

Adverbs in the Novel “The Years of the Voiceless”

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Abstract. The title of this research is Adverb In The Novel “The Years Of The Voiceless.” Adverbs are parts of speech that modify or provide additional information about verbs, adjectives, other adverbs, or even entire sentences. Adverbs also have several types and functions. Therefore, research on adverbs needs to be conducted. This research aims to explore types and functions of adverbs in the novel *The Years Of The Voiceless* by Okky Madasari. The main theory used is the theory of types and functions of adverbs taken from Randolph Quirk and Thomson (1986). This research uses the novel titled *The Years Of The Voiceless* by Okky Madasari (2010) as the data source. Data collection was conducted in the form of library research, which involved reading the data source and noting and/or underlining relevant data within it. All data are grouped into categories based on type and appropriate setting function. The collected data were analyzed descriptively. The research results show that seven types of adverbs and four functions of adverbs were found in *The Years Of The Voiceless* by Okky Madasari. The seven types of adverbs found are adverbs of manner, adverbs of place, adverbs of time, adverbs of frequency, adverbs of certainty, adverbs of degree, and relative adverbs. The four functions of adverbs found are adverbs as adverbials, adverbs as modifiers, modifiers of adjectives, and modifiers of other adverbs.

Keywords: Adverbs; types; functions

1. Introduction

In writing a novel, a short story, an article. There are some aspects that must be considered in constructing a proper sentence, such as: tenses, part of speech, and others. Adverb is one of the important things. Sometimes, many people do not understand the difference and the use of the types and functions of adverbs used in their writing and reading. Therefore, adverb is one element that must be understood, because adverbs are helpful for clarifying an event by providing information about verbs and adjectives. Adverbs can influence the expression and structure of English sentences grammatically.

The media that can be used to study the types and functions of adverbs is novels. The public can read and analyze the difference and use of types and functions of adverbs in novels. In a novel we can analyze the types of adverbs, including: adverb of manner, adverb of place, adverb of time, adverb of frequency, adverb of degree, interrogative adverb and relative adverb. We can also analyze the function of adverbs, including: adverb as adverbial, adverb as modifier, modifier of adjective, modifier of other adverbs, modifier of prepositional phrase and modifier of noun or noun phrase. Reading novels makes it easier for people to know the difference and use of types and functions of adverbs in a fun way.

In the part of speech, adverb also often found in the sentence, adverbs in a sentence have function to complete or add information like what adjectives do. Adverbs are one of the primary lexical markers of stance in English, and we limit ourselves to adverbial marking of stance style disjuncts presented in (Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik, 1985). Adverb can be divided into eight, such as: adverb

manner, adverb of place, adverb of time, adverb of frequency, adverb of degree, adverb of affirmation, relative adverb, and interrogative adverb (Eckersley, 1965). Adverbs are necessary because used to provide a further description of a verb. Adverb will explain how an incident took place (Ardhani, Rizky Amalia, 2020). Adverbs are one element that must be understood because adverbs can influence the expression and structure of English sentences grammatically (Ali Hazem, 2020). Adverbs are useful for clarifying an event by providing information about the verb, such as an adverb of manner, place, adverb as adverbial (Thomas Ernst, 2020).

In research papers and other readings, it was found that according to experts, adverbs, namely adverbs or what in English are called adjuncts, are words or groups of words that are used to expand or limit the meaning of a subject or predicate in a sentence (Firdaus Deni, 2021). The presence of information is generally arbitrary and is usually in the form of a noun phrase, prepositional phrase or adverbial phrase and the meaning of the information is determined by the combination of the meanings of its elements (Alwi, Hasan 2023).

Adverbs are also found by the researchers in the film. The adverb in the film *Last Twilight* is a tool to convey various messages to the general public through the story media (Rizal, 2018). The adverbs in the film *No Escape* can also be interpreted as a medium of artistic expression for artists and film people to express their thoughts and story ideas (Wibowo et al., 2020). In the film *A Mystery*, adverbs are works of art in the form of communication media that can be seen and displayed and have the function of conveying a message to the general public (Narudin Prastista, 2018). In the Bollywood Villain film, adverbs are a mode of presentation of the film in accordance with the features of the literary text and can also be explained in a textual framework (Klareer, 2020).

Adverb research data sources are also found in song lyrics. The researchers analyzed adverbs in English songs. In the lyrics of Adele's song *Someone like you*, adverbs are words to express emotions and feelings in a pleasant way (Serafica Gischa, 2022). The research also analyzed the lyrics of Lady Gaga's album *A Star is Born*. Adverbs can bring up visuals in the mind into a scene and can help us understand the meaning of a song (Risky Guswindari, 2020). During the research, we also found the lyrics to the song *Hello My Love* by Westlife's. Adverbs also have general meanings or meanings that are conveyed implicitly or implicitly (Arum Sutrisni Putri, 2020).

Many studies analyze adverbs from novels, here is an explanation of adverbs through novels. from the analysis of the novel *Hook* by Walter Van Tilburg, adverbs are words that modify or explain or limit verbs, adjectives and other adverbs (Meygita Palenewen, 2017). Meanwhile, in the novel entitled *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck, adverbs are words that explain or provide information for other words, such as nouns and verbs (Vanya Karunia, 2023). Researchers also analyzed the novel entitled *After The Ending* by Lindsey Fairleigh, saying that adverbs in the novel function to provide further explanation regarding how, when, where, why, or why not an event occurred (Lilia Indriani, 2021). In the analysis of the novel *The Rescue* by Nicholas Sparks, it is written that adverbs are an important element in English grammar which provide additional information or information in a sentence, although it is not required that the use of adverbs can significantly help in constructing sentences more clearly and expressively (Wahyu & Dusak, 2020).

Many studies have analyzed adverb. These studies mostly focus on one adverb from the many types and functions of adverbs in learning. In the analysis of the adverb entitled "The years of The Voiceless", we will get more explanation about what is in adverbs, how to use them, and how to express them in writing that will be written in social relationships. Therefore, this research will discuss adverbs more clearly and in more detail regarding this matter.

Based on this background, this research aims to show adverbs that often appear in conversations and in places where conversations occur. This research uses a novel to be used as research material for finding adverbs. To be able to obtain dialogues in these places, this research uses one of the literary works that researcher wants to analyze, namely the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*. This novel is very interesting and has many adverbs. This researcher analyzes this novel to find out the types of adverbs and their meanings implied in this novel.

2. Method

The source of data is the origin from which data is collected for research purposes. In this research, the observation method is used, which is carried out through several processes explained as follows: reading the novel "The Years Of The Voiceless." I chose the novel "The Years Of The Voiceless" by Okky Madasari for my research because it can be linked to an in-depth exploration of oppression and resistance during the New Order regime in Indonesia. The novel is classified as historical fiction and social commentary, focusing on themes of oppression, gender, and human rights.

Data collection is one of the important steps in the research process, as it involves gathering information. This research uses qualitative research that focuses on adverbs; this type of research can be used to study social life, history, behavior, etc. Based on theory, the collected data is classified and analyzed according to its type. This method is an approach that widely used in social sciences to explore social interactions, systems, and processes. This provides a deep understanding of how people comprehend adverbs in their daily situations.

This data analysis is based on the types and functions of adverbs theory by Randolph Quirk (1986). These theories are used as guidelines for adverb analysis. After collecting and organizing the data, analyze the information to draw insights and conclusions related to your research question. This analysis may involve comparing data points, identifying patterns, or drawing connections between various pieces of information.

3. Discussion

Okky Madasari's novel *The Years of the Voiceless* intricately explores themes of silence, resistance, and the consequences of political and social oppression. Like any well-crafted work of literature, Madasari's writing uses language in a way that builds atmosphere, evokes emotions, and deepens the reader's connection to the characters. One key aspect of language that contributes to this effect is the use of adverbs.

Adverbs are words that modify or describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs in a sentence. They give readers a clearer understanding of how, when, where, how often, or to what degree an action is performed. In *The Years of the Voiceless*, adverbs help convey the subtle emotional landscapes of the characters, their interactions, and the oppressive environments they navigate.

This article will break down the types and functions of adverbs found in the novel, providing a detailed analysis of how they enrich the storytelling.

Adverb in the Novel "The Years of The Voiceless"

Types of Adverbs Found in the Novel The Years of The Voiceless

- Adverb of Manner

Pay attention to the choice of adverbs and how they contribute to the reader's understanding of the character's actions or the overall tone of the narrative. Here are some examples from the story:

"Mrs. Dimah's customers, for instance, wouldn't **suddenly** start buying cassavas from me." (The Years of the Voiceless, 39:2010)

The example explains that **suddenly** is an adverb of manner, and it plays a key role in modifying the verb phrase "start." Many adverbs of manner are formed by adding -ly to an adjective. **Suddenly** comes from the adjective "sudden" and follows this pattern. This makes **suddenly** an adverb of manner, which describes how an action is performed. **Suddenly** conveys the idea of an action happening quickly, unexpectedly, or without warning. The negation "wouldn't" suggests that the customers would not begin buying cassavas in a quick and surprising way. The adverb adds emphasis to the improbability of an immediate and unexpected switch in customer behavior. Effect on sentence meaning: Without **suddenly**, the sentence simply states that Mrs. Dimah's customers wouldn't start buying cassavas. With **suddenly**,

the sentence emphasizes that their switch to buying cassavas would not happen abruptly or without warning. Position of **suddenly** appears before the main verb phrase "start" because it modifies how the action happens. Adverbs of manner typically go before the main verb when used with modal or auxiliary verbs like "would", as in this sentence. This Manner describes how the action "start" would take place. Since the verb phrase is negated with "wouldn't," **suddenly** emphasizes that the customers would not change their buying habits abruptly. It is placed before the verb phrase to clearly indicate the manner of the action. Its function in the sentence is to emphasize that the customers would not make an abrupt change in buying behavior. The word adds nuance, making the sentence more precise by showing that the action isn't just unlikely but specifically not happening in a sudden way.

- Adverb of Place

There are a few instances where adverbs of place are used to provide additional context or emphasize the setting. Here are some examples from the story:

"Two small children playing **outside** ran into the house as soon as they saw us." (The Years of the Voiceless, 145:2010)

The example is **outside** as an adverb of place, modifying the verb "playing" to indicate where the action is happening. Structurally, **outside** is a standalone word that does not require a suffix to function as an adverb, unlike many adverbs that take the "-ly" suffix. It derives from the combination of "out" (meaning beyond or away from an enclosed space) and "side" (referring to a location relative to a boundary). As an adverb of place, **outside** does not modify the manner of an action but rather its location, clarifying that the children were playing in an open space, likely outdoors. Characteristic, **outside** is positioned immediately after "playing", the verb it modifies, which follows the common pattern where adverbs of place appear after the main verb or verb phrase. The presence of **outside** contrasts with "ran into the house", reinforcing the movement from an open outdoor space to an enclosed indoor space. This use of **outside** enhances spatial clarity in the sentence, helping the reader visualize the scene with precise location details.

- Adverb of Time

By effectively utilizing adverbs of time, authors can create a nuanced and engaging reading experience. In *The Years of the Voiceless* novel, several adverbs of time are found:

"I've got the ward chief coming over **tomorrow** to take it." (The Years of the Voiceless, 79:2010)

The example is **tomorrow**, categorized as an adverb of time. Adverbs of time provide information about when an action occurs, indicating the temporal context of the verbs in a sentence. In this sentence, **tomorrow** appears towards the end, following the verb phrase "coming over." This position is typical for adverbs of time, which often come after the main part of the verb phrase to indicate when the action will take place. **Tomorrow** denotes the day after today, signifying a future point in time. In this context, it specifies when the ward chief is expected to arrive. As an adverb of time, **tomorrow** modifies the verb phrase "coming over." It clarifies when the ward chief will be visiting, making the sentence more informative and precise. In this sentence, **tomorrow** interacts grammatically with the future concept inherent in the phrase "coming over." Although the present perfect form "I've got" suggests an ongoing state or arrangement, the adverb **tomorrow** clearly indicates that the action is scheduled for a future time. In summary, **tomorrow** serves as an adverb of time in the sentence, indicating when the ward chief will visit. It is a simple word without any affixes and is placed at the end of the clause to modify the verb phrase. This adverb enhances the sentence by specifying the timing of the future event, contributing to its overall meaning and tone. The reference to **tomorrow** fosters anticipation and contextualizes the speaker's upcoming interaction, emphasizing the relevance of the planned visit. Understanding **tomorrow** helps frame the temporal aspect of the situation, making it clear when the action will take place.

- Adverbs of Frequency

These adverbs subtly enhance the narrative by indicating how often actions occur, emphasizing conflicts, and strengthening the story's realism. It provides information about the frequency or regularity of an action. Here are some example sentences:

"**Sometimes** they would get money for giving sermons at prayer recitals."

(The Years of the Voiceless, 132:2010)

The example, **sometimes** is an adverb of frequency that describes the occurrence of an action or event. **Sometimes** is an adverb. Specifically, it is an adverb of frequency, which means it indicates how often something happens. The term sometimes is derived from the combination of "some" and "time." It conveys the idea of an unspecified number of times, which is typically more than once but less than always. Sometimes indicates that the action occurs on certain occasions but not consistently or regularly. It suggests variability in frequency. In the context of the sentence, it means that getting money for giving sermons happens on some occasions but not all the time. **Sometimes** is placed at the beginning of the sentence, which is a common position for adverbs of frequency. This placement emphasizes the frequency aspect of the action that follows. As an adverb, **sometimes** modifies the entire clause "they would get money for giving sermons at prayer recitals." It provides context about how often that action takes place. In summary, **sometimes** is an adverb of frequency that conveys the irregular occurrence of an action. In the sentence "**Sometimes** they would get money for giving sermons at prayer recitals," it indicates that the action of getting money is not constant but happens on several, unspecified occasions, contributing to the overall meaning that the practice is intermittent. The positioning and form of **sometimes** allow it to effectively function as a modifier, enhancing our understanding of the frequency of the actions described.

- Adverbs of Certainty

These adverbs add layers of meaning, showing whether characters feel confident or doubtful about their world and their choices. Examples of adverbs of certainty:

"**I certainly** got that sense of pity from some of the other buyers at the market." (The Years of the Voiceless, 35:2010)

The word **certainly** serves as an adverb of certainty, emphasizing the speaker's confidence in their perception of the sentiment from other buyers. It is an adverb, specifically an adverb of certainty, modifying verbs and indicating the level of certainty in the statement. The adverb is derived from the adjective "certain," with the suffix -ly added to indicate its function as an adverb. **Certainly** expresses strong assurance, indicating the speaker's clear belief about the pity they perceived from others. It is positioned before the verb "got," accentuating the speaker's strong belief and reinforcing the statement's impact. It denotes a high degree of confidence, stronger than words like "probably," and aligns with terms like "definitely." The usage suggests a subjective experience, enhancing the speaker's emotional engagement and conviction regarding their observations. In conclusion, **certainly** highlights the speaker's assurance and emotional connection to their experience, enriching the overall meaning of the statement.

- Adverbs of Degree

These adverbs help express how much or to what extent something happens. An adverb of degree modifies an adjective or other adverb. In this novel, they will be discussed below:

"We **barely** spoke when she was at home" (The Years of the Voiceless, 119:2010)

The word **barely** is classified as an adverb, specifically an adverb of degree. It modifies the verb "spoke" in this context, indicating the extent to which the action occurred. In this sentence, **barely** precedes the verb "spoke." This is a common positioning for adverbs of degree, which typically come before the verbs they modify to clarify how little or how much the action is performed. **Barely** serves to indicate that the action of speaking occurred to a very limited extent. In this context, it suggests that the

amount of speech exchanged was minimal, perhaps indicating an insufficient or ineffective interaction. It signifies something occurring to a slight degree, implying minimal communication. It conveys a sense of discomfort or lack of connection due to the limited interaction. It suggests an unmet expectation of more communication, reflecting emotional tones such as tension or estrangement. The use of **barely** conveys disappointment, capturing a narrative of lacking interaction. **Barely** can modify various actions in different contexts while maintaining its core meaning of minimal occurrence. In conclusion, **barely** highlights the minimal nature of the speaking that took place, emphasizing underlying emotional nuances and expectations about interaction.

- Relative Adverbs

By analyzing their use, readers gain insight into the novel's structure and the connections between time, place, and motivation. Below is an example that can be found in the novel:

"Ratno went to Yogyakarta to look for her at her lodgings, at the places **where** she went." (The Years of the Voiceless, 166:2010)

The example is **where**, classified as a relative adverb, which is a type of adverb that connects a clause to a noun or pronoun, indicating location. Unlike relative pronouns (like who, whom, whose, or that), relative adverbs provide information related to time, place, or reason. In the given sentence, **where** introduces a relative clause that provides additional information about "the places." The clause modifies "places," indicating the specific locations being referred to in relation to Ratno's search for her. The phrase "**where** she went" is the relative clause introduced by where. It provides context and specifies the kind of places being discussed—those being the places to which the subject "she" went. As a relative adverb, **where** serves several functions: it links the clause to the noun "places," clarifying specific locations; it provides necessary context, enhancing the clarity of the scene; and it contributes to the coherence of the sentence, allowing for a smooth flow of ideas. By addressing spatial specifics, **where** connects Ratno's actions to the geographical context, illustrating the relationship between actions, places, and characters. Overall, its role is crucial in enriching the sentence's meaning and guiding the reader's understanding.

Function of Adverbs Found in the Novel The Years of The Voiceless

- Adverb as Adverbial

In *The Years of the Voiceless*, uses adverbials to enhance character actions, describe settings, and develop themes of oppression, faith, and resistance. For example:

"The two **supposedly** old friends met in the front yard." (The Years of the Voiceless, 228:2010)

In the word **supposedly** is an adverb derived from the adjective "supposed." Adverbs typically modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs, providing additional context or meaning. In this example, **supposedly** is placed before the adjective "old." It modifies "old," indicating the nature of the "friends" being described. The phrase "**supposedly** old friends" suggests that their status as "old friends" is based on assumption or belief, rather than confirmed fact. As an adverb, **supposedly** enhances the adjective "old" by conveying skepticism or uncertainty about the truth of the statement. It implies that while they are referred to as "old friends," there may be doubt about the validity of that description. The use of **supposedly** introduces an element of doubt or irony. It suggests that the relationship between the two friends might not be as genuine or established as it appears. This creates a nuance in the reader's understanding of their friendship, making them question the nature of the bond. In this context, **supposedly** functions adverbially to modify the noun phrase "old friends." It explains how the speaker views the relationship, allowing for a deeper interpretation beyond just their acquaintance. In summary, **supposedly** in the sentence acts as an adverb that modifies the adjective "old," indicating uncertainty about the authenticity of the friends' relationship. Its position before "old" allows it to serve as an adverbial modifier, enriching the meaning and suggesting that their status as "old friends" may not be as straightforward as it seems. Through this usage, **supposedly** adds a layer of skepticism to the description of the two friends.

- Adverbs as Modifier

Adverbs as modifiers play a significant role in novels by adding detail and richness to the narrative. They help to convey nuances of action, emotion, and imagery, enhancing the reader's experience. Adverbs as modifiers play a crucial role in shaping the language and themes of *The Years of the Voiceless*. They enhance meaning by modifying verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and sentences, allowing readers to better grasp the depth of social injustice, emotional struggles, and resilience depicted in the novel.

Modifiers of Adjective:

Adverbs that modify adjectives play a crucial role in shaping the novel's tone and themes. An adverb usually modifies by telling how, when, where, why, under what conditions, or to what degree. An adverb is often formed by adding -ly to an adjective. They intensify, limit, or clarify descriptions, helping readers grasp the depth of injustice, oppression, and resilience in *The Years of the Voiceless*. For example:

"The village was **extremely** poor." (*The Years of the Voiceless*)

The word **extremely** functions as an adverb that modifies the adjective "poor." **Extremely** is an adverb, specifically a degree adverb. Adverbs often modify verbs, adjectives, other adverbs, or entire clauses. In this sentence, **extremely** appears before the adjective "poor." This placement is typical for adverbs that modify adjectives, as they usually precede them to specify the intensity or degree of the adjective. The adverb enhances the emotional weight of the description, implying urgency and seriousness about the village's condition. Alternatives like "very" offer varying intensities, but **extremely** conveys a stronger meaning. Additionally, **extremely** carries a formal tone, suitable for written and formal contexts. Overall, its placement and purpose highlight the seriousness of the village's poverty.

Modifier of Other Adverb

Adverbs often serve to modify other adverbs, adding layers of meaning and precision to the narrative. Here are some examples of adverbs modifying other adverbs:

"Marni sang very beautifully during the ceremony." (*The Years of the Voiceless*)

The word **very** functions as an adverb modifying another adverb, specifically the adverb "beautifully." **Very** is an adverb, classified as a degree adverb. Degree adverbs modify the intensity or degree of other adverbs, adjectives, or even other adverbs. In this sentence, **very** is found before the adverb "beautifully." This placement is standard for degree adverbs that modify other adverbs, as they typically precede the adverb to amplify its meaning. This enhancement not only elevates the praise for her performance but also influences how listeners perceive it. Alternatives like "really" or "exceptionally" could replace **very**, carrying slightly different nuances. Furthermore, **very** is a versatile term appropriate in both informal and formal contexts. Overall, its use enhances the sentence's emotional impact and evaluative sentiment regarding Marni's singing.

4. Conclusion

In this section, the researcher conclude the results of the research that has been done; the novel is one of the popular literary works. A novel is one type of reading that entertains its readers. Currently there are many novels that do not use standard language and literature to achieve aesthetic value. But that doesn't mean that today's novels don't pay attention to aesthetic value in their writing; it's just that many writers use light language with various themes and stories. Based on the findings and discussions about adverbs in the novel *The Years of the Voiceless* that have been conducted, it can be concluded that in the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*, there are 7 adverbs found, namely adverbs of manner, adverbs of place, adverbs of time, adverbs of frequency, adverbs of certainty, and adverbs of degree. There is also the function of relative adverbs used to modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. Furthermore, this research also analyzes to find the function of adverbs as Adverbials of adverbial phrases in the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*.

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