## A FUNCTIONAL AND FORMAL COMPARISON ON ADJECTIVE AND NOUN CLAUSES AS USED IN R. L. STEVENSON'S TREASURE ISLAND

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#### **ABSTRAK**

Penelitian ini mengkaji sintaksis bahasa Inggris, yaitu persamaan dan perbedaan antara klausa adjektiva dan klausa nomina ditinjau dari aspek fungsi dan bentuknya. Kajian ini termasuk studi pustaka. Data yang dianalisis adalah kalimat-kalimat yang berisi klausa adjektiva dan klausa nomina dalam novel **Treasure Island** karangan Robert Louis Stevenson. Sampel diperoleh dengan menggunakan teknik **purposive sampling**. Penelitian ini bersifat kualitatif. Data dianalisis menggunakan metode **intra-lingual matching**. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa fungsi dan bentuk klausa adjektiva dan klausa nomina berbeda. Ditinjau dari fungsinya, klausa adjektiva hanya mengisi gatra **modifier**; sedangkan klausa nomina bertindak sebagai subjek, objek, komplemen, dan **modifier**. Dengan demikian, kedua jenis klausa tersebut memiliki kesamaan hanya sebagai **modifier**. Berdasarkan bentuknya, klausa adjektiva hanya berasal dari kalimat deklaratif; sementara klausa nomina berasal dari kalimat deklaratif dan interogatif. Walaupun kedua jenis klausa ini berbeda, masih terdapat kesamaan bentuk, yaitu dapat berwujud klausa **contact**.

Kata kunci: fungsi, bentuk, klausa adjektiva, klausa nomina

#### A. Introduction

An English sentence may be composed of one independent clause, two or more independent clauses, or combination of dependent and independent clauses. Due to the number and kind of clauses contained within it, a sentence can be simple, compound, complex, or compound-complex in nature.

A complex sentence consists of one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. The dependent clauses include noun clause, adjective clause (also called relative clause), and adverb clause. Formally those three subclauses, especially noun clause and adjective clause, may look alike. They can be introduced by the same subordinator, or they may sometimes fill the same position in a complex sentence. This fact may become a problem without a good understanding on the function and form of the dependent clauses. The following evidences may clarify the discussion intended.

- (1) The suggestion that he made amused me. (Liles, 1979)
- (2) The suggestion that he should go amused me. (Liles, 1979)

The dependent clauses that he made and that he should go in the sentences (1) and (2) are introduced by the same subordinator, namely that and follow the same noun, that

is, the suggestion. But, they are really different subclauses. The subordinator that in that he made is a relative pronoun which refers to the noun suggestion, while the subordinator that in that he should go does not refer to anything in the main clause. It functions purely as a connector without being a constituent in the sentence. As a matter of fact, the whole subclause that he should go in the sentence (2) refers to the noun suggestion. So, it is clear that the subclause that he should go means the same thing as the noun suggestion. In other words, it tells specifically what the suggestion is. The subclause that he made and the noun suggestion in the sentence (1), on the other hand, mean different things. Here, what the suggestion is is unknown, but merely which one is being mentioned. That is why, that he made should be an adjective clause which modifies the noun suggestion, meanwhile that he should go belongs to a noun clause in apposition to the noun suggestion.

The explanation above is in line with the opinion of Liles, saying that appositive noun clauses look a great deal like relative clauses, especially as both may begin with the word *that*. However, they can easily be shown to be quite different. First of all, they have a different semantic relationship to the noun they follow (1979:). Besides, Frank also says that because of the similarity of some of their introductory words, noun clauses and adjective clauses are sometimes confused (1972). For instance:

- (3) I know the house where he lives. (1972)
- (4) I know where he lives. (1972)

The dependent clause *where he lives* in the sentences (3) and (4) serves different syntactic functions. It acts as modifier of the noun *house* in the sentence (3) and as object of the verb *know* in the sentence (4). Consequently, the construction *where he lives* is classified as an adjective clause in the former, and as a noun clause in the latter.

Due to their formation, the adjective clause *that he made* in the sentence (1) is derived from a sentence *he made a suggestion*, in which only the relative pronoun *that* refers to the noun *suggestion* in the main clause, while the noun clause *that he should go* in the sentence (2) is converted from a sentence *he should go*. In this respect, the whole subclause refers to the noun *suggestion* in the main clause. Likewise, the adjective clause *where he lives* in the sentences (3) and (4) is transformed from a sentence of WH-question, namely *where does he live*. In the sentence (3) only the relative adverb *where* refers to the noun *house* in the main clause. The noun clause *where he lives* in the sentence (4), however, refers to or modifies nothing in the main clause; instead, it fills objective functional slot after the verb *know*. The transformation of the interrogative sentence into a subclause as found in the examples above causes the loss of its power as a question. It is signalled by the change of its intonation and pitch from interrogative prosody into affirmative one.

#### B. Review of Related Literature

#### 1. English Sentences

A sentence in English is defined as a full predication. It implies that an English sentence should contain at least a subject and a finite verb as its predicate. Finite verb, as expressed by Frank, is a lexical verb with or without auxiliaries that acts as the full verb in the predicate. It is limited by all the grammatical properties a verb may have – person, number, tense, voice, etcetera (1972).

Further, a sentence may be classified according to its types and its number of predications. Concerning its types, a sentence may be declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory. While, in terms of the number of predications it has, a sentence can be simple, compound, complex, and compund-complex.

#### 2. Clauses

A clause may be independent and dependent. An independent clause (also called principal or main clause) is a full predication that can stand alone as a simple sentence. By a full predication, it becomes evident that an independent clause has its own subject and predicate with a finite verb. A dependent clause (in spite of having a subject and a predicate with a finite verb), on the other hand, cannot stand by itself. It must always be attached to independent clause, so a complex sentence results. Dependent clause is sometimes called subordinate clause or subclause. It includes noun clause, adjective clause, and adverb clause. In line with the topic of this study, the dependent clauses taken into account here are adjective clauses and noun clauses only.

#### a. Adjective Clauses

Based on its function, an adjective can be defined as a word or group of words that modifies (limits) a noun or pronoun. Thus, adjective clause is a dependent clause which does the work of an adjective, that is, to modify or limit a noun or pronoun in a complex sentence. The noun or pronoun it modifies is called its antecedent. "In an adjective clause", as explained by Frank, "a full subject and predicate is changed by means of a special introductory word which has the same referent as the preceding noun or pronoun. The form and position of this introductory word subordinates the adjective clause to a main clause (1972)."

The word that introduces an adjective clause can be relative pronoun or relative adverb. The relative word, besides connecting an adjective clause to a main clause , also performs certain functions within the adjective clause. It may act as subject, object, complement, and modifier. In short, the relative word is capable of performing dual functions in a complex sentence. Further, concerning the particular way how it modifies a noun or pronoun, an adjective clause may be classified as restrictive (or defining) and nonrestrictive (or nondefining).

To modify the noun or pronoun in the main clause, an adjective clause may limit (restrict) its antecedent. If it does, the adjective clause belongs to a restrictive (defining) relative clause. In this respect, the relative clause is considered as part of a noun phrase consisting of the noun or pronoun (antecedent) as a head and the

relative clause as a modifier. It cannot be removed from the noun phrase without changing the meaning of the sentence. In other words, "the omission of the adjective clause robs the sentence of a most essential fact. (Allen, 1995)". However, when the subordinator which introduces the restrictive relative clause acts as object in the dependent clause, it can be omitted, creating a contact clause. In writing, Standard English punctuation leaves the restrictive relative clause unmarked. It means that the defining adjective clause is not separated from its antecedent by commas. Take a look at the following examples.

- (5) Children who are unruly need constant supervision. (Herndon, 1976)
- (6) He has two sisters who work in the Ministry. (Allen, 1995)

In this case, the speaker of the sentence decides which children are meant for the purposes of identification. The adjective clause *who are unruly* in the sentence (5) tells which children need supervision. The speaker limits his reference to certain children only, namely children who are unruly, excluding other children who are not unruly. He allows for the fact that some children are well-behaved. Removal of the adjective clause allows the main clause to refer to all children, thus changing the meaning of the sentence considerably (1976). Likewise, the restrictive adjective clause *who work in the Ministry* in the sentence (6) limits the reference of the noun *sisters* to those who work in the Ministry only. It implies that presumably he has other sisters who work elsewhere (1995). It can be said that a restrictive adjective clause plays significant roles to define the meaning of a sentence, especially the reference of the noun or pronoun it modifies. Even, a restrictive adjective clause becomes so much an integral part of the ideas to be expressed. Consequently, it cannot be deleted; otherwise, the meaning of the sentence of which it is a part will change greatly.

Unlike restrictive adjective clause, a nonrestrictive adjective clause does not limit the reference of the noun or pronoun modified. Instead, it only adds some information to the noun or pronoun. "A nonrestrictive adjective clause is regarded just as a deliberate inclusion of unnecessary decoration within the sentence. It is a mere parenthesis, a casual aside or reminder to the listener or reader. (Allen, 1995)." Here, the nonrestrictive adjective clause is not an integral part, but an optional modifier of the noun phrase. Hence, if it is left out from a complex sentence, no significant change of meaning will happen. In addition, when the subordinator introducing the nonrestrictive adjective clause fills an objective slot in the subclause, it is always in the form of interrogative word which is obligatory in nature. In writing, Standard English punctuation sets the nonrestrictive relative clause apart with commas. The following instances may illustrate the discussion.

- (7) Children, who are unruly, need constant supervision. (Herndon, 1976)
- (8) He has two sisters, who work in the Ministry. (Allen, 1995)

The nonrestrictive adjective clause *who are unruly* in the sentence (7) does not limit the reference of the noun *children*. And, it is obvious that the speaker of the sentence believes he is adding information about all children, not only certain children. So, the sentence indicates that all children are unruly. Meanwhile, the nonrestrictive adjective clause *who work in the Ministry* in the sentence (8) gives additional

information to the noun *sisters*. It is evident that *he* in the sentence has only two sisters, no body else. Because the two nonrestrictice adjective clauses do not play important roles in the sentences, they can be removed without any damage to the sense of the sentences.

#### b. Noun Clauses

A noun clause is a dependent clause that performs the work of a noun. It is used in most of the ways that a noun does. "In a noun clause", as asserted by Frank (1972), " the full subject and predicate are retained, but the structure is changed by the addition of a special introductory word, by a special word order, or by both. These changes permit the noun clause to fill the same positions and to serve the same fuctions as nouns." Hence, a noun clause can act as subject, object, complement, and modifier.

Noun clauses are usually introduced by either functional elements or particles (at times called expletives) as their subordinators. The functional elements include interrogative pronouns, interrogative adverbs, and interrogative adjectives. While the particles may be *that*, *whether*, or *if*. Moreover, like relative pronouns and relative adverbs introducing adjective clauses, the interrogative words which introduce noun clauses may also perform double functions in a complex sentence – as connectors and functional slot fillers. The particles, on the other hand, function only as pure connectors without being constituents. Consider the following examples.

- (9) What she said surprised me. (Azar, 1989)
- (10) That she is still alive is a consolation. (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1983)
- (11) Whether we need it is a different matter. (Leech and Svartvik, 1975)

A noun clause filling delayed subjective slot follows the predicate with a finite verb, while the real subject position is filled by a preparatory *it*. In this case, if a subordinator *that* introduces the noun clause, the *that* can be omitted, leaving a 'zero' *that*-clause. In other words, it is optional in usage. For instance:

- (12) It remains a mystery what the thieves did with all the money. (Graver, 1985)
- (13) It does not matter whether we start now or later. (Hornby, 1975)

Acting as object, a noun clause is affected by or receives the action of transitive verb. Like the subordinator *that* introducing the noun clause as delayed subject, the *that* which introduces a noun clause as object is frequently omitted, leaving a 'zero' *that*-clause. The objective functional slot which may be filled by a noun clause includes direct object, indirect object, and object of preposition.

Noun clauses serving as direct object are placed directly after the verb to which they belong. But, if an indirect object is present in the same sentence, the noun clause comes after it. Look at the examples which follow.

- (14) They won't say why they went by plane. (Lado and Fries, 1977)
- (15) Give the man what is in this envelope. (Frank, 1972)

An indirect object cannot occur alone after the verb; it should precede the direct object. The noun clause which performs the function of indirect object usually

follows verbs like offer, give, ask, lend, promise, etcetera. The examples below may clarify the discussion.

- (16) She will send whoever answers the question a prize. (Liles, 1979)
- (17) He has promised *whoever is there* a letter of thanks.

(Wishon and Burks, 1980)

Functioning as object of preposition, the noun clause follows a preposition which is commonly preceded by verbs, adjectives, or nouns. In some cases, the preposition together with the noun clause may come before the predicate of the sentence. Take the following into consideration.

- (18) She will sit beside whom she chooses. (Liles, 1979)
- (19) I'm worried about whether you're happy. (Swan, 2009)

When used as complement, a noun clause usually appears after a verb to complete its meaning. The complement functional slots which may be filled by noun clauses are subjective complement and objective complement.

A noun clause which fills the position of subjective complement follows a linking verb and describes the subject. For clarity, observe the following instances.

- (20) The problem is whether we need it. (Quirk et al, 1981)
- (21) His recommendation is that the banks lower their interest rates.

(Heffernan and Lincoln, 1986)

If noun clauses are used as objective complement, they describe and rename the object of a sentence. The object usually occurs after the verbs *call*, *make*, *choose*, *name*, *consider*, and the like. The following sentences illustrate noun clauses functioning as objective complements which refer to the direct objects preceding them.

- (22) You can call me whatever names you like. (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1983)
- (23) She will name him whatever she wants to. (Wishon and Burks, 1980)

Modifier is a word or group of words which serves to describe or qualify some other word or group of words. In addition, it may also identify, clarify, or add some information to the word or group of words modified. A noun clause as modifier commonly appears after an adjective or noun it modifies.

In connection with *that* clauses after certain adjectives, Frank (1972) points out "We are considering them as modifiers of the preceding adjectives." Modifying an adjective, a noun clause further clarifies and adds some information to the adjective. The adjective intended expresses mental attitute, such as *certain*, *afraid*, *aware*, *doubtful*, *sure*, *sorry*, *proud*, and so forth. It is usually followed by a linking verb in a sentence. Consider the following examples.

- (24) I wasn't certain whose house I was in. (Quirk et al, 1981)
- (25) You should be proud that you have such a clever son (Ridout, 1974)

A noun clause is said to be modifier of noun if it follows and identifies the noun it modifies. The noun clause used in this way is also called an appositive of the noun head. In writing, it is sometimes separated from the noun head by commas. To make it clearer, some instances are given below.

(26) The news that her son had been killed was a great shock. (Hornby, 1975)

(27) One problem, *that he is incompetent*, will be hard to deal with. (Wishon and Burks, 1980)

## C. Methodology

Since it aims just to describe the data without generalizing the result of the analysis, this study may be classified as a descriptive research. Generally, the purpose of descriptive research is to describe systematically, factually, and accurately the facts, the nature, and the relation in which the phenomena are analyzed (Nazir, 1988). In this case, adjective clauses are compared to noun clauses in order to reveal their differences and similarities in terms of both their functions and their forms.

The data of this research are adjective clauses and noun clauses used in English complex sentences. They are obtained from Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Treasure Island*.

In order to obtain accurate data, some compatible technique of collecting is applied. The data of the study will be collected by using observation-documentation technique as proposed by Mahsun in *Metode Penelitian Bahasa: Tahapan Strategi, Metode, danTekniknya* (2005). It is conducted through an observation on adjective clauses and noun clauses found in complex sentences in Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Treasure Island.* Then, those complex sentences are documented in data cards. Next, they are classified on the basis of the kinds of the adjective clauses and noun clauses existing in the complex sentences.

The data of the research are analyzed by applying intra-lingual matching method. It is a method of analysis that connects-compares the elements which are lingual in nature, either within one language or in some languages.

The data analysis result is presented by making use of informal presentation method as offered by Sudaryanto (1993). It is formulated in the form of words rather than symbols and codes.

#### D. Analysis

## 1. The Function of Adjective Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Functionally, adjective clauses may fill some distinct slots in sentence constructions. Function, as stated by Crystal, is the relationship between a linguistic form and other parts of the linguistic pattern or system in which it is used (1982). In fact, all the adjective clauses found in the novel act as modifier. They modify nouns, pronouns, and sentences. And, they are commonly introduced by the relative pronoun *who, whom, whose, that, which,* the relative adverb *where* and *when* or by no relative, leaving them 'contact clauses'.

## a. Adjective Clauses Modifying Noun

As modifiers of nouns, the adjective clauses come after the nouns they modify. In this case, the adjective clauses describe, identify, or limit the nouns. Take a look at the following:

- (28) 'Here, mate', he cried to the man who had pushed the handcart, 'bring the chest here, and help me in with it'. (6/AC/8)
- (29) And, as I opened the door I cried out the words *he had told me to say*. (25/AC/24)
- (30) This took me some time, and the sun was just setting as I came to a place where I could see the Hispaniola quite plainly. (83/AC/86)
- (31) I followed after John Silver, like a dog on a head, for he held a rope which had been tied round my waist. (127/AC/120)

The adjective clauses *who* had pushed the handcart, he had told me to say, *where* I could see the Hispaniola quite plainly, and *which* had been tied round my waist respectively modify the nouns the man, the words, a place, and a rope in the sentences numbered (28), (29), (30), and (31).

## b. Adjective Clauses Modifying Pronoun

The pronouns modified by adjective clauses in the novel are of personal and indefinite ones. Some of the adjective clauses modifying pronouns are as presented below.

- (32) It was he *who was keeping better watch than any human being* he who announced my arrival. (104/AC/104)
- (33) As for the ship, it was I *who cut her anchor*, I that killed the cox'n, and I who took her where you'll never find her. (110/AC/106)
- (34) I was sorry to leave you a prisoner; but I did what was best for those who had stood firm in their duty. (134/AC/130)

The constructions *who* was keeping better watch than any human being and *who* cut her anchor in the sentences (32) and (33) are the adjective clauses which modify personal pronoun namely, *he* and *I* respectively. Likewise, the adjective clause *who* had stood firm in their duty in the sentence numbered (34) modifies the indefinite pronoun those.

#### c. Adjective Clauses Modifying Sentence

There is only one adjective clause which modifies a sentence available in the data.

(35) But, before we reached Treasure Island, two or three things happened which should be told. (65/AC/57)

The sentence modified by the adjective clause *which should be told* in the sentence (35) above is *two or three things happened*.

#### 2. The Function of Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's Treasure Island

Unlike the adjective clauses which mostly act as modifier, the noun clauses used in the novel generally function as object. The others serve as subject, complement, and modifier. The noun clauses here are introduced by interrogative

word, subordinate conjunction, pure connector 'that', and by the absence of connector.

## a. Noun Clauses as Subject

The subjective slot filled by noun clauses as seen in the data may be real or delayed in nature. The noun clauses acting as real subject are commonly followed by a verb 'be. When they serve as delayed subject, the real subject position is filled by introductory 'it'. The following sentences may clarify the discussion.

- (36) What pleased me most was the spring water. (80/NC/79)
- (37) I could hear loud snoring inside, and it seemed strange that no watchman stood at the entrance. (103/NC/103)
- (38) It was lucky for me that I had Hawkins there. (139/NC/131)

The real subject position in the sentence (36) above is occupied by the noun clause *what pleased me most,* which is followed by the verb *was;* while the noun clauses *that no watchman stood at the entrance* in the sentence (37) and *that I had Hawkins there* in the sentence (38) fill delayed subject position.

## b. Noun Clauses as Object

It was stated earlier that the functional slot most commonly filled by noun clauses is object. The objective slot intended includes direct object and object of proposition. As a matter of fact, no relative clauses occupy indirect object position as found in the novel. For the sake of clarity, let's refer to the following data.

- (39) You should have seen how the two gentlemen leaned forward and forgot to smoke. (45/NC/36-37)
- (40) Long John looked at what he had been given. (117/NC/109)
- (41) Then the doctor told us *how he had run all the way back to the cave that morning*, after hearing that Silver was going for the treasure. (136/NC/130-131)
- (42) I expect he joined his wife in the end. (148/NC/139)

The noun clauses functioning as direct object above are governed by the transitive verbs *should have seen, told,* and *expect.* The noun clauses intended are respectively *how* the two gentlemen leaned forward and forgot to smoke in the sentence (39), *how* he had run all the way back to the cave that morning in the sentence (41), and he joined his wife in the end in the sentence (42). Meanwhile, the noun *what* he had been given in the sentence (40) is governed by the preposition to. Consequently, it is classified as object of preposition.

## c. Noun Clauses as Complement

Noun clauses acting as complement usually refer back to the subject or object of a sentence. When they describe, identify, or name the subject, the noun clauses belong to subjective complement, but if they do the same thing toward the object, the noun clauses are called objective complement. In fact, the only complement slot filled by noun clauses in the novel is the subjective one. In other words, there are no noun clauses which function as objective complement found in the literary work. The data below may make the discussion clearer.

- (43) The sums are Bones's share, and the total is *what was due to him altogether*. (53/NC/40)
- (44) That's where I killed my first goat. (77/NC/77)
- (45) My greatest horror was that I might fall into the water below, beside the body of Israel Hands. (100/NC/101)

A subjective complement always follows a linking verb, and so do the noun clauses functioning as subjective complement found in the novel. The constructions *what* was due to him altogether in the sentence (43), where I killed my first goat in the sentence (44), and that I might fall into the water, beside the body of Israel Hands in the sentence (45) are the noun clauses serving as subjective complement. They are linked to their subjects by the linking verbs is and was.

#### d. Noun Clauses as Modifier

The two immediate constituents of a structure of modification are a head and a modifier. A modifier, as asserted by Francis (1958), serves to broaden, qualify, select, change, describe, or in other way affect the meaning of the head. The head modified by the nouns clauses in the data includes noun and adjective. When the noun clause modifies a noun, it usually identifies, describes, or adds some information to the noun. Whereas, if the noun clause modifies an adjective, it qualifies or gives some explanation to the adjective. The discussion may be clarified by the following.

- (46) With the dead body of the captain on the parlour floor, and a fear *that* the blind man might return, my mother and I were very frightened indeed. (28/NC/26)
- (47) I was sure that the locked door must have seemed suspicious. (34/NC/30)
- (48) I made an inward promise that I would never run away from my duty again. (135/NC/130)

The noun clauses *that* the blind man might return and *that* I would never run away from my duty again modify and identify respectively the noun heads a fear in the sentence (46) and an inward promise in the sentence (48). While, the noun clause *that* the locked door must have seemed suspicious in the sentence (47) modifies and explains the adjective head sure.

#### 3. The Form of Adjective Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's Treasure Island

The form of adjective and noun clauses discussed here focuses on the real sentences from which they are derived and the subordinators that introduce them. Transformationally, adjective and noun clauses are constructed from simple sentences through some processes such as addition, reduction, movement, substitution, and so forth. In other words, with the help of transformational processes, sentences are converted into dependent clauses.

The sentences as the deep structures of the adjective clauses available in the data are all in declarative forms. And, the subordinators which subordinate the adjective clauses to the main clauses comprise relative pronoun and relative adverb.

In some cases, the relative pronoun/adverb is omitted, so that a contact clause results. Take the following sentences into consideration.

- (49) I will begin at the time when my father kept the 'Admiral Benbow' inn. (2/AC/7)
- (50) Then he suddenly sang the old sea song that we heard so often afterwards. (5/AC/7)
- (51) 'Here, mate', he cried to the man who had pushed the handcart, 'bring the chest here, and help me in with it.' (6/AC/8)
- (52) I thought of the man *I had killed that afternoon*. (122/AC/11)

Formally, all the adjective clauses as displayed above are derived from declarative sentences. The sentences intended are *my father kept the 'Admiral Benbow' inn at the time* (or *then*), we heard the old sea song so often afterwards, the man had pushed the handcart, and I had killed the man that afternoon respectively. The adjective clauses in the sentences (50) and (51) are introduced by relative pronoun; the adjective clause in the sentence (49) is introduced by relative adverb, and the adjective clause in the sentence (52), which is called 'contact clause', is introduced by implied relative pronoun *whom* or *that*.

### 4. The Form of Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's Treasure Island

The noun clauses used in the literary work are derived from declarative and interrogative sentences. Those noun clauses are commonly introduced by interrogative pronoun, interrogative adverb, interrogative adjective, and particle *that*, *whether*, or *if*. Besides, some of the noun clauses are introduced by the implied pure connector *that*.

#### a. Noun Clauses Derived from Declarative Sentences

The noun clauses which are derived from declarative sentences as found in the novel are introduced by particle *that*, either explicit or implied. If the noun clauses function as subject or noun modifier, the particle *that* is obligatory. But, when they act as object, complement, or adjective modifier, the particle *that* is optional in nature. To be clearer, let's consider the following data.

- (53) I told him *I didn't know anyone called Bill*, but the table was for a lodger we called the captain. (15/NC/14)
- (54) With the dead body of the captain on the parlour floor, and a fear that the blind man might return, my mother and I were very frightened indeed. (28/NC/26)
- (55) The Spaniards were so much afraid of him that I sometimes felt proud that he was an Englishman like myself. (48/NC/38)

The noun clauses *I didn't know anyone called Bill, that the blind man might return,* and *that he was an Englishman like myself* are respectively derived from the declarative sentences *I didn't know anyone called Bill, the blind man might return,* and *he was an Englishman like myself.* The data show evidently that the noun clause as noun modifier in the sentence (54) is introduced by obligatory particle *that* and the one as adjective modifier in the sentence (55) is introduced by optional particle *that*.

Meanwhile, the noun clause as object in the sentence (53) is introduced by implied particle *that*.

## b. Noun Clauses Derived from Interrogative Sentences

Interrogative sentences from which the noun clauses are derived as found in the novel include *yes/no* question and *wh*-question.

#### 1) Noun Clauses Derived from Yes/No Questions

Noun clauses derived from *yes/no* questions are always introduced by particle *whether* or *if.* Whatever function the noun clauses serve in sentence construction, the particle introducing them is obligatory. However, the fact shows that all the noun clauses which are derived from *yes/no* questions as used in the novel are introduced by particle *if.* To be clearer, let's consider the following data.

- (56) He often asked *if any seamen had gone along the road,* and at first we thought he wanted the company of his own kind. (7/NC/9)
- (57) I don't know if there's treasure here or not. (71/NC/69)

It goes without saying that the two noun clauses *if any seamen had gone along the road* and *if there's treasure here or not* in the sentences (56) and (57) are introduced by particle *if.* They are respectively derived from the interrogative sentences *had any seamen gone along the road?* and *is there treasure here or not?*. And, both of them act as direct object in the sentences.

## 2) Noun Clauses Derived from Wh - Questions

A *wh*-question is also called question-word question. It is an interrogative sentence that makes use of question word. The noun clauses derived from *wh*-question as available in the literary work are introduced by *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how*. Those question words are always obligatory; no matter how the noun clauses function in the sentences. The data below may make the discussion more evident.

- (58) I remember how he looked round the little bay in front of the inn, whistling to himself. (4/NC/7)
- (59) That's where I killed my first goat. (77/NC/77)
- (60) What pleased me most was the spring water. (80/NC/79)

The noun clauses *how* he looked round the little bay in front of the inn, whistling to himself as object, where I killed my first goat as complement, and what pleased me most as subject in the sentences (58), (59), and (60) are respectively introduced by question words how, where, and what. They are respectively derived from the simple sentences how did he look round the little bay in front of the inn, whistling to himself?, where did I kill my first goat?, and what pleased me most?

# 5. Functional Differences between Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Due to their function, adjective clauses and noun clauses are quite different. The finding indicates that adjective clauses serve as modifier only, while noun clauses act as subject, object, complement, and modifier.

## a. Adjective Clauses as Modifier

Functioning as modifier, adjective clauses describe, emphasize, or limit the head. The head modified covers noun, pronoun, and sentence. Take a look at the following.

- (61) He must have lived among some of the wickedest men *that ever* sailed the sea. (10/AC10)
- (62) It was he *who was keeping better watch than any human being* he who announced my arrival. (104/AC/104)
- (63) But, before we reached Treasure Island, two or three things happened *which should be told*. (65/AC/57)

The constructions *that ever sailed the sea*, *who was keeping better watch than any human being*, and *which should be told* in the sentences (61), (62), and (63) above are adjective clauses that modify the noun *the wickedest men*, the pronoun *he*, and the sentence *two or three things happened* respectively.

## b. Noun Clauses as Subject, Object, Complement, and Modifier

Unlike adjective clauses which function just as modifier, adjective clauses fill more functional slots namely, subject, object, complement, and modifier. As modifier, adjective clauses may modify noun, pronoun, and sentence; meanwhile, noun clauses can modify noun and adjective. Besides, the subject slot filled by noun clauses is both the real subject and the delayed one. Next, the object slot includes direct object and object of preposition. Then, the complement slot intended is only the subjective one. The following data may clarify the discussion.

- (64) What pleased me most was the spring water. (80/NC/79
- (65) You should have seen how the two gentlemen leaned forward and forgot to smoke. (45/NC/36-37)
- (66) My greatest horror was that I might fall into the water below, beside the body of Israel Hands. (100/NC/101)
- (67) I made an inward promise that I would never run away from my duty again. (135/NC/130)

The noun clause *what pleased me most* in the sentence (64) serves as subject. It fills the real subject slot before the verb *was*. While, the noun clause *how the two gentlemen leaned forward and forgot to* in the sentence (65) acts as object. It is preceded by the transitive verb *should have seen*. Next, the noun clause *that* I *might fall into the water below, beside the body of Israel Hands* in the sentence (66) functions as subjective complement. It comes directly after the linking verb *was* to refer back to the subject *my greatest horror*. Further, the noun clause *that* I *would never run away from my duty again* in the sentence (67) acts as modifier. It modifies the noun *an inward promise* in order to identify the noun, so it is called an appositive.

# 6. Functional Similarities between Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Adjective clauses and noun clauses as found in the literary work have some similarity functionally. Both of them may function as modifier. Adjective clauses

modify noun, pronoun, and sentence; while, noun clauses modify noun and adjective. Acting as modifier, adjective clauses limit, emphasize, or describe the head. Noun clauses; on the other hand, name and give some explanation to the head. To make the discussion clearer, consider the following sentences.

- (68) Here, mate, 'he cried to the man who had pushed the handcart, 'bring the chest here, and help me in with it. (6/AC/8)
- (69) As for the ship, it was I *who cut her anchor*, I that killed the cox'n, and I who took her where you'll never find her. (110/AC/106)
- (70) But, before we reached Treasure Island, two or three things happened *which should be told*. (65/AC/57)
- (71) With the dead body of the captain on the parlour floor, and a fear that the blind man might return, my mother and I were very frightened indeed. (28/NC/26)
- (72) The Spaniards were so much afraid of him that I sometimes felt proud that he was an Englishman like myself. (48/NC/38)

The data as presented above show that the adjective clauses *who* had pushed the handcart, 'bring the chest here, and help me in with it, who cut her anchor, and which should be told in the sentences (68), (69), and (70) modify the man, I, and two or three things happened, which are noun, pronoun, and sentence respectively. Likewise, the noun clauses *that* the blind man might return and *that* he was an Englishman like myself in the sentences (71) and (72) respectively modify the noun a fear and the adjective proud. The adjective clauses limit, emphasize, and describe the heads; while, the noun clauses name and give some explanation to the heads.

## 7. Formal Differences between Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Formally, adjective clauses and noun clauses are different concerning both the real sentences which they are derived from and the subordinators which introduce them.

# a. The Difference of Sentences from Which Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses Are Derived

The finding proves that adjective clauses are strikingly distinct from noun clauses in terms of the basic sentences as their deep structures. In fact, adjective clauses are derived from declarative sentences only, while noun clauses may be derived from declarative and interrogative sentences (either *yes/no* question or *wh*-question). Pay attention to the following data.

- (73) I pointed out the big rock *where the captain had gone*, and answered a few other questions. (17/AC/14)
- (74) Let's get ahead to where the treasure is. (130/NC/123)

At a glance, the two subclauses *where* the captain had gone and *where* the treasure is in the sentences (73) and (74) look alike in the case that both of them are introduced by the same subordinator namely, *where*. However, they belong to different dependent clauses. The former is an adjective clause, which serves as modifier of the noun the big rock; the latter is a noun clause, which acts as object of the preposition to.

Likewise, in relation to the type of basic sentences as their deep structures, the two clauses are also different. The adjective clause is transformed from a declarative sentence the captain had gone to the big rock, while the noun clause is constructed from an interrogative sentence where is the treasure?.

# b. The Difference of Subordinators Which Introduce Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses

In connection with the subordinator introducing them, adjective clauses may be differentiated from noun clauses. Adjective clauses are introduced by relative pronoun and relative adverb, while noun clauses are introduced by subordinating conjunction and particle. Take the following sentences into consideration.

- (75) He was the most blood-thirsty old buccaneer *that ever sailed a ship*. (47/AC/38)
- (76) But I could see no prisoner, and I began to fear *that all my friends* had been killed. (106/NC/104)
- (77) We walked back to the village where the horses were. (43/AC/35)
- (78) I agreed to sail the ship without knowing beforehand *where we were going*. (64/NC/53)

The subordinator *that* in *that ever sailed a ship* is a relative pronoun, which functions as subject of the adjective clause and refers to the noun *the most blood-thirsty old buccaneer* in the main clause. The subordinator *that* in *that all my friends had been killed*, on the other hand, belongs to a particle which is just a pure connector without being a constituent in the noun clause, and it does not refer to anything in the main clause. Furthermore, the subordinator *where* in *where the horses were* is a relative adverb, which functions as complement in the adjective clause and refers to the noun *the village* in the main clause. Meanwhile, the subordinator *where* in *where we were going* belongs to a subordinating conjunction which serves as a modifier in the noun clause and refers to nothing in the main clause.

# 8. Formal Similarities between Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses as Found in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Besides their differences, adjective clauses and noun clauses as found in the novel still have some formal similarity in terms of both the basic sentence from which they are derived and the subordinator which introduces them.

# a. The Similarity of Sentences from Which Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses Are Derived

It is found that the two kinds of subclause as used in the literary work may be derived from the same kind of basic sentence, that is, declarative form. Let's see the following sentences.

- (79) He gave my arm a twist that made me cry. (24/AC/24)
- (80) It was the knowledge that seven hundred thousand pounds lay buried in its shade. (132/NC/126)

The two dependent clauses *that* made me cry and *that* seven hundred thousand pounds lay buried in its shade in the sentences (79) and (80) are derived from declarative

sentences. They are a twist made me cry and seven hundred thousand pounds lay buried in its shade respectively. The former is an adjective clause; the latter is a noun clause.

# b. The Similarity of Subordinators Which Introduce Adjective Clauses and Noun Clauses

Some of the findings may evidence that both adjective clauses and noun clauses can be introduced by no subordinators. In other words, the two subclauses may be in the form of 'contact clause'. In this case, the adjective clauses are always restrictive in nature and introduced by relative pronoun or relative adverb which acts as object in the subclauses. While, the noun clauses are those which are derived from declarative sentences and function as direct object or modifier of adjective. The data below may support the discussion.

- (81) I'm sure they could fight a war-ship. (59/NC/46)
- (82) So there I was, caught between two dangers, and my first thought was to choose the one *I knew best*. (75/AC/73)
- (83) I expect he joined his wife in the end. (148/NC/139)

The noun clauses they could fight a war-ship and he joined his wife in the end in the sentences (81) and (82) as well as the adjective clause I knew best in the sentence (83) are called contact clauses, since they are introduced by no subordinators. Actually, their deep structures are introduced by particle that ( for the noun clauses) and by relative pronoun that or which (for the adjective clause), but those subordinators are omitted in surface structures. The noun clauses above function as adjective modifier and direct object respectively, while the adjective clause is a restrictive one whose relative pronoun acts as object in the subclause.

#### E. Conclusion

The analysis already performed indicates that adjective clauses and noun clauses have some functional and formal differences as well as similarities as found in the novel *Treasure Island*, written by R. L. Stevenson.

In connection with their function, adjective clauses and noun clauses are extremely different. Adjective clauses can act just as modifier, while noun clauses are able to serve as subject, object, complement, and modifier. So, they are similar in only one way namely, both of them may act as modifier.

Due to their form, adjective clauses are different from noun clauses in which the former could be derived from declarative sentence only; meanwhile, the latter may be derived from declarative and interrogative sentences. In spite of their differences, the two types of dependent clauses have some similarity. They may be introduced by no subordinators. It means that adjective clauses and noun clauses can be in the form of contact clause.

The research suggests that even though adjective clauses are quite different from noun clauses either functionally or formally, they may look alike concerning their surface structure. That is why, the learners of English should be critical in order that they are able to identify the two kinds of subclause. In turn, they could understand the deep structure of each of those dependent clauses.

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