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# Imperative sentence distribution on a novel

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#### **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Novel readers from Indonesia, especially students, are less able to distinguish the types of sentences.

**Purpose:** This study aims to describe what are the kind of imperative sentences on Divergent Novel.

Design and methods: The method used in this research is descriptive analysis method. The data that the researchers used as material for analysis were obtained in the novel Divergent by Veronica Roth. The procedure is as follows: 1) Selecting the data, obtained by marking parts of the text that are considered important and in accordance with the formulation of the problem; 2) Arrange the data in a systematic structure by grouping the data according to the research objectives and classifying the data into a data corpus; 3) Analyze and interpret data according to the elements studied. Based on the findings on step 2

**Results:** This study revealed the total imperative sentence found are 106 times. The details are as follows—the command category consists 41 times, the request category consists 28 times, the invitation category consists 4 times, the suggestion category consists 20 times, the advice category consists 7 times, the prohibition category consists 4 times, the compulsion category consists 2 times.

Keywords: imperative sentence; novel; communication tool

## Introduction

Language is an important communication tool in human social life. Language in a broader sense is used as a tool of communication for people to communicate from one to another all over the world. In other words, language cannot be separated from communication.

As a subject, human pours out their hearts by using language. People use language in order to share their opinions, feelings, and experience in many ways. Anyhow, human beings need language to communicate and interact with other people to fulfill their needs as social people, which means that they will keep communicating through their daily lives.

Language as a system, which means that formed by several components that are fixed and can be patterned. As a system, in addition to the systematic language are also systemic. Systematic meaning, language arranged according to a certain pattern, not arranged randomly or arbitrarily. While systematic means that language is a single system, but rather consists of several subsystems that differ from other languages.

Culture is also passed down from generation to generation by using language. Of course, through the distribution of language, knowledge can also spread widely and develop. Traditionally speaking, language is an interactive tool or communication tool, in a sense, a means to convey thoughts, ideas, concepts and even feelings (Hartley, 2019). The concept

that language is a tool to convey ideas has a long history. However, the reason why it is considered too narrow in sociolinguistic thinking is that language activities are basically "who speaks what language to whom, when to speak, and for what purpose". Therefore, from the perspective of sociolinguistics, language functions can be viewed from different perspectives such as speaker, listener, topic, code, and conversation purpose.

The connection between communication and culture can be seen in our daily communication or interaction between individuals and groups. The language usde must be influenced by where we live and the ethnic communities around us (Fougere, 2008).

Language is a system of symbols used by humans to communicate or express ideas and thoughts to others (Hidayat & Indarujati, 2020). The language used is influenced or affected the culture and vice versa. Therefore, it can be said that the language and culture have a very close relationship

Learning a language is not as easy as it seems, even though the language used is the mother tongue. The need for humans to communicate with each other, to want to be understood and to understand others, is not enough to rely on their mother tongue. In their forms, languages can be divided into spoken and written languages.

Written language is a form of written communication that includes reading and writing. Written language, whether it is reading or writing, requires basic language skills. These include speech processing (understanding that words are composed of discrete sounds, and then connecting letters to these sounds), vocabulary and syntax (grammar). Proficiency in reading and writing also requires understanding what is being read or written to build meaning

Writing is thus defined as a system of permanent marks used to represent an utterance in such a way that the utterance can be recovered exactly without the intervention of the utterer. Writing is one of four skills in English. Writing skills are complex and sometimes difficult to teach (Heaton, 1989). It means that writing is one of the difficult subjects for the students.

Although writing is difficult, writing can be learned and measured (Pratiwi, 2016). Besides that, writing is a thinking process, the writer produces final written products based on their thinking after the writer researches through the double thinking process (Onozwa, 2010). In other words, writing as defines as expressing an idea or their feelings. Furthermore, writing is used to give information and to develop what a writer thinks, so the writer can produce a good written.

As part of the international community, English is a new need for Indonesian that must be mastered. Indonesian students argue that English is not easy. In fact, the students need to study as English is recognized as a subject in their schools. However, this need is in line with the rapidly increasing number of literary works that can be accessed globally.

To mastering written language, students need to understand grammar. Grammar is also one of the English language components that students must learn and understand (Ngadwan & Adijaya, 2020). Grammar is generally thought to be a set of rules specifying the correct ordering of words at the sentence level (Nunan, 2003). It is very basic knowledge and an important tool for students to master English. It is a science that teaches students how to speak, read and write English correctly. In addition, by studying grammar, students will understand the language system and thus be able to combine words into meaningful sentences.

In written languages, especially in written English, sentences are the largest unit of the language and they are quite easy to be recognized, they typically begin with a capital letter and end with a period or its equivalent. The sentence itself is a set of words that are typically containing a subject and predicate which is conveying a statement, question, exclamation, or command, and consisting of a main clause and sometimes one or more subordinate

clauses. Ideally, a sentence requires at least one subject and one verb. Sometimes, the subject of a sentence can be hidden but the verb must be visible and present in the sentence. Therefore, a verb is called the heart of the sentence.

Imperative sentence is used to give commands, make a polite request and give directions (Azar, 2003). It means that imperative sentences are not only used to command, but also have the function to give the request for someone to achieve something. The writer concludes that an imperative sentence is a kind of sentence to give a command or request to another person, usually ended by an exclamation. For example, 1) Pass the salt. Move out of my way! 2) Shut the front door. 3) Find my leather jacket. 4) Be there at five. 5) Clean your room. 6) Complete these by tomorrow. 7) Consider the red dress.

One of the most popular pieces of literature is novel (Adams, 2014). A novel is a long prose essay containing a series of stories about a person's life. By reading novels, the culture of other countries that are told in the novel can be learned. To find out about the culture, research that studies the language of the novel is also needed.

The Indonesian people who read novels in English are still not very clear about the emotional side that novel writers build through their works. Novel readers from Indonesia, especially students, are less able to distinguish the types of sentences. Moreover, the science fiction genre novel is packed with a series of tense actions (Raven, 2015).

There are several previous study regarding to this research. A research investigating the imperative form of speech in the English children's novel Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly with a pragmatic study (Devita et al., 2020). Furthermore there was a research focusing on the command sentence contained in the novel Perahu Kertas by Dewi Lestari (Fitriana, 2013). Therefore, this study aims to describe what are the kind of imperative sentences on Divergent Novel.

### Methods

The method used in this research is descriptive analysis method. The descriptive research method is intended to create descriptions, paintings in a systematic, factual and accurate manner regarding the data, characteristics and relationships of the phenomena under study (Gall et al., 2003). In language research, descriptive research methods tend to be used in qualitative research, especially in collecting data and describing data scientifically. The data that the researchers used as material for analysis were obtained in the novel Divergent by Veronica Roth. Meanwhile, the data used by researchers as a source and basis for analysis were obtained from various book sources related. The procedure is as follows: 1) Selecting the data, obtained by marking parts of the text that are considered important and in accordance with the formulation of the problem; 2) Arrange the data in a systematic structure by grouping the data according to the research objectives and classifying the data into a data corpus; 3) Analyze and interpret data according to the elements studied. Based on the findings on step 2.

## Findings & Discussion

# Findings

Based on the analysis on divergent novel below are findings summary. The result is stated on the table below

Table 1 Findings

NO	Categories	Findings
1	Command	41
2	Request	28
3	Invitation	4
4	Suggestion	20
5	Advice	7
6	Prohibition	4
7	Compulsion	2
	Total	106

From the table above, the total imperative sentence found 106 times. The details are as follows, the command category consists 41 times, the request category consists 28 times, the invitation category consists 4 times, the suggestion category consists 20 times, the advice category consists 7 times, the prohibition category consists 4 times, the compulsion category consists 2 times.

Furthermore, from the table, the most frequent of imperative sentence appears on the divergent novel is command. The command take 39% of imperative sentence on the novel. The least imperative sentence appears is compulsion that appeared only 2%. The distribution is shown in the figure below.

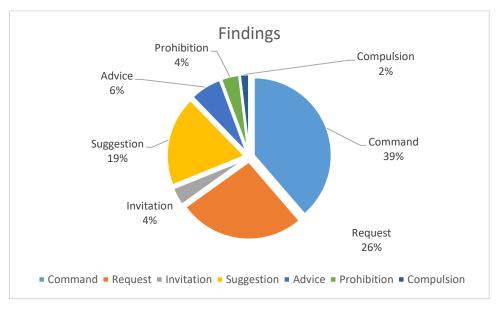


Figure 1 Findings distribution

## Discussion

### Command

Command means that the speaker has power or authority, and the receiver can do something. But it can also be used when there is no different authority or power between the speaker and the listener. For example

### Datum 2

An Abnegation volunteer speaks the next round of names. Two from Dauntless, two from Erudite, two from Amity, two from Candor, and then: "From Abnegation: Susan Black and Beatrice Prior."

This datum is an example of positive imperative sentence. The condition is announcer calling the names on the list. By mentioning the name, the announcer commands to Susan Black and Beatrice Prior come to the stage.

### Datum 3

Choose! she yells.

This datum appears with bare noun plural and ended by exclamation marks. This categorizes into positive imperative sentences.

## Request

An imperative sentence as a request means that the speaker asks the receiver to do something politely. It is almost like an order, but more polite in meaning. The imperative sentence as request can be signaled by, please, do, will you, do you mind, would you mind, can you, could you, etc. For example

## Datum 102

Tobias, please. I am begging. I am pathetic. Tears make my face hot. "Please. See me." He walks toward me, his movements dangerous, fast, powerful. The gun shakes in my hands. "Please see me, Tobias, please!"

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## Datum 32

Stop! wails Christina as Molly pulls her foot back to kick again. She holds out a hand. "Stop! I'm..." She coughs. "I'm done."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## Invitation

The speaker invites the recipient through words such as 'would you', 'let' and can be the question 'won't you' in imperative sentence. For example

## Datum 19

You've got to, Christina says, "or you fail. Come on, it'll be all right."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

### Datum 29

Oh, you think it's going to be that easy? Will asks, grinning. "Go on. Try to hit me, slowpoke."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

# Suggestion

In suggestions, the speaker suggests that the listener do something. It can be used to let us, let us not, you are the best, we, why not you and possible. For examples:

## Datum 1

I have tried to explain to him that my instincts are not the same as his-it didn't even enter my mind to give my seat to the Candor man on the bus-but he doesn't understand. "Just do what you're supposed to," he always says. It is that easy for him. It should be that easy for me.

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## Datum 17

Beatrice, he says, looking sternly into my eyes. "think of our family." There is an edge to his voice. "But. But we must also think of ourselves."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

### **Advice**

The imperative sentence as a suggestion requires the listener to accept or execute the speaker's thoughts or opinions. For examples:

### Datum 9

But then he releases my wrist, takes the apples, and says, "Choose wisely, little girl."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## Datum 17

Beatrice, he says, looking sternly into my eyes. "We should think of our family." There is an edge to his voice. "But. But we must also think of ourselves."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## **Prohibition**

In prohibition, the speaker asks the listener not to do something. Prohibition is exactly the same as the warning expression. Besides, prohibition is also used for the short announcement and signaled by no + gerund. For examples:

#### Datum 12

Just...don't tell our parents what happened, okay? I say.

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

### Datum 21

Think about it, he says, a faint smile curling his lips. "pick again."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

## Compulsion

Compulsion is when a speaker command the recipient with emphasis. The word 'must' usually indicate this function. For examples

#### Datum 5

Have it your way, she says.

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

### Datum 104

Yes, we do. He wraps his arm across my shoulders. "Come on."

This datum appears with proper noun. This datum categorizes into a positive imperative sentence.

#### Conclusion

The divergent novel has interesting story to read. The summary of this novel is telling how main characters finding her truth identity as someone with multi-potential abilities called divergent. Imperative sentence in the Divergent novel has seven function categories. The total imperative sentence found 106 times. The details are as follows, the command category consists 41 times, the request category consists 28 times, the invitation category consists 4 times, the suggestion category consists 20 times, the advice category consists 7 times, the prohibition category consists 4 times, the compulsion category consists 2 times.

Furthermore, the most frequent of imperative sentence appears on the divergent novel is command. The command take 39% of imperative sentence on the novel. The least imperative sentence appears is compulsion that appeared only 2%. The distribution is shown in the figure below.

The imperative sentences appear in the Divergent novel are categorize into its type and characteristics. The most frequent type is proper noun and the most characteristic is positive imperative sentence. This research is limited to analyze the imperative sentence only. The analysis goes through all 39 chapters identifying the imperative categories, type, and characters. However, this research still has potential analysis to reveal the novel.

The suggestions are as follows. To other researcher is suggested to go further analyze the syntaxes pattern of imperative sentences. To novel readers, these imperative sentences analysis helps readers to understand better the novel. To language academician, the imperative sentence analysis of divergent novel gives an initial stage on syntax and semantic development research. To writer, this analysis is beneficial information for giving lesson in a class

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