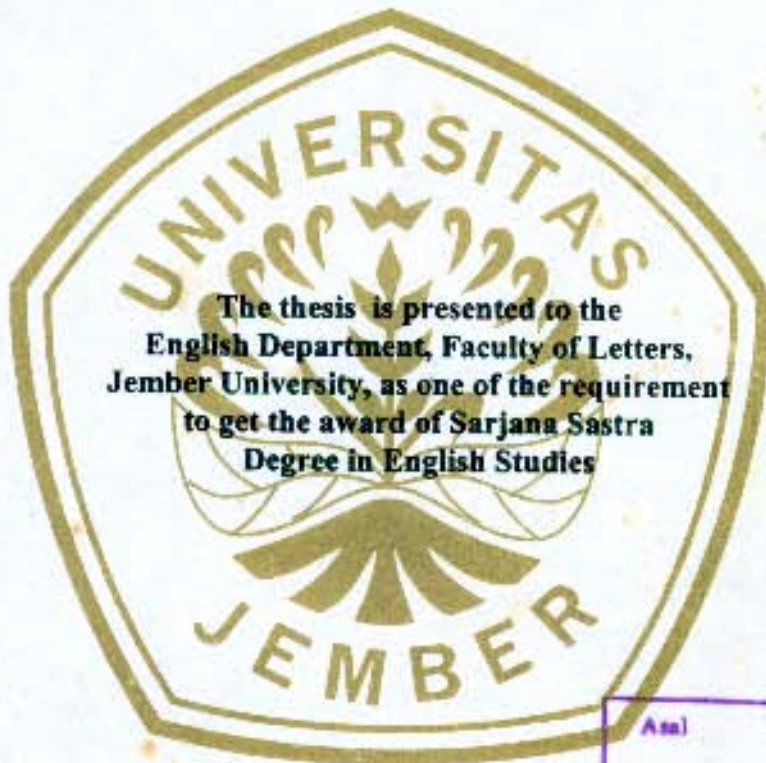




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**THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CONJUNCTIONS  
IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN SENTENCES**



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Terima Tgl:	63 JUN 2000	
No. induk :	PIT.2000.10.2.147	

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
JEMBER UNIVERSITY  
2000**


APPROVAL SHEET

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Jember, April 12<sup>th</sup> 2000

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Who is *always* be a bad man in this  
world, and who is *always* be a good  
man in everything.

(Bassyar bin Burd)

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise be to Allah SWT, the only God to whom I dedicate my life and my soul, Lord of the universe, for the guidance and blessing given to me, mostly in the moment of writing and finishing this thesis. Without His blessing, I shall never be able to finish this thesis.

In connection with the writing of this thesis, I convey my sincere gratitude to the people who have given me valuable contribution:

1. Drs. Sudjadi, the Dean of Faculty of Letters, Jember University, who has given me his consent to finish this thesis;
2. DR Suparmin, M.A., the head of English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University as well as my first advisor, who has given me a chance to write this thesis and spent his time to correct this thesis;
3. Dra. Meilia Adriana, M.Pd., my second advisor, who has patiently and sincerely given me valuable suggestion during the writing of this thesis;
4. The lecturers of the Faculty of Letters, Jember University who have taught me knowledge and skill, and all the staffs of the Faculty of Letters, Jember University for their services;

5. The Librarians of the central library and those of the library of the Faculty of Letters, Jember University;

6. My beloved parents, sister, and brothers for their advices, pray, and greatest love;

7. All of my lovely and unforgettable friends "YES' 1994" and of course my friends in Jl Jawa VI B/1 Jember to whom I can share everything.

I pray that Allah will bless them all for their assistance and endow them with the proper virtues.

I, certainly, accept the responsibility for any weakness which may remain. Any criticism from those who really want to have the thesis better would be wisely considered. Finally, my sincere gratitude is addressed to them.

April, 2000

Endang Moerniati



## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The Background of the Study

German and English belong to Germanic language, the branch of Indo-European family, particularly in West Germanic group. This language group is divided into two branches, that is High West Germanic represented in High German and Yiddish (the Jewish language that is developed from Old High German) and Low West Germanic covering Low German (Plattdeutsch), English, Dutch, Flemish, Frisian, and Afrikaans. This proves that German and English are from one language family that is Indo-European.

As members of the same language family, English and German have closely related words. This is indicated by the fact that most vocabulary of English is very largely Germanic. The English vocabulary is adapted from German consonants shift, for example, German "t" represents English "d" such as in Garten - garden, unter - under, German "b" represents English "f/v" such as in halb - half, haben - have, German "d" represents English "th" such as in denken - think, dann - then, German "z" represents English "t" such as in zu - to, zwei - two, and many others.

Besides that, this is also indicated by the fact that the general form of the German verbs is very similar to the English form. In both languages, verbs are divided into two main classes called "Weak and Strong" based on the manner of the formation of the past tense and past

have similarities and differences in forming clauses, particularly related with the conjunctions as their connectors functioning as subordinate conjunctions and coordinate conjunctions.

Meanwhile, the problems that will be discussed in this thesis are:

1. do these conjunctions influence the structure of both languages' sentences or not ?;
2. what kind of similarities and differences do they have in the use these conjunctions ?.

### **1.3 The Scope of the Study**

Based on the problem of the thesis, the study is restricted to the comparative study of conjunctions, as subordinate conjunctions and coordinate conjunctions, and the structure in using those conjunctions in English and German sentences. This study merely discusses the similarities and differences of the English structure to the German in the use of subordinate and coordinate conjunctions.

### **1.4 The Goal of the Study**

The general goal of the study is to pay close attention to the linguistics study, particularly the comparative study of two kinds of foreign languages that are English and German. The specific goal of writing this thesis is to look for the similarities and differences between English and German, especially in their use of



participle. Verbs are called "Weak" in both languages if they require the addition of a suffix or prefix to form the past tense such as live - lieben, (I) lived - (Ich) lebte, (I have) lived - (Ich habe) gelebt, while the "Strong" ones form the past tense without any addition of suffixes but merely by changing the vowel such as sing, sang, sung - singen, sang, gesungen.

The description of the study of this thesis is only restricted to the form of both these languages by pointing out the similarities and the differences of the form of the two languages.

English and German as the part of Indo-European languages, have similarities as well as differences. The English language has Old English, Middle English, and Modern English, and German has also the Old High German, Middle High German, and New High German. Each of those languages has changed in the vocabulary, structure, and its flame. The discussion of this thesis concerned with the structure between English and German to use conjunctions. It also analyzes the use of the two languages in the form of Modern English and New German pattern in sentences.

## 1.2 The Problem to Discuss

Each language in the world has its own characteristics which differentiate one language from other languages when they are compared with each other. This also occurs in English and German languages. They, as the members of one language family of Indo-European,

conjunctions (subordinate and coordinate conjunctions) in English and German sentences.

At last, it is hoped that this thesis will help and support the readers and students who are interested in discussing comparative study between English and German, particularly their conjunctions and their use in the sentences.

### **1.5 The Structure of the Study**

The thesis consists of five chapters and each chapter comprises several subchapters except chapter five, for it is a conclusion of all the previous chapters.

Chapter one presents the introduction of this thesis describing the general idea of the discussion. Chapter two covers the theoretical review that has close relation to what is about to be explored in the discussion of the two languages; and the hypothesis of the thesis. Chapter three will discuss the research methodology which includes method of research, data collection, data sources, type of data, and type of analysis. The main discussion of this thesis is in chapter four that gives the profound explanation of these two languages with some examples. The concluding discussion of this thesis is in chapter five.



CHAPTER II  
THEORETICAL REVIEW AND HYPHOTHESIS

Before coming to the specific discussion dealing with conjunctions which are used in English and German sentences, it is better to know; - what conjunction is, - what kinds of conjunction are, and -what distinguishes conjunction from relative pronoun, relative adverb.

### 2.1 The Definition of Conjunction

Conjunction (from Latin 'con', meaning together, and 'jungere', meaning to join) is a word or a word-equivalent used to join words (in the same part of speech), phrases, or clauses. In continuous discourse, the conjunction may be employed to join sentences or even paragraphs (House, et al., 1952:185).

- (1) Jimmy *and* Denny pick the apples.  
Jimmy *und* Denny pflucken die Apfel.
- (2) He speaks English *and* German.  
Er spricht Englisch *und* Deutsch.

In the example no (1) the conjunction *and* or *und* connect the same parts of speech. It connects two nouns; 'Jimmy' and 'Denny'. While the conjunction *and* or *und* in the example no (2) joins two nouns; 'English' (Englisch) and 'German' (Deutsch).

## 2.2 The Kind of Conjunction

According to the function, conjunction can be classified into two groups; the first group is coordinate conjunction while the second one is subordinate conjunction (House, 1950:187).

### 2.2.1 Coordinate Conjunction

Coordinate means equal in rank and importance, especially of the parts of the compound sentence (Webster's New World College Dictionary:174). According to Frank (1972:206), coordinate conjunction is conjunction which has function to join structural units that are equal grammatically. The conjunction comes before the last unit and is grammatically independent of those units. Let us observe the following examples:

(3) I read a book *and* he plays in the garden.

Ich lese ein Buch, *und* er spielt im Garten.

(4) I play golf *and* he plays tennis.

Ich spiele Golf, *und* er spielt Tennis.

The connector *and* (*und*) functions to coordinate two clauses; 'I read a book (Ich lese ein Buch)' and 'he plays in the garden (er spielt im Garten)' for the sentence no. (3), while no. (4) is between 'I play golf (Ich spiele Golf)' and 'he plays tennis (er spielt Tennis)'. The conjunction *and* does not belong to one of the two clauses. In other words, it is



independent, but directly joins both clauses. This kind of conjunction is called as "Coordinate Conjunction".

Coordinate grammatical units may be joined by "full (or pure) conjunctions" which do not modify as adverbs do. The followings are the pure coordinate conjunctions usually used in German: *aber* (but), *sondern* (but), *und* (and), *oder* (or). While in English usually used the following conjunctions: *and*, *or*, *but*, *nor*. Besides that, they may be joined by conjunctive (transitional, illative) adverbs, such as *however*, *nevertheless*, *notwithstanding*, or by adverbial phrases which have illative meaning such as *as well as*, *in other words*, *on the other hand*. These conjunctions are called "Secondary (or half) Conjunctions" (House, 1950:188).

### 2.2.2 Subordinate Conjunction

Before we discuss this conjunction, it is better for us to know some definitions that should be remembered such as:

1. subordinate means of a lower rank or submissive to authority;
2. subordinate conjunction is the word that turns an independent clause into a subordinate clause;
3. independent clause is a clause that can stand by itself as a complete sentence;
4. subordinate clause is a clause that has been deprived of its independent rank and must serve an independent clause;

5. clause is a group of related words containing a subject and verb (Farbman:1985:83).

It is crucial to observe the following examples of subordinate conjunctions in order to understand their differences from coordinate conjunction.

(5) The boy went to bed *because* he was ill.

Der Junge ging ins Bett, *weil* er krank war.

(6) My sister played the piano *while* I wrote a letter.

Meine Schwester spielte Klavier, *während* ich einen Brief schrieb.

The connector *because* or *weil* in sentence no. (5) is a part of the second clause 'he was ill' (er war krank); while in sentence no. (6), the connector *while* or *während* is a part of the second clause 'I wrote a letter' (Ich schrieb einen Brief, not ich einen Brief schrieb). The inversion of the verb in German clause will be discussed in details later in chapter IV. Moreover those both clauses are called the "Subordinate Clauses", while the clauses which precede them are called the "Main Clauses". When one is subordinated to the other, the connector between them become clearer (Guth, 1969:132).

These conjunctions below form subordinate clauses. They function to join the main clauses and the subclauses. These kinds of conjunctions are called "Subordinate Conjunction".



The following are subordinate conjunctions which are usually used in German:

nachdem (after)	bevor (before)
weil (because)	obwohl (although)
bis (until)	damit (so that)
als (when)	wenn (if, when, whenever)
während (while, whereas)	seitdem (since)
wo (where)	trotzdem (although)
wie (as)	solange (so long as)
so bald (as soon as)	obschon (although)
obgleich (although)	ob (whether)
indem (whilst)	da (since as)

The subordinate conjunctions usually used in English are:

after	if
although	since
as	so that
as if	than
as/so long as	unless
as soon as	until
because	when
before	where
even if	while
etc.	

Like coordinate conjunctions which can be categorized into two groups that are full (or pure) conjunctions and secondary (or half) conjunctions, subordinate conjunctions can also be divided into full (or pure) conjunctions and secondary (or half)

conjunctions. The full (or pure) subordinate conjunctions always introduce adverbial clauses, and the clauses they introduce may, therefore, modify whatever adverbs modify. The full subordinate conjunctions most frequently used are those that introduce clauses of case, reason condition, concession, purpose, and result or effect. While adverbs clauses denoting time, place, manner, and degree are introduced by relative adverb, sometimes called secondary (or half) conjunctions, because their primary function is not that of joining sentence units. They are more like relative pronouns than the pure subordinate conjunctions, and they can usually be converted into two adverbial phrases, one of which will contain a relative pronoun.

(7) I live *where* the snow falls.

The relative adverb *where* joins and subordinates the clause 'the snow falls'. *Where* is here equivalent to two prepositional phrases (below), one modifying 'live', and the other 'falls'. The meaning of the relative adverb may be seen in the following converted sentence:

(8) I live in a country in which the snow falls.

Relative adverbs are like full (or pure) subordinate conjunctions in that they may introduce adverbial clauses, but they are unlike the pure

subordinate conjunctions in that they may also introduce adjective clauses. In either type of clause, however, the relative adverb has the function of a connective, and hence in both of these functions it shows some kinship with the pure subordinate conjunction, which always subordinates and joins a clause to another clause (House, et al., 1952:192).

(9) I remember the house *where* I was born.

(10) I have always lived *where* I was born.

Both sentences above use the same connector *where*, but it has different function. The conjunction in the first sentence introduces adjective clause which modify a noun 'the house'. This sentence can be broken into two clause:

(11) I remember the house.

(12) The house I was born.

While the conjunction in the second sentence introduces adverbial clause which modifies another adverb (adverb of place). This sentence can be changed into:

(13) I have always lived in London.



## 2.4 Distinguishing Conjunction from Other Forms (Relative Pronoun, Relative Adverb, and Preposition)

As stated in the preceding explanation, conjunction is a word that joins other words (in the same parts of speech), phrases, and clauses. To comprehend conjunction, it is crucial not to overlap the meaning of conjunction from other words that have the same function to connect words, phrases, or clauses.

Conjunctions have the same function as relative pronouns, relative adverbs, and prepositions that is to connect words, phrases, or clauses. However, their differences are what they are connected.

### 2.3.1 Conjunction and Relative Pronoun

Pronoun (from Latin 'pro', meaning for, and 'nomen', meaning name) is a word used instead of a noun or a noun-equivalent (House et al., 1952:45), or a word used in place of a noun (Oxford Pocket Dictionary:297), or a word used instead of a noun to designate (without naming) a person or thing (Webster New World College Dictionary:1077). Pronouns have important meanings in the structure of a language, that is to replace proper noun and to avoid repetitions.

According to the type, pronouns are classified into personal, relative, interrogative, demonstrative, indefinite, reflexive, intensive, and



reciprocal pronoun (Marckwardt, 1960:190-192).  
Relative pronouns are pronouns connecting adjective  
clause with their antecedents, for examples:

- (14) The man smokes a cigarette.  
Der Mann raucht eine Cigarette.
- (15) The man is my uncle.  
Der Mann ist meinen Onkel.

The two sentences above can be compounded into the  
following sentence:

- (16) The man who smokes a cigarette is my uncle.  
Der Mann, der eine Cigarette rauchen ist  
meinen Onkel.

The relative pronoun *who* or *der* connects the  
antecedent subject with the adjective clause. In  
English besides *who*, another relative pronouns are  
*which*, *whom*, and *whose*, while in German they depend  
on the gender and the number of the nouns they  
modify. The followings are the relative pronoun in  
German:

Singular				Plural
Masculine	Feminine	Neuter		all genders
der	die	Das	that, who	die
dessen	deren	dessen	of which, whose	deren
dem	der	dem	to which, to whom	denen
den	die	das	that, which	die

Returning to the formulation of relative pronoun above, the first clause (example no. 14) is the subclause of the second clause (example no. 15) functioning as adjective clause to give additional explanation on the antecedent 'subject'. Therefore, this subclause is called an 'Adjective Clause'. Thus, relative pronoun *who* relates adjective clause with the antecedent 'subject'.

It is clear that conjunctions are different from relative pronouns. Relative pronouns connect antecedent with adjective clause, while conjunctions relate the same parts of speech. Conjunctions focus on the parallelism of the compound units, while relative pronouns focus on the relationship between antecedent and adjective clause that function to modify their antecedents.

### 2.3.2 Conjunctions and Relative Adverbs

Adverb (Latin 'ad verbum', to the verb) suggest only one of its uses, though doubtless its earliest and primary function was to qualify the verb. But, since the earliest English period the adverb has been used to qualify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb (or any adverb equivalent); and in addition the adverb has been gradually extending its functions to those usually performed by other parts of speech (House et al., 1952:156), or adverb is any of a class of words used generally to modify a verb, an adjective, another adverb, a phrase, or a clause by

expressing time, place, manner, degree, cause, etc (Webster Dictionary, 1997:19). In other words, adverb is a word that modifies any words except noun.

Based on the function, adverbs can be classified into sentence, conjunctive, explanatory, interrogative, exclamatory, and relative adverb (Marcella, 1972). Relative adverbs in English are *when* (= *wann* in German), *how* (= *wie* in German), *why* (= *warum* in German), *where* (= *wo* in German), etc, or -*wh* questions. For examples:

- (17) He visits London *where* he has a lot of friends.

Er besucht London, *wo* er viele Freunde hat.

- (18) We understand the reason *why* she is tired and hungry.

Wir verstanden der wegen, *warum* sie müde und hungrig ist.

The relative adverbs *where* or *wo* in sentence no. (17) and *why* or *warum* in sentence no. (18) function to connect the sentence placed before such adverb. Those sentences can be changed into:

- (19) He visits *where* he has a lot of friends.

Er besucht *wo* er viele Freunde hat.

- (20) We understand *why* she is tired and hungry.

Wir verstanden *warum* sie müde und hungrig.



Certainly, relative adverbs are different from conjunctions, because conjunctions function to relate the same parts of speech and focus on the parallelisms of the compound units. While relative adverbs function to relate and modify the unit of the sentences (except nouns) standing before them.

#### 2.4 The Hypothesis

Hypothesis is an informed guess or prediction about the result. It indicates before the study is carried out what the results will be (Mc Millan, 1992:15).

By understanding the above explanation, the first hypothesis that can be taken is that both conjunctions in English do not have any effect to the structure of the sentences, while in German only the coordinate conjunctions which do not have any effect. In other words, the subordinate conjunctions in German make the sentence structure changed or there is verb insertion.

From the first hypothesis, it describes the second hypothesis that is the similarities of English and German sentence structures are in using the coordinate conjunctions and in forming the main clause of the complex sentences (if the sentences begin with the main clauses). While their differences are related with the use of the subordinate conjunctions in their sentences. These conjunctions make 'verb insertions' in German, while in English



they do not. The first is the verb is placed before the subject. It happens to the main clauses when the subordinate clauses are put at the beginning of the sentences. The second is the verb is placed at the end of the sentences. It happens to all subordinate clauses.

## CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In conducting a research, a method is used to analyze data. There are three important things to do the research that are type of data, data collection, and type of analysis. Each of them has its function to analyze the data taken from the research.

### 3.1 Type of Data

Type of data that will be used in this thesis is qualitative data. Mc Millan (1992:9) states that the qualitative research stresses a phenomenological model in which reality is rooted in the perceptions of the subjects. There is a focus on understanding and meaning through verbal narrative and observations rather than numbers. In other words, it emphasizes natural settings, understanding, verbal narrative, and flexible designs.

In line with this thesis, the data are in the form of sentences which use subordinating conjunctions and coordinating conjunctions in both English and German.

### 3.2 Data Collection

The data of this thesis are obtained by doing 'library research'. Thus, a library research is a research to collect the data and information accomplished in the library.

In analysing the thesis, it is necessary to collect the data. The data are collected from the written sources. It means the examples are put from the grammar books of both languages (English and German) which use coordinate conjunctions and subordinate conjunctions. The examples of German sentences are put from 'German Technical Reader, Grammar, Teach German Yourself, Deutsch Grammatik'. While the English sentences are put from 'Descriptive English Grammar, Let's Write English'.

However, not all the examples are analysed. The examples which are analysed are twenty-eight sentences (seventeen sentences are from English and eleven sentences are from German) from fifty sentences. They are chosen randomly.

### 3.3 Type of Analysis

This thesis use a descriptive method which is a procedure to describe matters of observation, expressing the quality, kind or condition noted in the data to attain a logical, effective, and result in orderly arrangement. According to Surachmad (1983:139):

"Descriptive method is a method of survey that includes various techniques of description among others: observation, analysis, and classification of technical survey, interview, inquire, or observation with test, case study of time and motion, quantitative analysis, comparative study, cooperative or operational study".



This method is used to describe the use of conjunctions in English and German sentences to get the general structures of both languages.

Besides that, this thesis also uses a comparative method. It is a method to compare one data with another data in order to get the similarity and the difference (Sudaryanto, 1992:63). In this thesis will discuss the comparison of the use of the conjunctions in English and German sentences to get the similarities and differences.

The first step in analyzing the data of this thesis is collecting the conjunctions of English and German languages which are used in sentences; especially subordinate conjunctions and coordinate conjunctions, and studying all the occurrences which appear after they are attached to the English and German sentences.

The result of using conjunctions of the two languages are presented to find the similarities and differences between English and German conjunctions in their sentence structures.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE TWO LANGUAGES

The analysis of the similarity and the differences between the two foreign languages, English and German, in this writing is indeed upon the research in relation with the structure of the sentence of both languages to use conjunctions. It is really necessary because these languages have similarities, and they also belong to European languages family. On the other hand, there are also many disparities in applying their use in the way of composing the sentences. Several examples of English and German sentences will be presented to support the ideas and to know the way of using and applying the rules of these languages.

#### **4.1 The General Illustration of English and German Clause Structures**

Before we discuss the result of using the conjunctions in English and German sentence structure, it is better for us to know the structure of the clauses of both languages in general.

In English there is a very high relationship between grammatical functions and word order. Indeed, word order is the basic carrier of grammatical functions, especially subject and direct object, as can be seen by comparing the following two sentences:



(30) The dog bit the man.

(31) The man bit the dog.

The position immediately before the verb is reserved for the subject, while the position immediately after the transitive verb is reserved for the direct object. Even in the corresponding questions, with subject-auxiliary inversion, it is still the case that the subject precedes the main verb, as in *does the dog bit the man?*, *does the man bit the dog?* Changing the word order, therefore changes the grammatical relations, and ultimately the meaning of the sentence (semantic role).

The two examples above show that we can make some alternative statements as long as they have grammatical functions. But it is not enough because the word order of the sentences is determined by its semantic roles. It means that the sentence can not only be seen from the grammatical functions, but we must consider the semantic roles or its meaning.

(32) The wind called Rita.\*

The above sentence grammatically is correct, but semantically is odd because in reality there is no wind can call someone (Rita). It is meant that the meaning of the sentence is also the important thing to build English sentence.

The change of the word order in German sentences do not have such effect to the grammatical functions



as well as the semantic roles although the position of the Direct Object (Accusative) is replaced by Subject (Nominative) (Gschosmann:1987). It is indicated by the use of the article in nominative form for singular masculine noun (der) and accusative form for singular masculine noun (den).

(33) Der Hund biss den Mann.

Nom.                      Acc.

The dog bit the man.

(34) Den Mann biss der Hund.

Acc.                      Nom.

The man bit the dog.

The above sentences (no. 33 and 34) show that the structure of the sentence in English is different from German. German has its own rule to construct the clause. The grammatical functions is not totally determined by the word order, but by the case marker ( Nominative, Accusative, and Dative). It means the position of the subject possibly follows the verb. On the contrary the position of the object possibly precedes the verb.

Below is the declension of the Definite Article:

		Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	
Singular	N	der	die	Das	the
	A	den	die	Das	the
	G	des	der	Des	of the
	D	dem	der	Dem	to or for the
Plural	N	die	die	Die	
	A	die	die	Die	
	G	der	der	Der	
	D	den	den	Den	

Note: N = Nominative (Subject)  
 A = Accusative (Direct Object)  
 G = Genitive (Possessive)  
 D = Dative (Indirect Object)

The following adjectives are declined in the same way as to the definite article:

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	
dieser	diese	diese	this	
jener	jene	jenes	that	
jeder	jede	jedes	each, every	
welcher	welche	welches	which	
solcher	solche	solches	such	
mancher	manche	manches	many, a, many	

Below is the declension of the Indefinite Article:

		Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	
Singular	N	ein	eine	ein	3
	A	einen	eine	ein	
	G	eines	einer	eines	
	D	einem	einer	einem	

The following adjectives are declined similarly to the indefinite article:

Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	
Mein	meine	mein	my
Sein	seine	sein	his
Ihr	ihre	ihr	her, its, their
Unser	unsere	unser	our
ihr	Ihre	ihr	your
Kein	keine	kein	no, not any

The above six words have the same plural endings as the definite article, e.g. N. meine, A. meine, G. meiner, D. meinen.

However, basically English and German have the same word order, that is SVO (Subject, Verb Object). In principal sentences of both languages, (except questions and commands) the subject (S) usually comes first and the finite verb (FV) or principal (P) or auxiliary (Aux.) always comes second. The different is in English sentence the complement of the finite verb (that is infinite (Inf.) or perfect participle (PP) of compound tenses, and predicative adverb (PA) always follow the finite verb, while in German it always stands at the end of the sentence.

(35a) Ich habe ein Buch gehabt.

S FV O PP

I have a book had

(35b) I have had a book.

S V O

FV/Aux. PP

(36a) Die Mutter wird ein Buch bringen.

S FV/Aux. O Inf.



The Mother will a book bring  
 (36b) The mother will bring a book.

S V O

FV/Aux. Inf.

(37a) Die Tage sind in Sommer lang.

S FV/Aux. Adv. PA

The days are in summer long

(37b) The days are long in summer.

S V Comp.

FV/Aux. PA Adv.

English and German sentences may have an object (O). The object is placed after the finite verb, as in first two sentences above (no.35 a). If there are two objects that are Direct Object (DO) and Indirect Object (IO), the Indirect Object (in the Dative case) precedes the Direct one (Accusative).

(38) Die Mutter wird ihrem Sohn ein Buch bringen.

S FV/Aux. IO DO Inf.

The mother will bring her son a book.

(39) Er gibt seiner Tochter das Gold.

S FV/V IO DO

He gives his daughter the gold.

English and German sentences may have several adverbs. In English, they are usually arranged in the following order: (1) adverbs of place (AP); (2) adverbs of manner (AM); and (3) adverbs of time (AT) (Wishon, 1980:10).

(40) She went there gladly today.

AP AM AT

Meanwhile, it is acceptable if the order is changed into adverb of manner, place, and time or adverb of place, time, and manner.

(41a) She went gladly there today.

AM AP AT

(41b) She went there today gladly.

AP AT AM

When there are two or three adverbs, the adverb of time is often used at the beginning of the sentence.

(42) Today she went there gladly.

AT AP AM

While in German adverbs will be arranged in the following: (1) adverbs of time (AT); (2) adverbs of manner (AM); (3) adverbs of place (AP) (Adams:116). The adverbs of time usually precede the direct object (=DO, if a noun), while adverbs of manner and place follow the object, those of manners preceding those of places.

(43a) Wir haben schon gestern das Buch eifrig

AT DO AM

zu Haus studiert.

AP

We have already yesterday the book  
diligently at home studied

(43b) We (have) studied the book diligently at  
home (already) yesterday.

In English negative expression, the word 'not'  
(= nicht in German) always follows the finite verb.

(44) They do not study.

Whereas in German it usually follows the object, but  
it often precedes a word or expression which is  
especially negative, and usually placed as near as  
possible to the end of the sentence whenever it  
negates the whole sentence.

(45) Ich habe das Buch *nicht*.

I have the book not

I have not the book.

(46) Ich habe *nicht* das Buch, sondern die  
Zeitung.

I have not the book, but the newspaper.

(47) Er las diese Bücher gestern *nicht*.

He read these books yesterday not.

He did not read these books yesterday.

The important thing in German clause is that,  
any word or expression other than subject may be  
placed first for the sake of emphasizing, but in that  
case the subject comes after the Finite Verb (which  
thus retains the second place in the sentence).



- (48) Das Buch habe ich nicht.  
 The book have I not  
 I have not a book.
- (49) Gestern hat der Knabe kein Buch gehabt.  
 Yesterday has the boy not book had  
 Yesterday the boy has not had any book.
- (50) Ihrem Sohn wird die Mutter ein Buch  
 bringen.  
 Her son will the mother a book  
 bring.  
 The mother will bring her son a book.

## 4.2 Conjunctions in English Sentence

### 4.2.1 Subordinate Conjunction

In English sentence, the subordinate conjunction introduces the clause that depends on main or independent clause. It is commonly called "Subordinate Clause". To form this clause in English is easy because the word order between the clause which precedes the conjunction and the clause which occurs the conjunction is the same as in the main one or like in the common statement.

- (51) I will take the vacation when I have the time.  
 S V O Conj. S V O  
 Main Clause Sub. Clause



(52) I have seen the village where your grandmother  
 S V O Conj. S  
lives.  
 V

Main Clause

Sub. Clause

(Wishon, 1980:156)

If we look carefully, the above examples prove that the word order of the main clause and the sub clause is the same. The arrangement of the words in the sub clauses is still SVO. The variant of verbs (whether finite verb, principal verb, auxiliary and complement of finite verb that is past participle of compound tenses, infinitive and predicative adverb) which are used are always arranged in the second position such as in examples no. (40b, 41b, 42b). The conjunction does not have any effect to the word order in subordinate clause. The arrangement of the variants of the verb is the finite verb (principal or auxiliary) comes first after the subject, and the complement of the finite verb (infinitive or perfect participle of compound tenses, and the predicative adverb) occurs or comes after the finite verb.

This kind of conjunction is a powerful word. It embeds one clause to another. It deprives a clause of its independence and turns that clause into the servant of another clause. In addition, the subordinating conjunction determines what role the new servant will perform (Farbman, 1985:83). Explore the process through which subordinate conjunctions



embed clauses and examine the three groups subordinate conjunctions:

1. serving as nouns

This means the subordinate conjunctions introduce noun clause. Any clause which performs the function of a noun is called a "Noun (or Substantive) Clause" (House, 1950:370). It may substitute for a mere abstract noun or for noun-equivalent. This clause may be introduced by the expletive (or introductory) conjunctions *that*, *but that* (negative of *that*), *if*, *whether* which are usually classed as subordinate conjunctions, and the conjunctive adverbs that are relative pronouns and relative adverbs which are usually called "Secondary (or Half) Conjunctions" (House, 1950:185-186).

(53) We know whose work was best.

(54) The club will give whoever wins a prize.

(Wishon:1980:174-175)

The relative pronoun *whose* in sentence no. (53) shows that it forms a subordinate clause which functions as a noun and functions as the subject of the sentence. It can be substituted as following:

(55) We know his work was best.

While in sentence no. (54), the relative pronoun *whoever* which also builds a subordinate clause and functions as a noun, but it stands in the position of



the Indirect Object of the sentence. This clause can be substituted as following:

(56) The club will give the winner a prize.

The following is the examples of noun clauses which use the relative adverb as their connector:

(57) I know *where* his house is.

(58) I remember *when* he saw the movie.

The conjunction *where* in the subordinate clause 'where his house is' (in sentence no. (57)) indicates the location of the house. While the conjunction *when* in the subordinate clause 'when he saw the movie' (in sentence no. (58)) indicates the time. In other words, these conjunctions function as a noun and have an adverbial function within the clauses they introduce. That is to say, when a subordinate conjunction turns a sentence into a noun clause, the conjunction often replaces an adverbial. Those clauses can be substituted as following:

(59) I know his house is on Main Street.

(60) I remember he saw the movie last night.

## 2. serving as modifiers of nouns

A subordinate conjunction may modify one of the nouns in another clause. Any clause which performs the function of an adjective may be called an

"Adjective Clause". In other words, adjective clause is a dependent clause that modifies a noun. It describes, identifies, or gives further information about a noun (Azar, 1989:238). An Adjective Clause is also called a "Relative Clause".

This clause may be introduced by a relative pronoun or a relative adverb (or the secondary (or half) conjunctions).

- (61) People still speak of the day *when* the explosion occurred.
- (62) Only the scientists can explain the reason *why* this disaster happened.

(Wishon:1980:165)

Both conjunctions *when* and *why* in the above sentences are relative adverbs. They function to modify nouns 'the day' and 'the reason'. This function can prove that these conjunctions introduce an adjective clause. Those sentences can be broken into two clauses for each sentences:

- (63a) People still speak of the day.
- (63b) The day the explosion occurred.
- (64a) Only scientist can explain the reason.
- (64b) The reason this disaster happened.

While below are the examples of the adjective clause which is introduced by relative pronoun:

- (65) The man *whom* I saw yesterday was killed.

- (66) Krakatoa, *which* is a volcano on an Indonesian island, exploded.

The relative pronoun *whom* in the first sentence is the pronoun of 'the man' and functions to modify the noun 'the man'. This sentence can be broken into two clauses:

- (67a) The man was killed.  
 (67b) I saw the man yesterday.

Furthermore, the relative pronouns in English are sometimes left out and the sentence is still understandable.

- (68) The man I saw yesterday was killed.

Meanwhile, the relative pronoun *which* is in the second sentence is the pronoun of 'Krakatoa' and functions to modify the noun 'Krakatoa'. This sentence can also be broken into two clauses:

- (69a) Krakatoa exploded.  
 (69b) Krakatoa is a volcano on an Indonesian island.

### 3. serving as modifiers of verbs

A subordinate conjunction may serve another clause by modifying its verb. Any clause which performs the function of an adverb is called an



"Adverb Clause". This clause may be introduced by relative adverbs (sometimes called half-conjunctions because they both join and modify or relate ideas) and subordinate conjunctions (sometimes called pure conjunctions). The first conjunctions form adverb clause expressing time, place, manner, and degree. While the second one form adverb clause expressing condition, cause, purpose, concession, and result or effect.

(70) They missed the engagement *because* they had dallied too long.

(71) *Whoever* he is, I like him.

(House, 1950:410)

The conjunction *because* in example no. (75) introduces Adverbial Clause that is Adverb of Cause. While conjunction *whoever* in example no. (76) introduces Adverb Clause of Concession. Both conjunctions are full (or pure) conjunctions.

#### 4.1.2 Coordinate conjunctions

As the explanation before, these conjunctions function to join the equal sentence parts together by omitting the same elements.

(72) He is poor *but* honest.

Adj.            Adj.



### 4.3 Conjunctions in German Sentences

#### 4.3.1 Subordinate Conjunctions

In using this kind of conjunction, German sentence structure has the difference if it is compared with English sentence structure. The structure of the complex sentence in German sentence is more difficult because all subordinate conjunctions in German sentences cause the word order change. The verbs whether they are past participle, infinitive or separable prefix always placed at the end of the clause.

- (78) Wenn es morgen regnet, werden wir  
 Conj. S Adv. V (Aux.) S  
nicht gehen.  
 V (Inf.)

If it rains tomorrow, we shall not go.

(Easton, 1959:55)

The basic form of the above sentence is derived from two clauses that are 'Es regnet morgen or It rains tomorrow' and 'Wir werden nicht gehen or We shall not go'. The connector *wenn* which is used to join these clauses makes the rule change. The verb in the subordinate clause is placed at the end. The arrangement of this clause becomes 'Wenn es morgen regnet'. While the change of the word order in the main clause is caused by placing the subordinate clause in the beginning of the sentence. The



auxiliary precedes the subject and the verb is placed at the end of the clause, so the arrangement of the main clause becomes 'werden wir nicht gehen'.

If there are both a past participle and an infinitive, the infinitive (Inf.) goes to the end and the past participle (PP) takes the place of the second place from the end.

(79) Er weiss, dass die Kinder bose waren.

S V Conj. S V

PP Inf.

He knows that the children were wicked.

(Adams, 1950:80)

In subordinate clauses the separable prefix joins up with its verb:

(80) Bevor er ausging.

Conj. S V

Before he went out.

If two infinitives stand at the end, the auxiliaries haben, sein or werden will precede the infinitives instead of the following:

(81) Da du ihn haben finden können.

Conj. S O Aux. Inf. MV

As you have been able to find him.

(Adams, 1950:115)

More precisely, the above example is derived from the following statement (before it has conjunction):

(82a) Du findest ihn.

FV

You find him.

(82b) Du hast ihn finden.

Aux. VF (in Inf. form)

You have found him.

(82c) Du kannst ihn finden haben.

MV Inf. Aux. (in Inf. form)

You have been able to find him.

(82d) Da du ihn haben finden können.

Conj. Aux. Inf. MV (in Inf. form)

As you have been able to find him.

If we look at the above processes carefully, we can conclude that if we want to add the complement of the finite verb, we must put it orderly at the end of the sentence unless the subordinate clause has more than one infinitive.

Although in German there is no detailed information about the function of the subordinate conjunctions whether as a noun clause, adjective clause, or adverbial clause, we can identify their functions in the sentences they introduce.

(83) Als ich nach Haus kam, fand ich Ihren Brief.

When I came home, I found your letter.

(Mennie:170)

(84a) Ich weiss, warum er gestern nicht gekommen ist.

I know why he has not come yesterday.

(Mennie:172)

(84b) Weissst du, wer dies getan hat.

Do you know who has done this.

(85a) Hier sind die Bücher, die (or welche) Sie bestellt haben.

Here are the books which you have ordered.

(85b) Ich vergesse der Tag, wann ich kaufe das Buch.

I forget the day when I buy the book.

The example in sentence no. (83) above shows that the conjunction *als* or *when* introduces subordinate clause which functions as an adverb. In other words, this conjunction forms Adverbial Clause. It is different in the next example. The conjunction *warum* or *why* (in sentence no. (84a)) and *wer* or *who* (in sentence no. (84b)) have function to form a subordinate clause and function as Noun Clause. While conjunction *die* or *welche* (= *which* in English) in sentence no. (85a) and *wann* or *when* in the sentence no. (85b) have function to form subordinate clause and as an Adjective Clause.

It is important to know that in German, the relative pronouns must be always expressed after the



noun such as in the example no. (84a). It is different in English, they are sometimes left out and understood after the noun (look the example no. (77)!).

#### 4.3.2 Coordinate Conjunctions

Like in English, in German sentence structure which uses coordinate conjunctions as the connector does not changed its word order either.

(86) Er wollte arbeiten, aber er konnte nicht.

S            V                    Conj.S            V

He wished to work , but he could not.

(Mennie:167)

(87) Die Vater liest die Zeitschrift und

S            V                    O            Conj.

die Mutter schreibt einen Brief.

S            V                    O

The father reads the newspaper and the  
mother writes a letter.

#### 4.4 The Differences between the Two Languages

English and German have the principle of word orders which differ from each other. It will be different if the sentence or the clause does not begin with the subject. In other words, it begins with subordinate conjunction or adverb (or adverbial phrase). In German sentence or clause will apply the insertion rule, while in English it will not. English

always keeps the SVO rule whether in main clauses or in subordinate clauses. It is different in German. German has SVO in main clauses but SOV in subordinate clauses.

The inversions that may be applied in German clauses are:

1. verb is placed before subject

If a clause or sentence in German begins with an adverb, or an adverbial phrase, the verb and the subject in that clause or sentence change places.

(88) Yesterday he was ill.

Adv. S V Adj.

(89) Gestern war er krank.

Adv. V S Adj.

The above sentences show that the position of the subject "er or he" is taken by the verb "war or was". On the contrary, the position of that verb is taken by that subject.

Certain adverbial conjunctions also have the power to cause the same change in the clauses they introduce.

(90) Yet she killed her friend.

Adv. S V O

Conj.

(91) Doch totete sie ihren Freund.

Adv. V S O

Conj.

Another case which causes this rule to be applied is if the subordinate clause precedes the main clause, and the change happens in the main clause.

(92) When he came home he saw his uncle.

Sub. Clause			Main Clause		
Sub. S	V		S	V	O
Conj.					

(93) Als er nach Hause kam, sah er seinen Onkel.

Sub. Clause			Main Clause		
Sub.S	Prep. P		V	V	S O
Conj.					

2. verb is put at the end of clause or sentence

In German, all conjunctions which introduce dependent clauses, or called subordinate conjunctions, have the peculiar effect of throwing the verb in the dependent clause to the very end of that clause, while in English they do not.

(93) The boy went to bed because he was ill.

Der Junge ging ins Bett, weil er krank war.

(The boy went to bed because he ill was.)

(Adams, 1950:115)

The above sentence, actually, consists of two clauses that are "The boy went to bed or Der Junge ging ins Bett" and "He was ill or he war krank". These two clauses join together with the subordinate



conjunction "because or weil" form one sentence or called as complex sentence. In German sentence, this conjunction causes the change of the word order whereas the verb is placed at the end of the subordinate or dependent clause.

In conclusion there are three kinds of conjunctions in German sentences. They are:

1. the first group which does not change the position of the verb. It includes the coordinate conjunctions such as: und (and), aber (but), oder (or);
2. the second group which changes the position of the verb in the position of the full verb or to be. The verb must be put after the conjunctions. It includes the conjunctive adverbs or adverbial conjunctions;
3. the third group which changes the position of the verb at the end of the sentence. It includes the subordinate conjunctions.

While in English, there is only one group that is the one which does not change the position of the verb. It includes the coordinate conjunctions, subordinate conjunctions, or adverbial conjunctions.

#### 4.5 The Similarity of the Two Languages

The conjunctions in both languages are divided into two groups that are subordinate and coordinate conjunctions. Each of these kinds of conjunctions has the same function in the sentences of both languages.

In forming compound sentences which use coordinate conjunctions as their connectors, English and German have the same rule, that is SVO. The coordinate conjunctions never change the word order in both language sentences.

In forming complex sentence, both languages have the same word order in forming the main clause, especially if the sentence begins with the main clause. On the other hand, if the sentence begins with the subclause, the word order of both languages will be different (see subchapter 4.4 The Differences between the Two Languages!).

## CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

Based on the historical background of the language in Europe, English and German belong to the same Indo-European language family. And in more specific division, English is one of the Germanic language branches. This background causes the languages to have similarities in the structure and vocabularies, however, indeed there are also some differences between the languages concerning with the method of grammatical rules.

In analysing the similarities and differences of the usage of conjunctions in English and German sentences, the writer can conclude that both languages have the similarity in forming the sentence. Both languages have conjunctions whether subordinate conjunction or coordinate one. They have the same words order in forming the principal sentence and in using the coordinate conjunctions.

While in forming Subordinate Clause, they have some differences. In English, the subordinate conjunctions do not have any effect to the word order, or in other words, English always keeps its basic rule (SVO) in forming the sentence (except interrogative and command sentences). On the contrary, in German they have some effects to the words order in the subordinate clauses. German has three groups of conjunction that are: (1) conjunction which does not change the position of the verb (in



the second position); (2) conjunction which changes the position of the verb into the position after the conjunction; and (3) conjunction which converting the position of the verb in the end of the sentence. Their usages are also determined by certain rules.

After surveying the structures of these two languages, it can be found out that the English rules are simpler than German rules in using conjunctions. Therefore, it can be noted that German has wider complexity than English does in using conjunctions.

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