

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains the things which have relation with the topic of discussion. It includes the background of the study, the reason of choosing the topic, the statement of the problems, the objective of the study, the scope of the problem, the significance of the study, and the method of study.

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

In linguistics, a compound consists of two or more free morphemes (words that can stand on their own and have their own meaning) that combine to form a new word, as stated by Stageberg that compounding is simply the joining of two or more words into a single word (1977: 127). Compound words are formed by parts of speech such as, noun, verb, adjective, adverb, et cetera. Further, compound words may be classified in several ways, such as compound nouns, compound verbs, compound adjectives, and compound adverbs. Compound noun may contain a noun followed by another noun, an adjective followed by a noun or a preposition followed by a noun. Meanwhile, compound verb is usually composed of a preposition and a verb, although other combinations also exist. Likewise, compound adjective is constructed in a very similar way to the compound noun. In addition, compound adjective may contain a noun followed by an adjective, an adjective followed by an adjective (derived from the past participle form of a verb), and a preposition followed by an adjective (derived

from the present or past participle form of a verb) (Katamba, 1993:306). Compound adverbs may contain an adverb followed by another adverb, an adverb followed by an adjective, or an adverb followed by a noun.

Further, the grammatical categories of English compound are the categorical parts to which they belong. Most English compound words consist of head, i.e. the categorical part that contains the basic meaning of the whole compound, and modifier which restricts the meaning of the head. If head and modifier do not belong to the same class, the compound generally belongs to word class of the head.

The meaning of English compound word is not only the sum of the meanings of its parts, but also the extent of meaning of the individual parts and there are other compounds that do not seem to relate to the meanings of the individual parts at all (Fromkin & Rodman, 1993:55).

For example:

- (1) Many people see *witchcraft* as a thing of the past, but in many countries it still plays a role (taken from *Holland Horizon*, 2004: 11).
- (2) The rise of consumer culture created a new scenery in the large cities in Asia, and *everywhere* there were *high – rise* buildings, *shopping malls*, *convenience store*, luxury apartments, *fas: food*, trainers – these things became part of daily life in the region (taken from *Asia Pacific Perspective*, 2003: 37).

The first example shows that the compound *witchcraft* is formed by the noun *witch* and the noun *craft*. The compound *witchcraft* in the sentence functions as

object of the verb *see*, so the grammatical category of *witchcraft* is noun. *Witchcraft* means “use of magic (especially evil) powers.” While, in the second example there are two compounds. They are compound adjective and compound noun. Compound adjective is *high-rise*, while compound nouns are *everywhere*, *shopping malls*, *convenience store*, and *fast food*. *High-rise* is constructed by the adjective *high* and the verb *rise*. The function of *high-rise* in the sentence (2) is modifier of the noun *buildings*; hence it is classified as adjective. The meaning of *high-rise* is “very tall, with many floors.” Further, the compound *everywhere* is constructed by the adverb *every* and the noun *where*. In the sentence (2) above *everywhere* acts as subject of the linking verb *were*; hence it belongs to noun. *Everywhere* means “in or to every place.” Next, *shopping malls* is composed of verb in *-ing* form *shopping* and plural noun *malls*. The compound *shopping malls* functions as subjective complement, hence it belongs to noun. *Shopping malls* means “covered area that contains many shops and is closed to traffic.” Next, *convenience store* is formed by the noun *convenience* and the noun *store*. *Convenience store* in the sentence (2) acts as subjective complement; thus it is classified as noun. *Convenience store* means “a shop that sells food, household items, et cetera and stays open longer than other shops.” While, *fast food* is constructed by the adjective *fast* and the noun *food*. In the sentence (2) *fast food* functions as subjective complement, so the grammatical category of *fast food* is noun. *Fast food* means “food that can be cooked easily and is sold by restaurants to be eaten quickly or taken away.”

Concerning the examples above it can be said that the meaning of compound cannot be simply deduced from the meaning of its elements but also from the extent of its individual parts.

In fact the compound word is formed by parts of speech that join together to form a single word. Further, the grammatical category of compound word depends on its function in sentence. The meaning of compound word depends on not only the meaning of its parts, but also the extent of the meaning of individual parts.

### **1.2 The Reason of Choosing the Topic**

Compound word is one of essential materials commonly studied by students, so it needs discussing scientifically. Besides, the researcher finds that compound words bear so many complicated problems, such as their formation processes, grammatical categories, and the meaning of those compound words, that's why, the researcher is quite eager to do a research on the topic intended. Further, compound word is never discussed by students of Widya Mandala University as the material of their thesis, so it is considered necessary to do a research on it. In addition, the researcher wants to analyze compound words more deeply in order to get some alternative solutions on the problems.

### **1.3 The Statement of the Problems**

In connection with the English compound words, the researcher discusses some problems of the study. They are as follows:

1. How are the compound words formed in *Holland Horizon*?
2. What are the grammatical categories of those English compound words?
3. What are the meanings of those English compound words?

#### **1.4 The Objectives of the Study**

In line with the problems as stated above, this research tries to answer the three questions, namely:

1. To find out the formation processes of compound words in *Holland Horizon*.
2. To clarify the grammatical categories of those English compound words.
3. To search the meanings of those English compound words.

#### **1.5 The Scope of the Problem**

It is important to limit the scope of the problems in this study in order to get detailed information about the topic of discussion. Actually, the problems of compound word are related with various aspects, such as their elements, their grammatical categories, their orthographies, their stress patterns, and their meanings. But this study just picks out three aspects to discuss, namely, the formation processes of English compound words, the grammatical categories of those English compound words, and the meanings of those English compound words used in *Holland Horizon*.

As we know compound word is formed by parts of speech, such as noun, verb, adjective, adverb, et cetera, that join together to form new word. The grammatical category of English compound is usually determined by their

function in sentences. By knowing the function of a compound word in sentence, then the meaning of the compound word can be determined.

### **1.6 The Significance of the Study**

The result of this study may contribute the readers, especially other researchers, something valuable to be used as a reference for further research in English compound words. Specifically, it is beneficial for the readers, since it may stimulate them to study the English compound words more comprehensively. In addition, hopefully this study can be one of the alternatives for the English learners to get a better understanding on the use of compound words.

### **1.7 The Method of Study**

Based on its source of data, this study belongs to library research because the data analyzed are taken from printed material, that is, *Holland Horizon*. Concerning the data processing steps, this study is classified as descriptive research, since it involves the steps usually done in descriptive research as stated by Surakhmad in *Dasar dan Teknik Research: Pengantar Metodologi Ilmiah* "descriptive method is a way to solve the topical problem by collecting, classifying, and analyzing data" (1978: 132).