. Every language has its grammar. In English, grammar hold an important role to be good at English, one should comprehend the structure. One of the English grammars is relative clause. The aims of this research are to find out the types and functions of relative clause used in the novel Paper Towns, and to find out what noun types that usually modified by either restrictive relative clause or non-restrictive relative clause in the novel Paper Towns. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The result showed that there are 109 relative clause sentences used in the novel Paper Towns by John Green. There are 50 sentences classified into restrictive relative clause and 59 sentences classified into non-restrictive relative clause. From 109 sentences, the writer found there are 90 sentences used as a subject, 12 sentences used as an object, 2 sentences used as an object of preposition and 5 sentences used as possessive. There are 6 sentences used pronoun, 34 used proper noun and 69 used common noun. Therefore, the noun type that usually modified by either restrictive relative clause or non-restrictive relative clause is common noun.

Keywords: Clause, Noun, Novel, Relative Clause, Relative Pronoun

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, language is one of the most important things in human's life. It is one of the most precious human's creations to communicate among us. English is probably the most widely used language in the world, with hundred million native speakers in several countries that used English as their language, and hundred million more users in other countries where English is widely known and used in business, government and media. Literature is a part of human culture which is cannot be detached from daily life. Literature is how writers express their true feelings into written words. According to Roberts and Jacobs (2003: 1) literature means compositions that tell stories, dramatize situations, express emotions, analyze and advocate ideas. Language and literature related each other. Literature is one of the most important majors in studies. By learning literature, we know how the language been produced, we can transfer meanings, values, cultures, socials, etc. One of literary works that most people like is novel. It is kind of literary works which is very popular in the modern culture.

In novel, the writer makes a sentence with it structure including grammar. A sentence has one or more main clause. According to Eastwood (1994: 317), a sentence can consist of a number of main

clauses and sub clauses. Meanwhile, Seaton and Mew (2007:139) stated that, a sentence is a group of words that express a complete though. A sentence must have a subject and a verb, but it may or may not have an object. There are 4 kinds of sentences: declarative sentence, interrogative sentence, imperative sentence and exclamatory sentence. Every language has its grammar. In English, grammar hold an important role to be good at English, one should comprehend the structure. One of the English grammars is relative clause. Azar (1999:267) stated that a clause is a group of word containing a subject and a verb. A relative clause is also called adjective clause derives from a basic structure consisting of more than one sentence. According to Azar (1999:267) Adjective clause is a dependant clause that modifies a noun. It describes, identifies, or gives further information about a noun. Meanwhile, Huddleston and Pullum (2010: 183) said that a relative clause is a special kind of subordinate clause whose primary function is as modifier to a noun or nominal.

The writer used a novel entitled Paper Towns written by John Green, primarily for an audience of young adults, and was published on October 16,2008 by Dutton Books. The writer is interesting to make Paper Towns novel as an object of the research. This novel is always interesting to be analysed, especially for the plot. The writer found some sentences using relative clause in this novel. The sentences also using

relative pronoun such as *who, whom, which, that* and *whose.* The writer wants to tell the reader of this research how to analyse the types and functions of relative clause that used in this novel. The writer also wants to tell the reader how to analyse the noun type that usually modified in this novel. This research used a novel entitled *Paper Towns* written by John Green.

METHODS

This research used descriptive qualitative method in which to analyse, describe, and summarize the various conditions, situations from various data collected in the form of results or observations to study problems that occur in the field. The source of data is sentences that contain of relative clause in the novel *Paper Towns* by John Green. The data is classified based on 2 types of relative clause using theory from Murcia & Freeman (1999) and Gelderen (2013). Then, the data is divided into their position/function according to their usage in the sentence using theory from Azar (1999). The type of noun is classified that usually modified by either restrictive relative clause or non-restrictive relative clause using theory from Huddleston & Pullum (2010), Seaton and Mew (2007) and also from Altenberg and Vago (2010).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The writer analyzed the types and functions of relative clause in sentences from

the novel *Paper Towns* by John Green and analyzed what noun type that usually modified by either restrictive relative clause or non-restrictive relative clause in this novel. The writer only used relative pronoun: *who, whom, whose, that, which* as subordinate conjunction and classified the data based on their types. The results of the study are described descriptively in the analysis.

Restrictive Relative Clause

Data: 1

> *I also don't like people who like prom.* (p. 12)

[*I also don't like people*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who like prom*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is restrictive relative clause because it is not separated from the main clause. There is no pauses or special punctuation used in this clause. The main clause followed by relative clause without commas, parentheses or dashes. The relative clause adds essential information about the noun *people* in the main clause. [*who like prom*] is the information described *people*. The information is important for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted, the reader will not get the information about *people*.

Data: 2

> *A small, olive-skinned creature who had hit puberty but never hit it very hard.* (p. 12)

[*A small, olive-skinned creature*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who had hit puberty but never hit it very hard*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is restrictive relative clause because it is not separated from the main clause. This relative clause provides information needed to identify or limit a noun in the main clause. This relative clause adds essential information about the noun *creature* in the main clause. [*who had hit puberty but never hit it very hard*] is the information described *creature*. The information is important for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted, the reader will not get the information about *creature*.

Data: 3

> *If I ever end up being the kind of person who has one kid and seven bedrooms.* (p. 47)

[*If I ever end up being the kind of person*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who has one kid and seven bedrooms*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is restrictive relative clause because it is not separated from the main clause. This relative clause does not usually modify a head noun with a generic determiner like *any* or *every*. This relative clause adds essential information about the noun *person* in the main clause. [*who has one kid and seven bedrooms*] is the information described *person*. The information is important for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted,

the reader will not get the information about *person*.

Data: 4

Did you call my friend's father who was screwing my boyfriend? (p. 69)

[*Did you call my friend's father*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who was screwing my boyfriend?]* is a relative clause. This relative clause is restrictive relative clause because it is not separated from the main clause. This relative clause provides information needed to identify or limit a noun in the main clause. This relative clause adds essential information about the noun *my friend's father* in the main clause. [*who was screwing my boyfriend?]* is the information described *my friend's father*. The information is important for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted, the reader will not get the information about *my friend's father.*

Data: 5

You know it wasn't me who squirt-peed those freshmen. (p. 97)

[*You know it wasn't me*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who squirt-peed those freshmen*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is restrictive relative clause because it is not separated from the main clause. There is no pauses or special punctuation used in this clause. The main clause followed by relative clause without commas, parentheses or dashes. The relative clause adds essential

information about the noun *me* in the main clause. [*who squirt-peed those freshmen*] is the information described *me*. The information is important for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted, the reader will not get the information about *me*.

Non-Restrictive Relative Clause
Data: 6

Myrna Mountweazel, who was her dog, is sleeping inside their room. (p. 25)

[*Myrna Mountweazel, is sleeping inside their room*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who was her dog*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is non-restrictive relative clause because it is separated from the main clause by comma. This relative clause provides additional information that is nonessential to determining the identify of a noun in the main clause. The relative clause gives non-essential information about the noun *Myrna Mountweazel* in the main clause. [*who was her dog*] is the additional information described *Myrna Mountweazel*. The information is not crucial for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly. If the relative clause omitted, the reader still gets the information about noun *Myrna Mountweazel*.

Data: 7

I bet she sucks at Resurrection, which was our favourite video game. (p. 21)

[*I bet she sucks at Resurrection*] is a main clause meanwhile [*which was our favourite video game*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is non-restrictive relative clause because it is separated from the main clause by comma. In non-restrictive relative clause, commas (or parentheses or dashes) in writing and special pauses and lower speech in speech set the relative clause of from the main clause. The relative clause gives non-essential information about the noun *Resurrection* in the main clause. [*which was our favourite video game*] is the additional information described *Resurrection.* The information is not crucial for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly.

Data: 8

We entered Wal-Mart together and picked up that thing from infomercials called The Club, which looks a car's steering wheel into place. (p. 33)

[*We entered Wal-Mart together and picked up that thing from infomercials called The Club*] is a main clause meanwhile [*which looks a car's steering wheel into place*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is non-restrictive relative clause because it is separated from the main clause by comma. In non-restrictive relative clause, commas (or parentheses or dashes) in writing and special pauses and lower speech in speech set the relative clause of from the main clause. The relative clause gives non-essential information about the noun *The Club* in the main clause.

[*which looks a car's steering wheel into place*] is the additional information described *The Club*. The information is not crucial for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly.

Data: 9

I turned back to Margo, who handed me the paper-wrapped catfish and one of Becca's sparkly purple pens. (p. 42)

[*I turned back to Margo*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who handed me the paper-wrapped catfish and one of Becca's sparkly purple pens*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is non-restrictive relative clause because it is separated from the main clause by comma. This relative clause provides additional information that is nonessential to determining the identify of a noun in the main clause. The relative clause gives non-essential information about the noun *Margo* in the main clause. [*who handed me the paper-wrapped catfish and one of Becca's sparkly purple pens*] is the additional information described *Margo*. The information is not crucial for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly.

Data: 10

They were built by Jason's dad, who is the one of the richest land developers in Florida. (p. 47)

[*They were built by Jason's dad*] is a main clause meanwhile [*who is the one of the richest land developers in Florida*] is a relative clause. This relative clause is non-

restrictive relative clause because it is separated from the main clause by comma. This relative clause provides additional information that is nonessential to determining the identify of a noun in the main clause. The relative clause gives non-essential information about the noun *Jason's dad* in the main clause. [*who is the one of the richest land developers in Florida*] is the additional information described *Jason's dad*. The information is not crucial for understanding the sentence's meaning correctly.

Position or Function of the Relative Clause in the sentence

After classifying the data, the writer found that there are 109 sentences that contain of relative clause. It is including restrictive relative clause and non-restrictive relative clause. There are sentences used as a subject, as an object, as an object of preposition and as possessive.

Relative Clause as a Subject
Data: 11

I'll email the guy who wrote most of this page and see if there are any obvious connections between Woody Guthrie and Margo. (p. 109)

[*who wrote most of this page and see if there are any obvious connections between Woody Guthrie and Margo*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *who*. The function of this relative clause is as a subject. The noun *guy* in the

main clause is refers to human and it is a personal antecedent. Relative clause as a subject use relative pronoun *who, which*, and *that*. *Who* is used for *people*. In this sentence, there is a verb *wrote* which exist after the relative pronoun *who*. The pattern of relative clause as a subject is → who/which/that + verb + complement.

Data: 12

They're just people, who deserve to be cared for. (p. 198)

[*who deserve to be cared for*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *who*. The function of this relative clause is as a subject. The noun *people* in the main clause is refers to human and it is a personal antecedent. Relative clause as a subject use relative pronoun *who, which*, and *that*. *Who* is used for *people*. In this sentence, there is a verb *deserve* which exist after the relative pronoun *which*. The pattern of relative clause as a subject is → who/which/that + verb + complement.

Data: 13

It is the machine that kills fascists. (p. 299)

[*that kills fascists*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *that*. The function of this relative clause is as a subject. The noun *machine* in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as a subject use relative pronoun *who, which, and that. Tha*t is

used for *people* or *things*. In this sentence, there is a verb *kill***s** which exist after the relative pronoun *that*. The pattern of relative clause as a subject is → who/which/that + verb + complement.

Relative Clause as an Object
Data: 14

> *My parents have taken the keys to my car and locked them inside a safe, which they put under their bed. (p. 25)*

[*which they put under their bed*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *which*. The function of this relative clause is as an object. The noun –*keys* in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as an object use relative pronoun *whom, which*, and *that*. *Which* is used for *things*. In this sentence, there is a subject *they* exist after the relative pronoun *which*. The pattern of relative clause as an object is → whom/which/that + subject + verb + complement.

Data: 15

> *One side was protected by a road, which Margo figured was regularly patrolled by night watchmen. (p. 72)*

[*which Margo figured was regularly patrolled by night watchmen*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *which*. The function of this relative clause is as an object. The noun *road* in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as an object

use relative pronoun *whom, which*, and *that*. *Which* is used for *things*. In this sentence, there is a subject *Margo* which exist after the relative pronoun *which*. The pattern of relative clause as an object is → whom/which/that + subject + verb + complement.

Data: 16

> *I can tell from minutes logged by her username, which she stored in her passwords. (p. 114)*

[*which she stored in her passwords*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *which*. The function of this relative clause is as an object. The noun *passwords* in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as an object use relative pronoun *whom, which*, and *that*. Which is used for things. In this sentence, there is a subject –*she* which exist after the relative pronoun *which*. The pattern of relative clause as an object is → whom/which/that + subject + verb + complement.

Relative Clause as an Object of Preposition
Data: 17

> *Radar's job, which he thinks about is very exciting. (p. 244)*

[*which he thinks about is very exciting*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *which*. The function of this relative clause is as an object of preposition. Preposition *about* used in informal way especially in everyday usage that comes after the verb –*thinks*. The noun

Radar's job in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as an object of preposition use relative pronoun *whom, which*, and *that*. Which is used for things. The pattern of relative clause as an object of preposition (in informal way especially in everyday usage) is → whom/which/that + subject + verb + preposition + complement.

Data: 18

It contains two large T-shirt, which Radar and Ben are very excited about. (p. 256)

[*which Radar and Ben are very excited about*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *which*. The function of this relative clause is as an object of preposition. Preposition *about* used in informal way that comes after the complement. The noun *T-shirt* in the main clause is refers to thing and it is an antecedent. Relative clause as an object of preposition use relative pronoun *whom, which*, and *that*. *Which* is used for *things*. The pattern of relative clause as an object of preposition is → whom/which/that + subject + verb + complement + preposition.

Relative Clause Using Whose/as Possessive
Data: 19

$200 in cash should be provided to each of the 12 people, whose bikes your colleagues destroyed via Chevy Tahoe. (p. 97)

[*whose bikes your colleagues destroyed via Chevy Tahoe*] are a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *whose* to replace possessive word their and modified the noun *each of the 12 people*. The function of this relative clause is as possessive. Relative clause as possessive only use relative pronoun *whose*. *Whose* is used to show possession like *his, her, its* and *their*. *Whose* is connected with a noun. *Whose* usually modifies people, but it also modifies things.

Data: 20

A guy whose strings were broken. (p. 300)

[*whose strings were broken*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *whose* to replace possessive word his and modified the noun *a guy*. The function of this relative clause is as possessive. Relative clause as possessive only use relative pronoun *whose*. *Whose* is used to show possession like *his, her, its* and *their*. *Whose* is connected with a noun. *Whose* usually modifies people, but it also modify things.

Data: 21

Quentin and Margo and Myrna Mount weazel are investigating the death of Robert Joyner, whose death is exactly like his real-life death except instead of having obviously shot himself in the face. (p. 289)

[*whose death is exactly like his real-life death except instead of having obviously shot himself in the face*] is a relative clause. This relative clause used the relative pronoun *whose* to replace possessive word his and modified the noun *Robert Joyner*. The function of this relative clause is as possessive. Relative clause as a possessive only use relative pronoun *whose*. *Whose* is used to show possession like *his, her, its* and *their*. *Whose* is connected with a noun. *Whose* usually modifies people, but it also modify things.

Noun type that modified by either Restrictive Relative Clause or Non-Restrictive Relative Clause

After classifying the data, the writer found that there are 109 sentences that contain of relative clause. It is including restrictive relative clause and non-restrictive relative clause. There are 6 sentences used pronoun 34 used proper noun and 69 used common noun.

Pronoun
Data: 22

You know it wasn't me who squirt-peed those freshmen. (p. 97)

[*me*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*me*]. This is pronoun because [*me*] is a 1st person singular. Pronouns constitute a fairly small class or words distinguished from other nouns most clearly by their inability to combine with determiners. The most central ones differ inflectionally from other nouns e. g in having a contrast between nominative and accusative forms.

Data: 23

It was her, who stand by my side. (p. 74)

[*her*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*her*]. This is pronoun because [*her*] is a 3rd person singular for female. Pronouns constitute a fairly small class or words distinguished from other nouns most clearly by their inability to combine with determiners. The most central ones differ inflectionally from other nouns e. g in having a contrast between nominative and accusative forms.

Data: 24

I thank to him who found the paper. (p. 89)

[*him*] is a noun. This noun is modified by restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*him*]. This is pronoun because [*him*] is a 3rd person singular for male. Pronoun constitute a fairly small class or words distinguished from other nouns most clearly by their inability to combine with determiners. The most central

ones differ inflectionally from other nouns e. g in having a contrast between nominative and accusative forms.

Proper Noun

Data: 25

Margo Roth Spiegelmen, who drank a cup of herbal tea with the Mallionaires backstage after a concert in St. Louis while they drank whiskey. (p. 15)

[*Margo Roth Spiegelmen*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*Margo Roth Spiegelmen*]. This is proper noun because [*Margo Roth Spiegelmen*] is the name of a person. Proper nouns characteristically function as the head of NPs serving as proper names, names individually assigned to particular people, places, festivals, etc. they also occur, derivatively, in other kinds of NP. Nouns that are actual names, for example Mary, are called proper nouns.

Data: 26

Myrna Mount weazel, who was her dog, is sleeping inside their room. (p. 25)

[*Myrna Mountweazel*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*Myrna Mountweazel*]. This is proper noun because [*Myrna Mountweazel*] is the name of a person. Proper nouns characteristically function as the head of NPs

serving as proper names, names individually assigned to particular people, places, festivals, etc. they also occur, derivatively, in other kinds of NP.

Data: 27

It certainly does not look like a Tower of Light, which is the actual name of the culpture. (p. 54)

[*Tower of Light*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *which* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*Tower of Light*]. This is proper noun because [*Tower of Light*] is the name of a landmark. Proper nouns characteristically function as the head of NPs serving as proper names, names individually assigned to particular people, places, festivals, etc. they also occur, derivatively, in other kinds of NP. The names of towns, cities, buildings and landmarks are proper nouns.

Common Noun

Data: 28

Dialled the number that Margo recited to me. (p. 39)

[*number*] is a noun. This noun is modified by restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *that* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*number*]. This is common noun because [*number*] is a thing and not specific. Common nouns are words for people, animals, places, or things. Common nouns represent the default

subclass, lacking the special properties of pronouns and proper nouns.

Data: 29

He just held his hands far away from his t-shirt, which only sort of worked. (p. 95)

[*t-shirt*] is a noun. This noun is modified by non-restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *which* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*t-shirt*]. This is common noun because [*t-shirt*] is a thing and it is not a special thing. Common nouns are words for people, animals, places, or things. Common nouns represent the default subclass, lacking the special properties of pronouns and proper nouns.

Data: 30

The only teenaged guy in America who dreams of sleeping with girls. (p. 176)

[*guy*] is a noun. This noun is modified by restrictive relative clause. This relative clause used *who* as subordinate conjunction and modified the noun [*guy*]. This is common noun because [*guy*] is a thing and it is not a name. Common nouns are words for people, animals, places, or things. Nouns that are not names are called common nouns, e.g. girl.

CONCLUSION

There are sentences classified into restrictive relative clause and non-restrictive relative clause. This research found there are 90 sentences used as a subject, 12 sentences used as an object, 2 sentences used as an object of preposition and 5 sentences used as possessive. There are 6 sentences used pronoun, 34 used proper noun and 69 used common noun. Therefore, the noun type that usually modified by either restrictive relative clause or non-restrictive relative clause is common noun.

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