

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter encompasses an overview of the study, including the background of the study, purposes of the study, statement of the problem, scope of the study, significance of the study, clarification of terms, and organization of the study.

#### **1.1 Introduction**

Genre is a communicative tool to achieve goals and the purpose of schematic structure in discourse and influences the choice of content and style (Swales, 1990). The purposes of genre has a conventionalized rhetorical structure ways of linguistic expression. Since genre is purpose-oriented, genre analysis focuses on the rhetorical moves about text segments that not only perform a specific communicative function of their own but also contribute to the overall communicative purpose of the genre (Zhang & Wannaruk, 2016).

Academic writing has been considered as a genre and popular in genre analysis. Academic writing refers to the style or expression which is used by researchers in defining boundaries of their respective areas in expertise or disciplines. Academic writing applies certain disciplines on its topic and uses more argument than narrative. It has a main role in the academic field globally, as the writer will share the knowledge with others. Additionally, academic writing becomes a tool of communication in conveying acquired knowledge in a certain study field. Furthermore, academic writing can be presented in various types of writing, one of them is Research Article (RA).

Research Article is considered as a written text usually limited to a few thousand words. It reports some investigation or observation that is carried out by its author. Moreover, the RA will usually relate its findings with other findings and

examines issues of theory or methodology (Swales, 1990). Thus, this extensive attention is given to the Research Articles (RA) in presenting new ideas in certain fields of study.

Abstract is one of the most important sections of the RA because it can determine the acceptance or rejection of an article for selection by readers (Al-Khasawneh, 2017). Hyland (2000) viewed an abstract as the first part that the readers read. Therefore, it may convince readers to decide to continue or stop reading the research article. Thus, the research abstract gains an important role in describing academic information. Accordingly, abstracts are seen as the readers' doorway to view an article, journals' selection for contributions, and conferences to accept or reject the article (Lorés, 2004).

According to Swales (1990), an abstract is considered as a genre that has a certain type of text or discourse designed to achieve a set of communicative purposes (Swales & Feak, 2009). Thus, a genre in the abstract is included in a rhetorical genre study that focuses on situation context, social purposes, and action resulting from these purposes (Hyon, 1996). According to Hyland (2003) being aware of rhetorical structures of different genres is helpful for English Specific Purposes (ESP) teachers because they can grasp how language is used in various contexts. Hence, it conducts move analysis as an approach from genre analysis. The term “move” is “a functional term that refers to a defined and bounded communicative act that is designed to contribute in one main communicative objective of the whole text” (Lorés, 2004, p. 282). In addition, move analysis builds the concept of rhetorical action and focuses on the discourse organization concerning communicative purposes, which reflect rationales and constraints to the communication of discourse communities (Cotos, 2012).

Scientific journal is publicized to the public through international journal or national journal. Then, this publication has a real essence about sharing discoveries

and ideas to the wider network of studies that researchers have already found in certain disciplines (Dangal, Hamal, & Giri, 2017). Hence, it needs the development of the argument content in writings by increasing additional information and facts as one side of the power of an argument. Therefore, the authors should take good language and grammar skills, as well as a mature understanding of knowledge according to the topic of scientific work in writing a scientific paper (Jayashree, 2018 as cited in Rahardja, Harahap, & Dewi, 2019). Afterward, most readers would prefer to choose journals that interest them. So, the writers should target their work to be read by a large number of people which affects the quality that represents by level or quartile of the journal.

English has a large number of native speakers in the world which makes it become a world language. Given that, Al-Khasawneh (2017) said that the English language becomes one of the most important languages used around the globe. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it can be seen the role of English as a means of communication which has risen rapidly as the English language now becomes "the dominant or official language of over 60 countries" (Alcaraz Ariza & Navarro, 2006, p.752 as cited in Al-Khasawneh, 2017). Furthermore, in English teaching and learning, the culture of studying English is not only taking the structure but it also takes the culture (Usman, Rizkanisa, Samad, & Muslem, 2018). It is proved by Kaplan (1966), he said about cultural thought patterns in his essay, "diversity affects not only the languages but also the cultures". Then, he explained that the whole system of institutions to the language becomes the effect and expression of a certain world view which is realized in the culture. From this, Kaplan claimed that the speakers from different languages will bring out different rhetorical patterns (cited in Usman et al., 2018).

Further, as the one of discipline in research article, English Language Teaching (ELT) is the practice and theory of learning and teaching English especially for people whose first language is not English. ELT is applied in learning to increase

English language skills for the learner. As English becomes a genuine lingua franca, it is used widely for communication between people who do not share the same first (or even second) language (Harmer, 2007).

Many studies have been conducted on rhetorical moves analysis in abstracts such as Behnam and Golpour (2014) that investigated English and Iranian International RA abstracts in Applied Linguistics and Mathematics. They found the variation of rhetorical moves and linguistic features of research article abstracts across languages and disciplines. Then, there is a study of Tanko (2017) who investigated 135 Literature Research Article (LRA) from International Journal and he found a non-hierarchical eight-move structure with four stable moves that presented the background, purpose, methodology, and outcomes in LRA abstracts. Thereafter, a study from Annuai (2019) showed the comparison of international corpus abstracts that used conventional moves of four moves (Introduction, Purpose, Method, and Product), with three moves (Purpose, Method, and Product) in the Thai corpus. Also, the present simple tenses in active form were used in both data, and the other tenses were rarely employed. Moreover, Tamela (2020) examined the move structure of RA abstracts from TEFLIN and TESOL, she was adapted Hyland's (2000) theory and showed that the move pattern mostly found in the data was Introduction, Purpose, Method, and Product (I-P-M-Pr).

Those recent studied examined research article abstracts in finding differences of rhetorical moves and some features which are applied in abstracts from international and national journal with various disciplines. However, a few, if not none, studies have investigated how the abstracts of ELT journals behave as far as rhetorical moves and linguistic features are concerned in differing national indexes. Which is why this study focuses on analyzing the rhetorical moves of RA abstracts indexed by Sinta in the field of ELT.

## **1.2 Purpose of Study**

This research aims to examine the realization of rhetorical moves and linguistic features of RA abstracts from Sinta national indexation journal between different ranks.

## **1.3 Statement of Problem**

The research questions of this study formulate as follows:

1. How are rhetorical moves realized in ELT abstracts indexed by Sinta?
2. What linguistic features are involved in the rhetorical moves of the data?

## **1.4 Scope of Study**

Many researchers investigated abstracts in the research article of International and national journal with various disciplines. Thus, this research focuses on English Language Teaching RA abstracts indexed by Sinta in different Sinta ranks to discover a comparison of moves realization and linguistic features that the writers applied in their abstracts. Also, this study can determine whether Sinta level affects the realization of rhetorical moves and linguistic features.

## **1.5 Significance of Study**

This study is expected to discover the rhetorical moves and linguistic features of RA abstracts in the field of English Language Teaching indexed by Sinta. Subsequently, it can show what kind of moves and linguistic features that the abstracts used, as the data have different Sinta ranks.

## **1.6 Clarification of Terms**

To avoid the confusion and misunderstanding of some terms, these points below are some clarifications of the terms used in this research:

1. Genre analysis, according to Hyland (2009), genre analysis is a broad term that encompasses tools and attitude to the texts, from qualitative analysis to more quantitative counts of language features.
2. A move, according to Swales (2004), a move is a “discoursal or rhetorical unit that performs a coherent communicative function in a written or spoken discourse” (p. 228-9). Then, there are five moves classification of rhetorical moves in identifying the structure of the move of an abstract of research paper which consists of five patterns; Introduction, Purpose, Method, Product, and Conclusion proposed by Hyland (2000).

### **1.7 Organization of Paper**

There are five chapters in this paper, as follows:

#### 1. Introduction

This chapter covers several points, including the background of study, purpose of study, statement of problem, scope of study, significance of study, clarification of terms, and organization of paper.

#### 2. Theoretical Background

This chapter provides elaborations of several concepts, theories and previous studies that serve to help answering the research question of this study.

#### 3. Research Methodology

This chapter contains research design, data sources, data analysis, data presentation, and synopsis of the movie.

#### 4. Findings and Discussion

This chapter presents the findings and discussions of the study.

#### 5. Conclusions and Suggestions

This chapter contains two points, which are conclusions of the study and suggestions for further related studies.