

THE ANALYSIS OF COORDINATING CONJUNCTION IN THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN NOVEL

Ni Putu Jeni Aswaria Dewi¹, Ni Putu Cahyani Putri Utami²

^{1,2}English Study Program, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Universitas Mahasaraswati Denpasar, Jl. Kamboja No.11A Denpasar - Bali, Indonesia

E-mail: putujeni32359@gmail.com¹ mcahyaniputri@unmas.ac.id²

Abstract — This research objective is to categorize and finding various types of coordinating conjunctions as well as their syntactic structures in Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The data source from this study was a novel by Mark Twain titled "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn". By reading the book several times, noting the coordinating conjunctions, and categorizing the data in the novel according to the various categorize, and this study used the qualitative method with the data and observation technique. To convey the results both formal and informal methods was used, the informal method provides descriptive explanation of the coordinating conjunction types, whereas the formal method used a tree diagram to visually represent and illustrate syntactic structures of sentences. This research using theory from Quirk et al., (1985)^[8] which provides an in-depth explanation of syntax to describe types of coordinating conjunctions and using from Brown and Miller (1991)^[1] theory to examine the compound sentences' syntactic structure related to tree diagrams. The theory focuses on the structural representation of sentences using tree diagrams to illustrate syntactic relationships. Using these theories can help us to understand the sentence structure more clearly. The result of this study shown that are five coordinating conjunctions identify in the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, consisting with conjunctions "For" with 4 instances (1.76%), "And" 154 instances (67.85%), "But" 51 instances (22.46%), "Or" 2 instances (0.88%), and "So" 16 instances (7.05%).

Keywords — *Compound Sentences, Syntactic Structures, Coordinating Conjunctions, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

1. Introduction

Linguistics is the academic field of studying language focusing on various aspects communication and language structure (Oxford University Press,2003) [6]. According to Goldstein (2008:1) [4], language is the way of resulting expression by using symbols and sounds to express ideas, feelings, experiences, and thoughts. There are several sub-fields within linguistics, including syntax, morphology, phonology, phonetics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics and semantics. Syntax is one of the parts that deals with the organization of words and phrases to create sentences and grammatical structures. According to Chomsky (2002:1) [2] defines syntax as the study of how languages structure words and phrases to create coherent sentences, emphasizing the understanding of how individual words and phrases fit together to form grammatical structure.

Syntactic analysis, developing a grammar that serves as a tool to generate a language's sentences constitutes one of the other significant aspects of linguistics. This involves understanding the structure and function of different types of sentences. However, A sentence is a combination of words using a main idea object, verb, subject, and punctuation mark serving as the content. Based on (Oshima & Hogue, 1998)[5] theory, sentences can be categorized into four types: a simple sentence composed of only a single independent sentence with just one subject and verb, compound sentence consists of at least two independent sentence connecting with conjunctive adverb, semicolon, and the coordinate conjunction, complex sentences have one independent clause consisting of minimum of one additional dependent sentence, and compound-complex sentence is the sentence containing two or more independent sentences in it .

This study focused on coordinating conjunctions and their role in syntactical structures. Coordinating conjunctions such as *for*, *and*, *nor*, *but*, *or*, *yet*, *so* in the acronym FANBOYS are used to join independent clauses within compound sentences. To analyze these conjunctions and their syntactical roles, this study provides use of Quirk et al. (1985) [8] theory of coordinating conjunctions and Brown and Miller's (1991) [1] theory about syntactical structure. Based on Quirk et al., (1985) [8] identify these seven types of coordinating conjunction, while Brown and Miller (1991) [1], give a procedure for applying tree diagrams to analyze syntactic structures. The purpose of this study is to figure out how *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* use coordinating conjunctions and to use these ideas to the syntactical analysis of compound sentences. This study will provide insight into syntactic patterns in literature and help in understanding Mark Twain's storytelling tactics.

2. Literature Review

The literature review examines for study related to coordinating conjunctions and syntactical structures in compound sentences, each contributing valuable insight but requiring better organization and critical analysis. The first study, "Syntactic Coordination of Compound Sentence Found in the Novel Entitled "Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien" by (Winarta et al., 2022)[11], have analyzed compound sentence coordination using descriptive qualitative methods and established foundational insights into syntactic structures in literary works. Meanwhile, this study focused on identifying coordination types without delving into the broader implications of syntactic patterns on narrative style or reader interpretation, leaving gaps in understanding the functional significance of syntax in literature. This study builds on the foundation laid by the previous study by not only analyzing syntactic coordination but also exploring how these structures influence narrative technique and reader engagement, thereby contributing to a more comprehensive view of syntax in literary analysis. In addition, by incorporating a comparative approach across different genres or authors, this study seeks to determine whether specific syntactic patterns are unique to certain literary styles, thus extending the inquiry into the role of syntax in shaping literary expression.

The second study, "Coordinate Structure of Compound Sentences Found in Britannica.com About Titanic" by Datu and Maharani (2023) [3], reviews a variety of coordinating conjunctions that may be found in Titanic compound phrases in an article on Britannica.com. The descriptive qualitative method was examined using Quirk and Greenbaum (1973) theory, which classifies the data as syndetic, asyndetic coordination, syndetic asyndetic coordination. There are 18 asyndetic coordinated data, 7 syndetic and asyndetic coordinated data, and 27 syndetic coordinated data. Twenty-one data in syndetic coordination use "and" five data use "but" and one data uses "so." In contrast, 3 data use "semicolon" (;) and 15 data use "commas" (,) in asyndetic coordination. Both syndetic and asyndetic coordination, together with conjunction and punctuation use, are used in last seven data points. While this study makes an important contribution to understanding the structure of coordination in compound sentences, it does not delve deeply into how these structures affect reader comprehension or how the use of conjunctions varies across different contexts. Additionally, the study does not explore how the use of these coordination structures varies across different types of texts or media. Therefore, to fill up these gaps, the present study investigates the kinds of coordinating conjunctions that are applied as well as, the current study investigates not just the kinds of coordinating conjunctions that are being use but also their impact on reader comprehension in a broader and cross-media context, with a particular focus on functional and contextual analysis of these conjunctions.

The third study, "The Syntactical Analysis of Compound Sentence Found in Crazy Rich Asians Novel" from (Putra et al., 2024)[7], explains a compound sentence from Kevin Kwan's book *Crazy Rich Asians* novel book, It applies to the various types of sentences by Oshima and Hogue's (1998) theories using a qualitative method and theory to investigate syntactic patterns in order to produce a tree diagram by applying Brown and Miller's (1991) analysis. The research study provides the results in two ways: informally using words to describe the data in a descriptive way and formally using a tree diagram. Identifying 38 data which are connected to the coordinator, just three data are associated with the semicolon or comma, while the remaining two are associated with the conjunctive adverb. However, although this analysis offers useful knowledge from the novel's compound sentences syntactical structures, it does not address the broader implications of these structures within the context of the novel's narrative or thematic content. This is where the current study aims to build upon and diverge from the previous work, by exploring not only syntactical structures, but also how these structures contribute to the overall meaning and impact of the text. The gap identified in the literature is the lack of analysis connecting syntactical features with narrative functions in literary works, which aims of

this study to fill, thereby advancing the field by offering a more comprehensive understanding of the role that syntax plays in shaping literary narratives.

The last study, “Compound Sentences In The Tripadvisor Reviews” was adapted by Wiguna et al (2021)[10], examines the coordination forms and syntactical structure in compound sentences from *The Padma Legian Resort and Padma Ubud Resort on TripAdvisor reviews* from June 19 to September 2019. Using a combination of quantitative and descriptive qualitative techniques. This research applies the theory of Quirk and Greenbaum (1973) to distinguish between many forms of coordinating that compound sentences offer. Additionally, Brown and Miller (1991) theories may be utilized to determine the syntactical structure of a tree diagram. Both a formal and informal presentation approach was used for this analysis. It identifies three types of coordination: asyndetic coordination with 24 data (24%) and compound phrases that established the two approaches with 9 data (9%), and syndetic coordination with 67 data (67%). Although this study offers insightful information on the syntactical patterns of compound sentences, it does not examine the potential impact of these structures on the readability or persuasiveness of the reviews. This is a gap that the current study seeks to fill. In addition, by focusing on a broader range of syntactical features across different types of online content, the current study extends the scope of Wiguna et al.,’s study, offering a more comprehensive understanding of language use in digital reviews.

3. Research Method

All the data used in this study came from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain's book. Gramedia Pustaka Utama released this 440-page book in Indonesia in 2018. It intricately portrays the adventures of Huck Finn, an orphaned boy, and his companion Jim, a runaway slave, as they navigate the Mississippi River and delve into themes of companionship, liberty, and societal inequities. The researcher was chosen this novel as the data source because in this novel Mark Twain frequently used coordinating conjunctions like “for”, “and”, “but”, “or” and “so” to link clauses within compound sentences, and providing examples for analysis. The novel’s varied narrative techniques, including dialogue, internal monologue, and descriptive passages, offer different contexts in which these conjunctions are employed, allowing for a comprehensive examination of their function across different types of text. Twain's compound sentence structures further highlight how coordinating conjunctions contribute to sentence flow and meaning that related to this study, which is also examined utilizing theories developed by Quirk et al. (1985) [8], which offer a thorough explanation of English syntax and the many varieties of coordinating conjunctions and Using the idea of Brown and Miller (1991) [1], the syntactic structure of compound sentences including tree diagrams was examined. The theory focuses on the structural representation of sentences using tree diagrams to illustrate syntactic relationships. These theories provide an extensive and systematic examination of English grammar, including detailed insights into sentence structures, making it an invaluable resource for syntactic analysis and offers a thorough understanding of sentence construction, with a particular focus on the formation and function of the compound sentence.

The following steps were implemented in order to gather information for this study using observation techniques. First, read the novel by Mark Twain entitled *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, a few times to make sure that you comprehend all the text. In each reading, attention is focused on identifying compound sentences based on the types, which include the presence of coordinating conjunctions such as “for”, "and", "but", "or" and “so, as well as sentence structures with at least two independent clauses. Second, compound sentences that have been identified are marked in the novel using a pencil. The final step is classifying the information in the book by making a table in Microsoft Word according to the different types that have been identified and found. These sentences are grouped into certain types according to their conjunction function, such as *for* is indicating the reason/cause, *and* to indicating addition and continuously, *but* indicating the contrast, *or* indicating the alternative, and *so* to indicating the result/consequence. A predetermined coding scheme was used to ensure consistent and accurate categorization, with any uncertainties resolved through the review of definitions and examples. The research was using qualitative methods to analyze the data and identify the kinds of coordinating conjunctions in Mark Twain’s novel entitled *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The outcomes of the data analysis were presented in this study using both formal and informal methodologies. The kinds of coordinating conjunction are explained descriptively via the informal approach, while the formal method used tree diagrams to visually represent and illustrate their constituent structures.

4. Result and Discussion

A. Result

This research analyzed the various kinds of coordinating conjunctions in compound sentence by Quirk et al., (1985) theory [8] and syntactical structure Brown and Miller (1991) theory [1]. The analysis identified five types of Coordinating Conjunctions used in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* such as *for*, *and*, *but*, *or*, and *so*. The table below provides specifics on how these coordinating conjunctions are distributed.

The Table 1
 Distribution of Coordinating Conjunctions in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* Novel

No	Types of Coordinating Conjunction	Data	Percentage
1.	For	4	1.76%
2.	And	154	67.85%
3.	But	51	22.46%
4.	Or	2	0.88%
5.	So	16	7.05%
	Total	227	100%

The table above presents the data and the percentage of each type of coordinating conjunctions identified in a novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. In this novel there are 227 instances of coordinating conjunctions *and* is the most dominant used with 154 instances (67.85%), it because *and* contributes to a continuous and flowing narrative style, where clauses are connected in a cumulative manner and helps to create a sense of ongoing connection and progression in the narrative. In contrast, *but* used with 51 instances (22.46%) indicating a significant role in introducing contrast or opposition within the text, the conjunction *so* is used with 16 instances (7.05) indicating causality or result, while the conjunctions *for* and *or* used minimally, with 4 (1.76%) and 2 (0.88%) instances, it is indicating that Twain's focus is less on providing explanations or alternatives.

B. Discussion

This section discusses the type of coordinating conjunction and its syntactical structure, proposed by Quirk et al., (1985) [8] and Brown and Miller (1991) [1], the study identifies five types of coordinating conjunction to be analyzed with syntactical structure through tree diagram such as *for*, *and*, *but*, *or*, and *so* in this study.

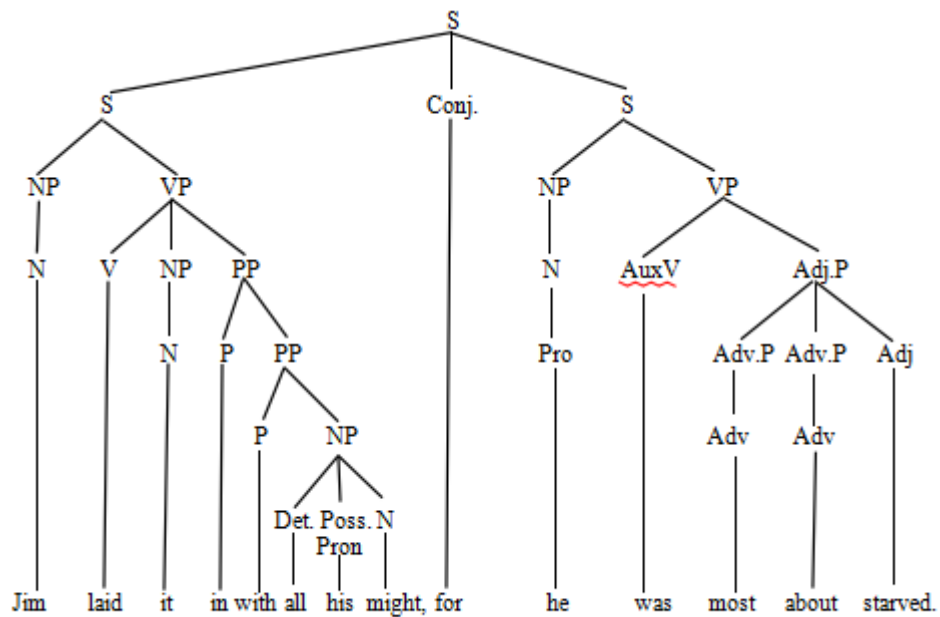
1. Coordinating Conjunction For

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the coordinating conjunction *for*, is used in the sentence:

Data (1): Jim laid it in with all his might, for he was most about starved. (Line 30–31, page 72 chapter 8)

This sentence illustrates the role of *for* as a coordinating conjunction that links two independent clauses: “Jim laid it in with all his might” and “he was most about starved” the conjunction *for* is to explain the explanation for the action mentioned in the first line by pointing to a causal link. The related tree diagram describes this sentence's syntactical structure.





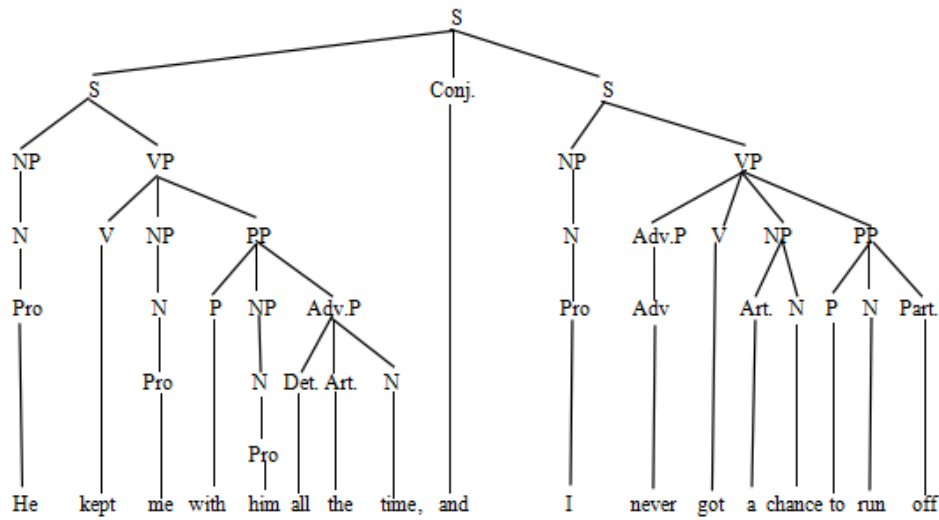
In the tree diagram, the main clause “Jim laid it in with all his might” is shown as the main clause(S), with “for” as the coordinating conjunction(C) and “he was most about starved” as the coordinate clause(S). The noun phrase (NP) and verb phrase (VP) that make up the main sentences are separated out even more. A noun (N) on the left constructs the noun phrase, whilst a verb (V), another noun phrase (NP), and a preposition phrase (PP) make up the verb phrase. Preposition (P) and preposition phrase (PP) combine to form the PP, while a noun (N) makes up the NP. P and NP support the PP, with the NP being made up of a noun (N), a possessive pronoun (Poss.Pron), and a determiner (Det.). On the right side, noun phrase (NP) constructed by a noun (N) and pro (pronoun), while verb phrase formed by auxiliary verb (Aux.V) and adjective phrase (Adj.P), adjective phrase constructed by adverb phrase (Adv.P), adverb phrase (Adv.P) and adjective (Adj.) both Adv.P stands by adverb (Adv). This detailed breakdown helps clarify how the coordinating conjunction “For” connects the clauses and how the tree diagram visually represents the syntactical structure of the sentence.

2. Coordinating Conjunction And

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the coordinating conjunction *and* appears in the sentence:

Data (2): He kept me with him all the time, and I never got a chance to run off. (Line 10-11, page 45 chapter 6)

The conjunction *and* function to connect two independent clauses: “He kept me with him all the time” and “I never got a chance to run off.” Its role is to link these clauses, indicating that both actions are related and occur simultaneously. According to Brown and Miller (1991) [1] theory, this used of *and* creates a compound sentence, where the conjunction serves to join clauses that share a common context or contribute to a continuous narrative.



According to the tree diagram, the sentence provides a visual representation of this syntactical structure. The tree diagram divides into three branches: the first independent clause on the left side, C is indicating conjunction *and*, and the second independent clause on the right side. Both independent clauses have two daughters, those are noun phrase (NP) and verb phrase (VP). On the left side, the noun phrase (NP) constructed with Noun(N) and Pronoun (Pro), and the verb phrase (VP) constructed with Verb, noun phrase (NP) and preposition phrase (PP), noun phrase stands with Noun and pronoun, and the PP constructed with Preposition, NP, and adverb phrase (Adv.P), the NP stands by Nouns and Pronoun, and Adv.P stands with determiner (Det.), an article (Art.), and Noun. On the right side, noun phrase (NP) is also composed of a noun and pronoun, while verb phrase (VP) is composed of adverb phrase (Adv.P), verb, noun phrase (NP), and preposition phrase (PP), the Adv.P consists of an adverb, the NP includes an article and noun, and the PP consist of preposition, a noun, and particle. This tree diagram not only illustrates how *and* connects the two independent clauses but also demonstrates how the conjunction integrates the components of each clause, reflecting their roles and relationship within the overall sentence structure.

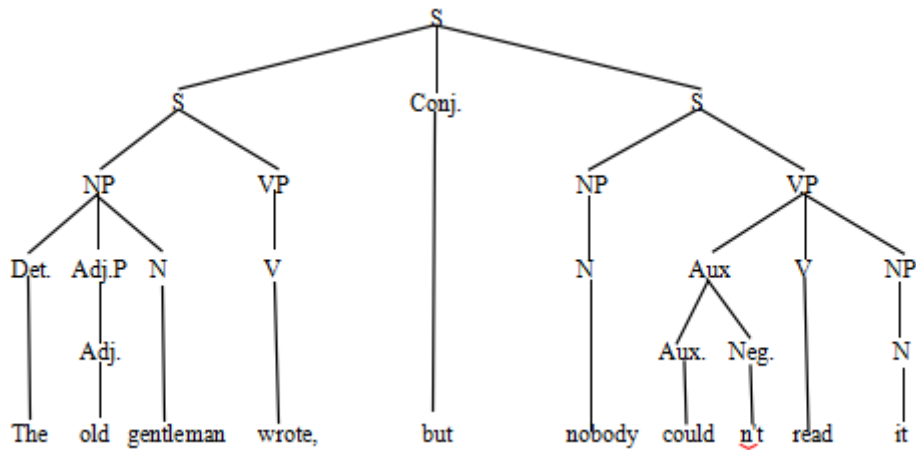
3. Coordinating Conjunction But

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the coordinating conjunction *but* appears in the sentence:

Data (3): The old gentleman wrote, but nobody couldn't read it. (Line 9-10, page 300 chapter 29)

According to the data, the coordinating conjunction *but* connects two independent clauses "The old gentleman wrote" and "nobody couldn't read it," and it indicates a contrast between these clauses. This contrast highlights a disparity between the action of writing and the inability to read, emphasizing a shift or contradiction in the sentence's meaning.





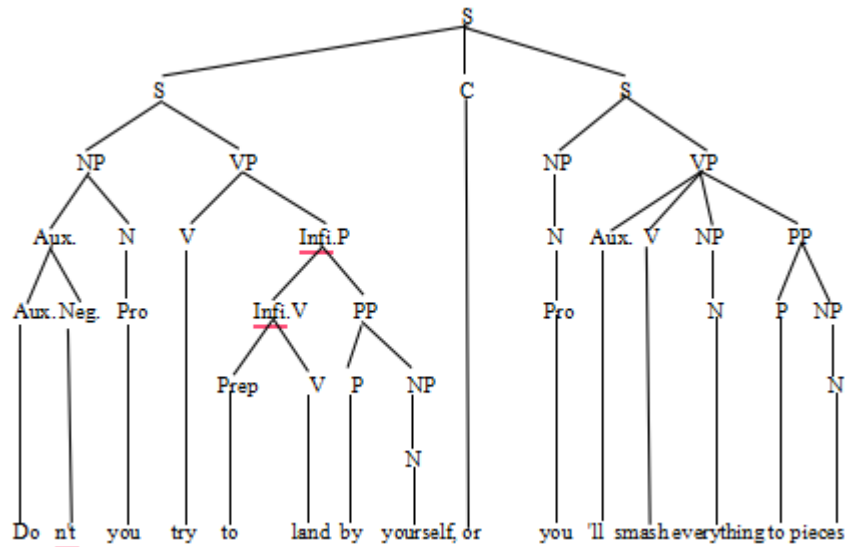
Considering the theory given around by Brown and Miller (1991) [1], the tree diagram below illustrates this syntactical structure. The tree diagram divides the sentence into three primary branches: the first independent clause on the left side, the coordinating conjunction *but* and the second independent clause on the right side. Both of the independent clauses have two daughters, noun phrase (NP) and verb phrase (VP), on the left side, the noun phrase (NP) is constructed using the determiner (Det.), the adjective phrase (Adj.P) stands by the adjective, and the verb phrase (VP) stands by the verb. The auxiliary (Aux.) and the negation (Neg.) support the modal auxiliary; the noun supports the noun phrase (NP) on the right side; the verb, the modal auxiliary, and the NP make up the VP. This detailed analysis helps to visually represent how *but* functions to contrast two clauses, showing the relationship and contrast within the sentence.

4. Coordinating Conjunction Or

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* Novel, the coordinating conjunction *or* is the rare use by Twain's writing with 2 instances (0.88%), it because Twain's writing often emphasizes a direct and engaging style, focusing on immediate actions and dialogues that advance the plot. The novel's content, centers on adventure and direct interactions, frequently employs conjunctions like "and" and "but" to maintain a fluid, continuous narrative and to highlight contrast or additions rather than alternatives. Additionally, Twain's stylistic preference leans towards simplicity and immediacy in conveying the story. The following statement serves as a representation of a coordinating conjunction:

Data (4): Don't you try to land by yourself, or you'll smash everything to pieces. (Line 4-5, page 143 chapter 16)

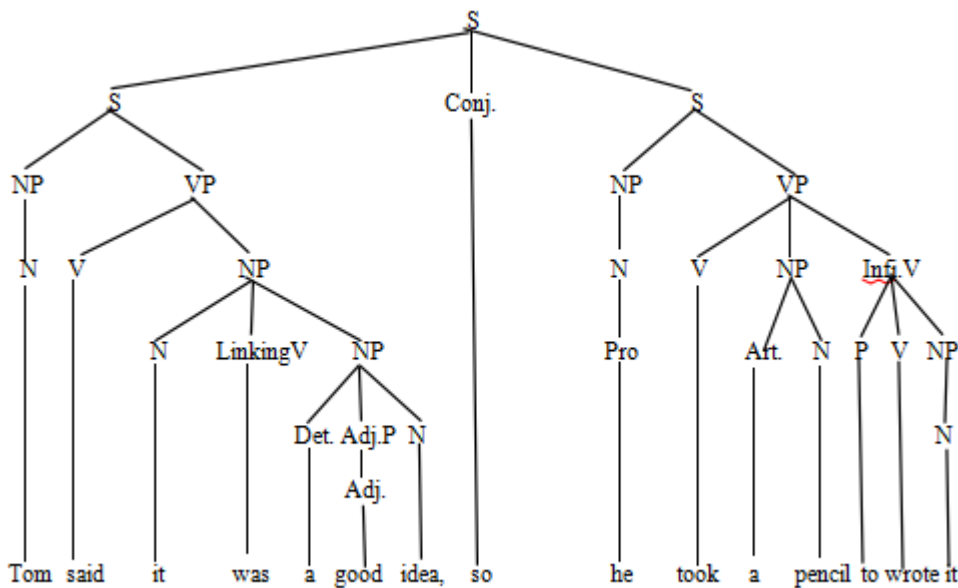
In the data the clause "Don't you try to land by yourself" and "you'll smash everything to pieces." connect by *or* It describes what occurred or the consequence resulting from the first clause's implementation.



Based on the data, the sentence is divided into three S+C+S. Both of the independent clauses have daughters, both verb (VP) and noun (NP) phrases. On the left, noun phrase (NP) constructed by auxiliary and noun, auxiliary stands by auxiliary (Aux.) and negative (Neg.), and the noun stands by the pronoun, the verb phrase (VP) formed by verb and infinitive phrase (Infi.P), and the infinitive phrase constructed by infinitive verb and preposition phrase (PP). The infi.V stands for preposition and verb, and preposition phrase (PP) stands for preposition and NP; the NP stands for a noun. An auxiliary verb, a noun, and preposition phrase (PP) contributes to verb phrase (VP); the noun in the VP stands by NP in the VP, and the noun in the PP follows by a preposition and another NP. The noun and pronoun construct the NP on the right.

5. Coordinating Conjunction So

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the coordinating conjunction *so* is exemplified the sentence. **Data (5):** Tom said it was a good idea, so he took a pencil to wrote it. (Line 5-6, page 21 chapter 2) In this data, there are two independent clauses, both are “Tom said it was a good idea” and “he took a pencil to wrote it.” These clauses joined by coordinating conjunction *so* to indicating the result or consequence of the actions described in the first clause.



The data above contains two independent clauses, each with a noun phrase (NP) and verb phrase (VP) and its components. The verb phrase (VP) stands by verb and noun phrase (NP), with a noun in the left-hand independent clause serving as a representation of the noun phrase (NP). The noun phrase (NP) is constructed from a noun, a linking verb, and another noun phrase (NP), where the NP consists of a determiner (Det.), an adjective phrase (Adj.P.), and a noun; the adjective phrase is composed of an adjective. The noun phrase (NP) on the right is stands by a noun and a pronoun; verb phrase (VP) is constructs of verb, noun phrase (NP), and infinitive verb; the article (Art.) stands between NP and noun phrase (NP); and the preposition, verb, and noun phrase (NP) stand between the noun and the infinitive verb. And also, the NP is simply a noun.

5. Conclusion

This study analyzed coordinating conjunctions in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* novel by Mark Twain using theories of Quirk et al (1985) [8] and Brown and Miller (1991) [1]. According to Quirk et al (1985)[8] theory, a total of 227 instances of coordinating conjunction were identified, that divided into 5 types consist of conjunction “and” emerged as the most dominant with 154 occurrences (67.85%), followed by “but” with 51 occurrences (22.46%), “so” with 16 occurrences (7.05%), “for” with 4 occurrences (1.76%) , and “or” with 2 occurrences (0.88%). The result highlights “and” as the most frequently used coordinating conjunction from the novel, reflecting Twain’s stylistic preference for connecting ideas continuously. The use of “and” may contribute to the rhythmic and flowing narrative style, enhancing the cohesion and depth of storytelling.

Meanwhile, in terms of syntactic structures proposed by Brown and Miller (1991) [1] theory, compound sentences in the novel consist of two independent clauses that joined by coordinating conjunction. The tree diagram used in this study primarily consists of three elements: verb phrase (VP), noun phrase (NP), and sentence (S). This structure provides insight into Twain’s method of constructing compound sentences and underscore Twain’s narrative technique and its impact on reader interpretation. Future study could extend their analysis to other works by Twain or compare these syntactic patterns with other literary texts to explore broader implications for narrative style and structure.

References

- [1]Brown, K., & Miller, J. (1991). *Syntax: A linguistic introduction to sentence structure*. Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/mono/10.4324/9781003070702-3/constituent-structure-keith-brown-jim-miller>
- [2]Chomsky, N. (2002). *Syntactic Structures* (p. 136). https://tallinzen.net/media/readings/chomsky_syntactic_structures.pdf.
- [3]Datu, I. A. K. N. C. D., & Maharani, P. D. (2023). COORDINATE STRUCTURE OF COMPOUND SENTENCES FOUND IN BRITANNICA. COM ABOUT TITANIC. *LINGUISTIK: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 8(4), 596-602.
- [4]Goldstein, E. B. (2008). *Cognitive psychology* (3rd ed.). Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
- [5]Oshima, A., & Hogue, A. (1998). *Writing Academic English*, Fourth Edition. In *Longman*. https://www.academia.edu/34852184/Oshima_alice_hogue_ann_writing_academic_english
- [6]Oxford University Press. (2003). *Oxford learner’s pocket dictionary*. Third Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- [7]Putra, I. W. A. A., Putra, I. G. B. W. N., & Maharani, P. D. (2024). The Syntactical Analysis of Compound Sentence Found in Crazy Rich Asians Novel. *Journal of Language and Applied Linguistics*, 5(1), 44–53. <https://doi.org/10.22334/traverse.v5i1.233>
- [8]Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G., & Svartvik, J. (1985). *Linguistic Society of America A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language by Randolph Quirk ; Sidney Greenbaum ; Geoffrey Leech ; Jan Svartvik Review by : Rodney Huddleston SID- A comprehensive Index by David*. 64(2), 345–354.
- [9]Twain, M. (2018). *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- [10]Wiguna, I. G. A. Y. N., Nugraha, I. W., & Winarta, I. G. N. (2021). Compound Sentences In The Tripadvisor Reviews. *Social Science, Public Administration and Management (HUSOCPUMENT)*, 1(3), 114–119.

<https://www.publication.idsolutions.co.id/journals/index.php/husocpument/DOI:https://doi.org/10.51715/husocpument.v1i3.47>

- [11] Winarta, I. B. G. N., Marantika, I. M. Y., & Gunawan, I. B. M. S. (2022). Syntactic Coordination of Compound Sentence Found in the Novel Entitled “Hobbit” by J.R.R. Tolkien. *Proceedings of Seminar Nasional Riset Linguistik Dan Pengajaran Bahasa (SENARILIP VI)*, 4(1), 146–150. <http://ojs.pnb.ac.id/index.php/Proceedings>

