

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Badminton has been favorite and legendary sport in Indonesia. Indonesia has won many badminton competitions internationally (<http://www.anneahira.com/olahraga-badminton.htm>). It makes Indonesia recognised internationally. In one of the Badminton webs, it is mentioned that badminton is the second familiar sport in Indonesia after football which fond of all society such as old people, young people, and functionary like this sport (<http://www.anneahira.com/olahraga-badminton.htm>). Badminton sport has more achievements than football sport although the fans are not as many as football fans. There are many Indonesian badminton players who have got achievements and are known internationally, for example Taufik Hidayat, Alan Budi Kusuma, Susi Susanti, Ricky Subagja, Rudi Hartono, or more legendary one is Liem Swie King etc. They are the mainstay Indonesian players in their era. Besides, Indonesia has some young potential and talented players such as Grace Natalie, Liliana Natsir, Markis Kido, Hendra Setiawan, Sony Dwi Kuncoro, and Simon Santoso. In addition, double players, Markis Kido and Hendra Setiawan, had already got gold medal in Sea Games. They had also got predicate as the best double players in Sea Games year 2007 (<http://www.anneahira.com/olahraga-badminton.htm>).

There have been many international and national badminton competitions which have been held in Indonesia. One of the national badminton competitions is

“Djarum Sirkuit Nasional.” This competition is organized by *Perkumpulan Bulutangkis Djarum* (PB Djarum) or Djarum Badminton association in cooperation with *Pengurus Besar Persatuan Bulutangkis Seluruh Indonesia* (PB PBSI) or the committee of all Indonesian Badminton associations. Furthermore, this competition is conducted in national scope because it aims to find prospective Indonesian badminton players, to increase the quality of their performance, and to prepare them for any international competitions in the future (www.djarumbadminton.com/djarum-sirkuit-nasional/). The latest “Djarum Sirkuit Nasional” is “Djarum Sirkuit Nasional 2012” which was held in ten regions in Indonesia including Banjarmasin, Palembang, Jambi, Makassar, Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang, Banten, Denpasar, and Surabaya. In Surabaya, “Djarum Sirkuit Nasional” was held on 24th November 2012 in Sudirman Badminton Sport Stadium, Surabaya. This competition also broadcasted live on TV.

During the competition, the writer watched and thought that it was hard and tight competition. The matches were good and the spectators were fantastic. The spectators supported the players by giving shouts and applauses to the player when they were doing well in the play. Not only did the spectators make the match interesting, but also the commentator. Everytime the commentator commented on the play, it was usually followed by a loud cry or call of the spectators, or both comment and the loud cry or call happened simultaneously.

The language used by the commentator is very interesting as well. The following excerpt was taken from the writer’s pre-observation.

“seperti yang kita lihat sekarang, terjadi rally panjang, adu drive diantara kedua pemain ganda putra asal INA ini dan akhirnya rally ini dimenangkan oleh pemain INA dengan pukulan drop shot menyilang”

“as we see now, there is a long rally and drive duel between these two male double players from INA and this rally is finally won by INA players by giving cross drop shot”

For people who are not familiar with this sport, they might have difficulty to understand what the commentator is trying to describe. Terms like *rally* “rally,” *drive* “drive,” *drop shot menyilang* “cross drop shot” are examples of vocabulary which are peculiar to badminton. The meaning of these terms cannot be taken lexically, but must be understood from the context. Therefore, when the spectators watched the competition and saw what happened on the field when the shuttlecock was hit softly with finesse to fall rapidly and close to the nets, and when the commentator said *drop shot menyilang* “cross drop shot”, they could understand it and shouted loudly.

The specific vocabulary associated with the variation of language used by the badminton commentator is referred to as register variation (Holmes, 2008). According to Holmes (2008), register is referred to the language variation which reflects change in social factors, such as addressee, setting, task or topic. Furthermore, it tends to be associated with particular groups of people or sometimes specific situations of use; for example journalese, baby-talk, legalese, the language of the courtroom and the classroom, and the language of auctioneers, race-callers, sports commentators, airline pilots, criminals, financiers, politicians, disk jockeys and financiers.

The register used by the badminton commentator above is called as the language of sports announcer talk (Holmes, 2008). As stated by Holmes (2008), every register has distinctive linguistic features. The kind of linguistic features which distinguish the register of sports announcer talk include the vocabulary and the grammar. In line with that Ferguson (1983) suggests in radio sportscast that the distinctive situationals and linguistic characteristics of radio sportscast can be seen from participants' utterances. He added that people who are participating in recurrent communication situations tend to develop similar vocabularies, similar features of intonation, and similar bits of syntax.

The sports announcer talk itself can be described as composing of two commentaries: play-by-play and colour commentaries. Play-by-play commentary focuses on the action, whereas colour commentary focuses on the players (Holmes, 2008).

According to Holmes (2008), *play-by-play* description points to action and aims to deliver the "drama of the moment." It means that the commentator has to act to viewers as if he or she feels like going into strained moment. As quoted from American Sportscasters Online, the insight ability of the commentator is needed to inform particular moment clearly, and further this can be an attractive point for the viewers (<http://www.americansportscastersonline.com/sportcasterdefinition.html>). Because of the limitation of time in describing the action, the grammar of this register is distinctive. The distinguishing grammatical features involve syntactic reduction and syntactic inversion. On the other hand, according to Amoia (2010), colour commentators provide the viewers or listeners with a

deeper analysis of the sport. Thus, the information provided by colour commentators is more detailed than the information provided by the play-by-play commentators. In addition, Holmes (2008) stated that since color commentators have more time in delivering the information, they tend to use heavy noun modification. In brief, while play-by-play commentators inform the ongoing moments, color commentators provide deeper interpretation of the information such as personal appearance, clothing and hairstyle (<http://www.americansportscasteronline.com/sportscasterdefinition.html>).

Badminton is a racquet sport that is played by two opposing players (*singles*) or two opposing pairs (*doubles*) (Grice, 2008). The players take positions on opposite halves of a rectangular court that is divided by a net. In general, there are three moments of badminton: in-play moment, middle moment, and out-play moment. In-play moment refers to the phase in the match when the referee does not stop the game and the shuttlecock is within the boundaries of the field. This moment is divided into several moments such as low-serve, high-serve, backhand, forehand, jumping smash, backhand smash, and drop shot over net. Another moment is middle moment or which is called rally. It happens when the shuttlecock does not fall to the ground yet. It means that all of the players take turn hitting the shuttlecock during the game and the shuttlecock does not fall. Finally, out-play moment refers to the moment in the match when the referee stops the game and the shuttlecock is outside the boundaries of the field. This out-play moment occurs when the player feels disagree with the umpire, service judge, or line judge's decision that can make that player receive a yellow card (a

warning card), or even, red card which means that one point from the player is given to the opponent (http://www.firstbasesports.com/soccer_glossary.html).

Regarding the sport commentator, the sport commentator is a journalist who has special ability to give some suggestions or critics in radio or television. They often perform on-air or off-air for local or non-local television and radio shows. There are many sport commentators that have been put on a show in either television or radio, and one of the examples is badminton commentators. The badminton commentator's utterances consist of distinctive vocabulary and grammatical pattern (<http://www.americansportscasteronline.com/sportscastere-definition.html>.)

Many studies concerning with sport announcer talk have been conducted before. Rosmia (2011) in her research entitled "Syntactic and Intonation Patterns in Play-by-Play Description used by Football Commentators in Barclays Premier League" studied about the phenomenon of distinctive language style used by the commentators and it aims to describe the syntactic and intonation patterns of play-by-play description in *in play* moment within a football match in Barclays Premier League between Chelsea and Blackburn Rovers in 30th October 2010 broadcasted by MNCtv. Anggarwati (2011) in her research entitled "Register of Telkomsel Caroline Officers 116" studied about register that happened in Telkomsel office. Her data were taken from the telephone conversation of Caroline officers 116 Telkomsel towards the customer. Noertjayanto (2001) in his research entitled "Grammatical structure of the register that happened in football commentators." His data were taken from football commentators. The writer chose badminton

sport because many studies about the register of sport announcer talks are about football and none is about badminton. This study focuses on vocabulary because according to Holmes (2008), the most obvious distinguishing feature is generally the vocabulary. The goal of this research is to describe the vocabulary as one of the features of the register of badminton commentator.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the writer states the problem as follows:

How is the vocabulary as one of the features of the register of badminton commentator used in the play by play description by badminton commentators in Djarum Sirkuit Nasional Surabaya 2012?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objective of this study is to describe how the vocabulary as one of the features of the register of badminton commentator used in the play by play description by badminton commentators in Djarum Sirkuit Nasional Surabaya 2012.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give contribution to the study of language and society or sociolinguistics, especially the study of register. The analysis of register of badminton suggests that the study of register from sociolinguistic point of view

is closely related to social context. It shows that the meaning of certain vocabulary which is marked as register can only be understood from the context.

This study can also be a reference for those who need to know about the vocabulary of badminton and for the readers or for other researchers who want to explore more about register.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid the misunderstanding words, the writer gave the definition of key terms. The followings are some key terms which are used by the writer:

1. **Register** : the language variation which reflects change in social factors, such as participants, setting, topic or function (Holmes, 2008).
2. **Play-by-play** : one type of sport description which points to action and aims to deliver the “drama of the moment” (Holmes, 2008).
3. **Badminton** : a name of sport game which is played by using strung rackets (similar to tennis rackets, but smaller, more flexible and much lighter) and a feathered shuttlecock by either two or four players on a marked rectangular court (Grice, 2008).
4. **Commentator** : a person whose job is to give a description of an event or sport competition on

television or radio as it happens
(<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/commentator>).

5. Djarum Sirkuit Nasional : one of the national badminton competitions in Indonesia which is conducted to find potential Indonesian badminton players (<http://forum.kompas.com/bulu-tangkis/68372-bulutangkisdjarum-sirkuit-nasional-2012-digelar-di-10-kota.html>).

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW