CHAPTER III

RESEARCH OBJECT AND METHOD

This chapter illustrates the object of the research under discussion which becomes the focus of the study. In addition to that, it also explains the description of the research method and technique, data collection, and data analysis taken from the data source.

3.1 Research Object

The object of the research is modality in English. According to Palmer (1979:5), modality is "*the manner in which the meaning of a clause is qualified so as to reflect the speaker's judgment of the likelihood of the proposition of the sentence being true"*. Based on that, this research is focused to analyze the orientation the speaker's attitude towards of assesment of what the character says in the novel. The orientation in this data consisting of three orientation, namely; subject orientation, non-subject orientation, and neutral orientation.

In this research, all data are taken from the Agatha Christie's novel entitled 'Dumb Witness' in 1937. This novel is chosen as the data source, because the novel consists of modalities. For example;

Dr. Tanios buried his face in his hands. Poirot came forward and laid a hand on his shoulder."It had to be. Believe me it was ***necessary****.*

The word *necessary* above is categorized as adjective modality that indicates the statement of necessity and obliged to do.

3.2 Research Method

The method used in the research is descriptive analytic. This method is applied to describe the data collected in order to discover the information relating to the issue. According to Bickman and Rog (1998) "*descriptive studies can answer questions such as "what is" or "what was"*. From the quotation it can be inffered that this descriptive method is applicable for collecting information that demonstrate the relationships between modality and the propositions based on the data in the novel.The descriptive method in this study is implemented to describe the judgement of the speaker in the Christie's novel that have preference to modality analysis, whereas the analytic method is applied to analyze some speaker's judgement in the Christie's novel into proposition and shows the orientations of the modality itself .

In addition, the writer uses other method to expose the data. According to Sudaryanto (1993:16), *"Teknik ubah ujud mengakibatkan berubahnya wujud salah satu atau beberapa unsur satuan lingual yang bersangkutan."* It can be implied that this method is applicable for the research since the data analyzing through the proposition and indicating different orientation of the sentence. This method also illustrated that the data can be change from the construction, but still shares the main meaning and same information.

3.2.1 Data Collection

In the collecting data several steps are taken.

1. Choosing the data source. The novel “Dumb Witness” by Agatha Christie is chosen as the data source since the writer found various kinds of modality.
2. Second, the writer finds and marks the data into the data source that contains modality.
3. Third, the data are selected into sixty data of modality but only twenty data that are analyzed because most of the data consists of modal verbs that have similar form and chratcteristics from their structure. Therefore, twenty data are selected to represent the total data found.
4. Fourth, the writer classifies the data into the category orientation namely, subject orientation, non-subject orientation, and neutral orientation. All the data expressing of modality are classified into the kinds of modality; those are epistemic modality and Deontic modality.
5. Fifth, the data is selected to be analyzed. The data is analyzed based on the propositions of the sentence that contains modal verbs.
6. Then, after the propositions have been explored, the data is described based on the classification and the orientation of the modality.

3.2.2 Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, several steps are conducted. First, the writer analyzes the function of the consituent in the sentence to recognize the category so that the the kinds of the modals can be discovered through its word's meaning. From this category, the writer analyzes the modal category into proposition based on the meaning contains in it and describes each proposition expressing modality with different modal verbs by discovering the participants from the propositions expressed. In continuation to that, the writer reveals the propositions in order to describe the orientation based on the proposition expressed and described. Eventually, the modal kind and category leads to the revelation of the modal orientation. The data analysis below illustrates the process of analyzing the data:

Data

She frowned, wondering at herself. Her crowd had been so gay--so cynical. *Love affairs were **necessary** to life of course, but why take them seriously*? One loved and passed on. (DW II: 9)

Love affairs	Were	***Necessary*** to life of course, but why take them seriously?
subject	predicate	complement

In this data, the word *necessary* is indicated as a complement because it describes the subject *love affairs*. This description is related through the predicate *were* (past tense) which makes direct relation between them. Therefore, the predicate *were* indicates interrelation between the subject *love affairs* and the

word *necessary* as the complement. Relating to the constructions, the word *necessary* categorizes as adjectives, because it modifies the subject *love affairs* as a noun. This adjective is indicated to contain participants who are not directly shown in the sentence structure. Yet, it can be categorized as adjective modality. This adjective modality is indicated as deontic modality which indicates a statement necessity or something action that have preference to make it necessary or not necessary.

To recognize the orientation, this adjective modality is made into some propositions based on the meaning contains in it. It shows some assumption through different modal verbs such as in the following propositions:

(i) *In one's life, one is allowed to have love affairs*.

(ii) *One must not avoid love affairs.*

(iii) *One cannot deny to have love affairs.*

In (i), the proposition suggests that everybody can see the importance to having *love affairs* since everybody could have that as their option in their life. The proposition (ii) shows that some people who are not particular person may be unable to avoid the condition of *love affairs* in unspecified time. Modal verb *must* is used in this proposition to emphasize the negation of necessity that some people does not have to keep away from *love affairs*, because *love affairs* may happen in any condition. In the other hand, the proposition (iii) shows that *love affairs* is unexpected condition for some individual who maybe trapped in that condition and does not have ability to deny the affairs. From the above description, it can be

concluded that the word *necessary* gives assumption that love affairs may be possible or be avoidable for some individuals.

Based on the description of proposition expressed from the word *necessary*, it can be recognized that the orientation of this adjective modality (*necessary)* is neutral orientation. The necessity of the *love affairs* in this data indicates the choice of particular reason to the happening of the action. It does not show particular person to carry out the action of doing *love affairs*, yet anybody can have any reason for some assumptions in doing *love affairs*. From the propositions above, it is clear that the subject of the sentence *love affairs* is excluded from the proposition. This means that the adjective modality is not oriented to the subject but to the participants that are exposed through the propositions. Therefore, this adjective modality can be said as neutral orientation.