CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, research questions, aims of the study, scope of the study, research methodology, and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background of The Study

Language is a tool for human in doing communication. People use language to share their ideas, express opinion and do the interaction (Majid, 2009). In expressing their thought, human can use two modes of communication, namely written and spoken. In spoken mode, the analysis can happen through several kinds of analysis, for example conversational analysis, speech analysis, etc. Meanwhile, in written mode people can analyze the text. One example in analyzing the text is an identifying of discourse, which will be conducted in this research. According to Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, discourse can be defined as a speech or piece of writing about a particular, usually serious. Generally, discourse analysis examines both spoken and written text. The process of analyzing the discourse can be done through the tools from Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). CDA is the areas of knowledge that dealing with the study of discourse, which views “language as a form of social practice” (Fairclough, 1989 as cited in Sahragard and Davatgarzadeh, 2010). Hence, discourse represents particular world views, social relations between people, context and addressees of the text. Discourse can be delivered in two ways, which are interpersonal communication and in massive way to the society (Fajar, 2011).

One type of communication that became the main attention of public is done by mass media. There are a various types of mass media, for instance audio, video, and printed media. This study focuses on the printed media. The print media are linguistic medium, and one of the most important methods for the exchange of ideas (Ghannam, 2011). The information can be delivered to
the society through what is written in the printed media. The news media have a big responsibility to control and to report what is happening in the society.

In fact, the articles in news media can bring an effect to the society such as change of reader’s perspective (Kurniawan, 2011). This is connected with what Fairclough (2003) suggests that texts should have casual effect upon the change of what people believe (belief, attitude, etc), how people act, and how the social relation works. It means that media can have the power to contribute the change of what people think through what is presented in the text.

Some of the problems with one daily online newspaper are that the news media not only present the reality, but also tend to use their own interpretation. The use of their own perspective in reporting the news by the media will influence the way the reader to see it, for example the news about teenage car accident is presented in the newspaper. The newspaper presents point of views from every party such as the suspect, the government and the victims. This study concerns the way one of English online newspaper, the Jakarta Globe presents the reality of a teenage car accident in 2013 that contains every parties involved in the event of the articles.

Several studies of Critical Discourse Analysis about how media represents particular parties in particular events have also been conducted before. Here are some examples of the researches that have similarity to this study.

The first example of the study was undertaken by Azis Nurkholis Majid in 2009. He discussed to compare the way how the two newspapers: Media Indonesia and Kompas present the Lumpur Lapindo Case in their articles. The result of the study shows that Media Indonesia tended to take the government’s side, on the other hand Kompas tended to take side on Lapindo Brantas Inc, which leads to the conclusion that none of the Media tends to take the side of the mud victims.

The second example was undertaken by Ani Savitri in 2012 entitled “The Representation of Arifianto on His Porn-watching Case”. Savitri investigated
on news reporting related to Arifinto and his porn-watching case which consisted in four articles on The Jakarta Post and The Jakarta Globe. In her study, she found that Arifinto was the main Theme in the articles and Arifinto was represented as being guilty, as a role model, and as a victim. Savitri furthermore suggested in her findings that these representations suggest at least three ideologies: egalitarianism, balanced reporting, and business.

The analysis of CDA has been done in some fields. The examples that have been mentioned above are also one of the reasons why such study is interesting to undertake. It is also relevant to the nowadays issue of public matter and the way how it is represented in the public information that is newspaper. The present study discusses the meaning of the representation of AQJ’s Car Accident on September 8 by the Jakarta Globe. AQJ’s Car Accident on September 8 is the phenomenon that happened by thirteen years old son of Indonesian popular musician Ahmad Dhani in Jagorawi toll road which created many public attentions. That is why the analysis of CDA in the context of hot social issue which being a public attention is a must and interesting to be analyzed. This study employs Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) to identify the articles published by the Jakarta Globe which contains the people involved in their articles.

1.2 Research Questions

1. How is the car accident represented by the Jakarta Globe?
2. How are the suspects, the government, and the car accident victims represented by the Jakarta Globe?
3. What do these representations mean?

1.3 Aims of The Study

This research aims to the following:
1. To discover how car accident event is represented by the Jakarta Globe.
2. To reveal how the suspects, the government, and the car accident victims in the event are represented by the Jakarta Globe.

3. To uncover what is mean behind the representations.

1.4 Scope of The Study

This study is concerned with analyzing three news reports from Jakarta Globe newspaper related to car accident event. The analysis use Fairclough’s theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Halliday’s theory of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) to reveal the representation in the articles.

1.5 Research Methodology

1.5.1 Research Design

This study uses qualitative descriptive research method. Descriptive research is a method to ‘obtain information used in devising hypothesis and proposing associations’ and this method ‘often illustrates a relevant but nonquantified topic involving a well-focused research question’ (Monsen, 2008). Qualitative research is a method that ‘generates narrative data, that is data described in words instead of numbers’ and ‘its primary purpose is to explore the phenomenon of interest as a prelude to theory development’ (Monsen, 2008).

1.5.2 Object of the Research

For the present study, the researcher used the issues on the articles by daily online newspaper the Jakarta Globe for the object of the research. The data of this research was in the form of text which contain in three articles that has been selected.

1.5.3 Data Collection

In this study, the data were taken from the daily online newspaper the Jakarta Globe on the internet for car accident. Three articles were chosen
as the data of the research. Each text was related to the topic and was collected as the source of the data.

1.5.4 Data Analysis
The analysis was done using Critical Discourse Analysis proposed by Fairclough (2003). Meanwhile, the analytical process (CDA) is done by employing Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) proposed by Halliday (2004) frameworks to finally draw a conclusion.

1.6 Organization of The Paper
The paper is organized into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I (Introduction)
It includes the background of the research, reason for choosing the topic, scope of the study, research question, aims of the study, research procedures, data collection and data analysis.

Chapter II (Theoretical Foundation)
It presents the theories and reviews about critical discourse analysis and systemic functional grammar to support the analysis of the study. It provides definition of representation, critical discourse analysis, transitivity, nominalization, and the identification of social event.

Chapter III (Methodology)
It explains the research methodology, research design, data collection, and data analysis.

Chapter IV (Findings and Discussions)
This chapter explains the result of the research which consists of findings, data presentation and the results of how the issue is represented and the meaning behind the representation.

Chapter V (Suggestions and Conclusions)
It presents the conclusions of the research findings and the suggestions for further research.