Exploring Constituent Structure through Elliptical Sentences in the Witches Novel by Roald Dahl

Luh Herma Risthayani[1], Ni Putu Devi Maharani[2]
English Study Program Faculty of Foreign Languages, Mahasaraswati Denpasar University,
Jl. Kamboja No. 11 A Denpasar – Bali, 80233
Correspondence Email: ristha94@gmail.com, devmaharani86@gmail.com

Abstract
The phenomenon of elliptical sentence in the communication is an effective way to avoid the redundance, highlight the important information, and make a concise and clear context. The process of deleting the sentence constituent is observed through the theory that proposed by Kiss and Alexiadou (2015). This research investigates the elliptical phenomenon found in a novel entitled The Witches written by Roald Dahl that originally published in 1983 with 208 total pages. The total data that found in this research is 130 data out of all types consist of 12 data (9%) of VP-ellipsis, 9 data (7%) of sluicing, 35 data (27%) of NP-ellipsis, 34 data (26%) of fragment answer, 8 data (6%) of stripping, 2 data (2%) of gapping, 5 data (4%) of pseudogapping, 10 data (8%) of modal complement ellipsis, and 15 data (11%) of null complement anaphora. The highest occurrence in this study is NP-ellipsis with 27% out of 130 total data. Because there are a lot of sentences that specifically omitted in the noun phrase constituent.

Keywords: *elliptical phenomenon, constituent structure, tree diagram, syntax*

Abstrak
Fenomena kalimat elipsis dalam komunikasi merupakan cara efektif untuk menghindari redundansi, menonjolkan informasi penting, dan membuat konteks yang ringkas dan jelas. Proses penghapusan komponen kalimat diamati melalui teori yang dikemukakan oleh Kiss dan Alexiadou (2015). Penelitian ini menyelidiki fenomena elipsis yang terdapat dalam novel berjudul The Witches karya Roald Dahl yang terbit pada tahun 1983 dengan total 208 halaman. Total data yang ditemukan dalam penelitian ini adalah 130 data dari semua jenis yang terdiri dari 12 data (9%) VP-ellipsis, 9 data (7%) sluicing, 35 data (27%) NP-ellipsis, 34 data (26%) fragment answer, 8 data (6%) stripping, 2 data (2%) gapping, 5 data (4%) pseudogapping, 10 data (8%) modal complement ellipsis, dan 15 data (11%) dari null complement anaphora. Kemunculan tertinggi pada penelitian ini adalah NP-ellipsis sebesar 27% dari total 130 data. Yang disebabkan oleh banyak sekali kalimat-kalimat yang dihilangkan secara khusus pada penyusun frase kata benda.

Kata Kunci: *fenomena elipsis, struktur kalimat, diagram pohon, syntax*

Introduction

Exploring a novel as a part of literature shows the meaning of life through the story moves. According to Watt (2001:13), it represents the individualist faces the scenario of the story with innovating reorientation. In addition, novel is also about a

problematic event of someone's life which describes imaginatively (Kosasih, 2012: 60). In reading novel, the writing is sometimes displayed incompletely to avoid the existence of redundancy among sentences, but still clear and understandable. This linguistic phenomenon omits certain parts in a sentence which is called as ellipsis.

According to Kiss and Alexiadou (2015:563), ellipsis is the process of omitting the sentence constituents, which there is a discrepancy in the structure, but the meaning is still understandable. Moreover, elliptical structure is the process of omitting a clause, or some parts of a clause or group, in contexts where it can be assumed (Anshary & Lestiono, 2020:105). The process of ellipsis in this context will not affect the readers or listeners in understanding the whole spoken or written utterances because it only omits the specific constituents without changing its meaning. However, the constituent structure of the ellipsis phenomenon through the sentence of course will be quite different with the general grammatical rules, therefore, the meaning can be acquired based on its context.

Ellipsis phenomenon can be investigated from various research objects. To begin with, an ellipsis analysis which consists of nominal, verbal, and clausal ellipsis on movie script has been accomplished by (Banjarnahor 2019; Syahputri & Hanifah, 2020; Prasetya, 2021; and Sugiarto & Irawan, 2022). Continuing on, Pangaribuan (2019) and Batubara & Hutagulung (2022) conducted the research on song lyrics to discover the using of ellipsis phenomenon. Besides, Anshary & Lestiono (2020) perform the analysis of elliptical construction in the advertisement. Most importantly, the analysis of elliptical sentence is also found in the research that conducted by Maharani & Mudayasa (2019) through the novel entitled Sherlock Holmes.

Moreover, previous studies also show the usage of ellipsis as a contribution to a deeper understanding of language processing and communication. In highlighting the linguistic phenomenon, contrastive research was conducted to discover the difference and similarity between English and Arabic languages in using ellipsis and reiteration in the context of syntax, semantics, and discourse structure (Betti & AlFartoosy; 2019). The research proposed that ellipsis involves in both languages to omit the sentence elements in avoiding the repetition. Meanwhile, the difference showed that Arabic has references to topic and comment ellipsis while English only has predicate, subject, and incohesive ellipsis.

Furthermore, another research focused on the human comprehension using the language model in understanding the ellipsis phenomenon in linguistics and identified the omitted arguments at different levels of thematic fit through ELLie dataset (Testa, et al.; 2023). ELLie was constructed as the first dataset to explore the complexity of elliptical utterances and its relation with thematic fit in solving the phenomenon of ellipsis. Besides, this research also reviewed a study that focused on analyzing instance of subject ellipsis phenomenon within collected online diary corpus (Teddiman & Newman; 2007). The research indicated the preferences in pronominal deletion and identities of initial verbs in which the greatest frequency of elliptical phenomenon was occurred within subject I. This study observes the ellipsis phenomenon from the novel as the research object. As a reason that in delivering the narration and dialogue are interesting to the readers on how they are not bored and floated around the story, therefore, it needs the cohesive paragraphs in writing the novel. Instead of only focusing on the ellipsis, this research also engages with the syntactical field in

analyzing the constituent structure of the sentences.

There are two theories from various scholars proposed by Kiss & Alexiadou (2015) as the main theory in analyzing the types of ellipsis which covers VP ellipsis, sluicing, NP ellipsis, fragment answer, stripping, gapping, pseudogapping, modal complement ellipsis, null complement anaphora and Brown & Miller (1991) as the supporting theory to describe the constituent structure of the collected findings referred to the ellipsis phenomenon.

Method

In conducting the research, this study uses qualitative method. According to Creswell (1994), qualitative research does not only concern on the process of analysis but also it investigates the meaning and understanding contained in words and pictures. In this case, qualitative research analyzes the data that were taken from the novel entitled The Witches was originally published in 1983 by Jonathan Cape in London, with illustrations by Quentin Blake who had previously collaborated with Roald Dahl.

Furthermore, this study also utilizes note-taking technique in extracting the research findings. As following the process of data extraction, there are several steps that conducted in this study, initially, reading the novel repeatedly and comprehensively. Another step is, taking note or rewriting the data that belongs to ellipsis. Finally, listing the data into each type of ellipsis regarding to the proposed theories.

After carrying out the data collection process, the next stage is presenting the data. This study completes the process of data presentation by using formal and informal methods. The categorized data that found in the research object are constructed again into a complete structure that do not pass the elliptical phenomenon. Afterwards, the structures are displayed into hierarchical tree diagram to show how the process of omitting constituents in the sentence. There are some findings that related to each type presented below as the representation of all data due to the total amounts of research findings.

Result and Discussion

There are 130 total data found which classified into nine types of elliptical construction based on the proposed theory in this research namely 12 data VP-ellipsis, 9 data of sluicing, 35 data of NP-ellipsis, 34 data of fragment answer, 8 data of stripping, 2 data of gapping, 5 data of pseudogapping, 10 data of modal complement ellipsis, and 15 data of null complement anaphora. However, there was only one representative of the data discussed in this study based on each type of ellipsis that occurred in The Witches novel by Roald Dahl. Moreover, this research only presents 11 analyses of the sentence structure in hierarchical tree diagram.

3.1. *VP-Ellipsis*
The category of VP-ellipsis shows the omission of main predicate that specifically is non-finite auxiliary verb and also its arguments.

Data 1
[1] "*Did you see her moving in the picture? Nobody did Ø.*" (p.19)
[2] "*Did you see her moving in the picture? Nobody did [~~see her moving in the picture~~].*"

As it is shown in sentence above, the VP-ellipsis processed between question and answer in a dialogue. The elliptical process is illustrated by the sentence (1) while in (2), it picturized the reconstruction of the sentence from its antecedent. The interrogative sentence "*Did you see her moving in the picture?*" is the antecedent clause. On the other hand, the answer "*Nobody did*" shows the elided clause because the main predicate is gone in this sentence which is the non-finite verbal and its arguments and it only has a finite auxiliary in front of the elided clause. The elliptical process of VP-ellipsis is portrayed by the elided clause of non-finite verbal "see" and its arguments "her moving in the picture" are omitted from the context of the sentence. Meanwhile, the auxiliary "did" appears in front of the elided constituents. Therefore, the elided clause can be referred to the antecedent clause as "Nobody did see her moving in the picture" as shown in the completed sentence (2).

The elliptical process of the sentence in the case above is represented by the hierarchical tree diagram in figure 1 and 2 below.
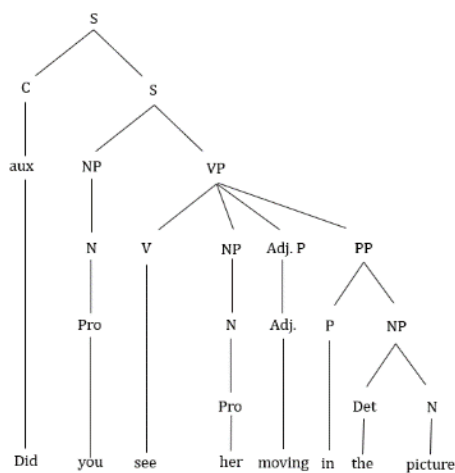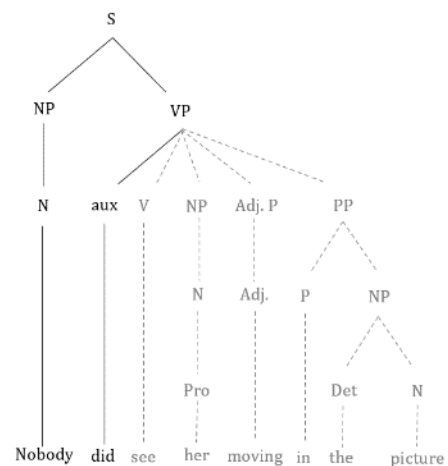

Figure 1 VP-ellipsis   **Figure 2 re-structured VP-ellipsis**

Both hierarchical tree diagrams above show the syntactic structure of the sentence that is previously discussed as the VP-ellipsis. Figure 1 demonstrates the antecedent clause and figure 2 shows the elided clause. The sentence is constructed by the mother node S and followed by NP and VP. The deletion occurs after the node VP which is similar to the antecedent clause, and only the auxiliary verb did is situated before elided clause. Meanwhile, the antecedent clause demonstrated the auxiliary

verb "did" at the beginning of the clause. Figure 2 shows the elided clause includes V as the main verb and followed by NP, Adj. P, and PP constituents as the arguments.

3.2. *Sluicing*

Ross (1969) explains that the phenomenon of deleting the whole clause that followed by *wh*-element is known as sluicing in which this ellipsis is also considered as clausal ellipsis.

Data 2
[3] "*He wants us to stay there. But why Ø?*" (p.34)
[4] "*But why [does he want us to stay there]?*"

The process of constructing the elliptical sentence in data 2 shows the sluicing phenomenon as it occurs in the direct question above. The ellipsis that is shown in this data is happened behind wh-element "why" and then, the following constituents are unpronounced. The antecedent clause "*He want us to stay there*" is related to the direct question "*but why*" as the elided clause. Based on the context, sluicing ellipsis occurs when the deletion is happened in the whole clause except an expression of wh-element if it follows an antecedent. The elided clause in this case is positioned after wh-element and referred to the antecedent clause "*He wants us to stay there*". However, it is interpreted as "*But why does he want us to stay there*" because it occurs in direct question as the re-structured sentence (4). Therefore, the sentence can still be able to understand because even though there is only a single constituent left behind, but the antecedent clause is still related to it.

Considering to show the syntactic structure of the sluicing phenomenon, both hierarchical tree diagrams below represent the process of ellipsis between antecedent clause and elided clause.
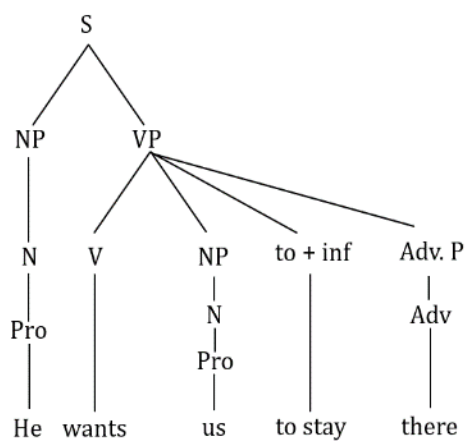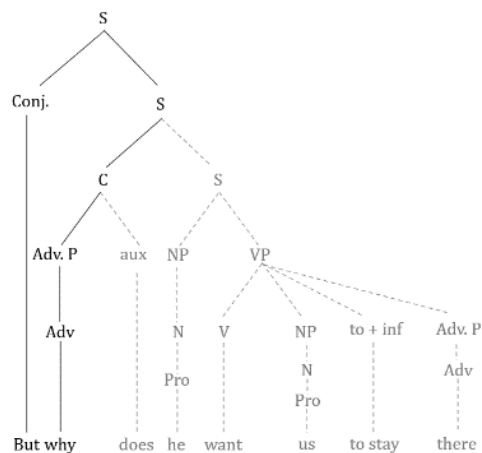
Figure 3 Sluicing　　　　**Figure 4 Re-structured sluicing**

The syntactic structure of both tree diagrams above shows the difference between the antecedent and elided clauses when it shows the elliptical phenomenon in it. Figure 3 is the antecedent clause because it consists of mother node S and then followed by

NP and VP. It also actually occurs in figure 4 as illustrated in the data above. However, the difference shows there is the addition of conjunction "but" and also the complementizer which marked by C as appear to be Adv. P "why" in this sentence structure. Furthermore, the auxiliary "does" starts the elided clause because it is a direct question and also as a response to the antecedent clause which is structured in declarative sentence (3).

3.3. *NP-Ellipsis*
Deleting the constituent structure does not highlight the smaller or larger clauses, because it also elides the nominal phrases.

Data 3
[5] "*One child a week is fifty-two Ø a year.*" (p.8)
[6] "*One child a week is fifty-two [children] a year.*"

The first case of elliptical process that concerns with noun phrase is represented in the sentence above. The constituent structure is omitted after the quantifier "fifty-two" which is supposed to be a noun phrase. The sentence above is divided into an antecedent phrase and consequent phrase which is also the phrase that is elided. The first phrase shows "*One child a week*" and another one presents "*is fifty-two a year*". There is a sentence constituent is left behind if it is referred to the first phrase which the noun phrase constituent. The restructured sentence can be seen in sentence (6) as shown above "*One child a week is fifty-two children a year*". The missing part is described in the sentence (6) which is also identical from the antecedent phrase "children" because it is related to the plural form. Even though, the elided phrase is shown in the consequent phrase but the meaning is still well understandably because it is not far from ambiguity.

The elliptical phenomenon of the sentence constituent above is demonstrated in both hierarchical tree diagrams below.
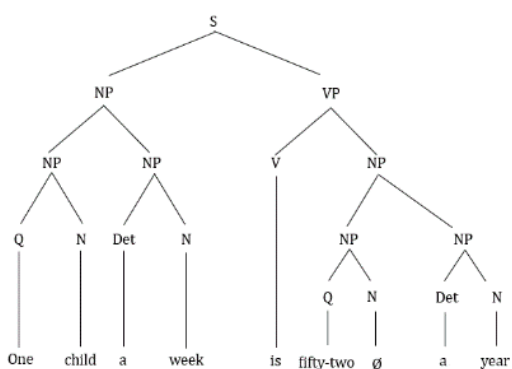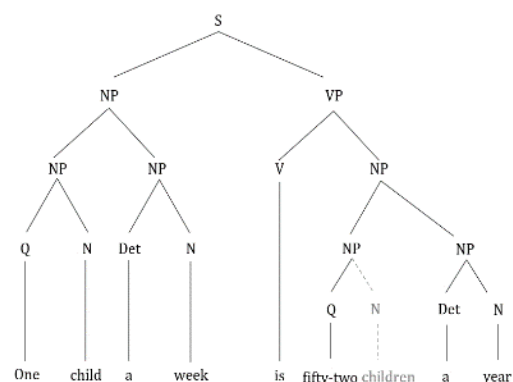

Figure 5 NP-ellipsis   **Figure 6 re-structured NP-ellipsis**

The tree diagrams above represent the sentence structure that consist of the mother node S and then followed by two sister nodes NP and VP in the equal position as it is referred to a simple sentence. Moreover, the NP is followed by other nodes NP and NP while VP is followed by V and NP. However, the diagram above highlights

the missing constituent that occurs after a quantifier which must be noun phrase. It is clearly represented in the elided phrase after the quantifier constituent which is "children" because the structure is situated in the plural form as it described by the ordinal number "fifty-two" in the selected sentence.

Data 4
[7] "*We will need five million alarm-clocks! We will need one Ø for each child!*" (pg. 94)
[8] "*We will need one [alarm-clock] for each child!*"

The second case of elliptical phenomenon in the data above shows the process of omitted the sentence constituent as it is related to noun phrase. The position of elided constituent is in the second clause as it shows in the clause, "*We will need one for each child*". On the other hand, the antecedent is constructed in the first clause when it said "*We will need five million alarm-clocks*". The sentence constituent that is omitted in the data above which is alarm-clock is related to the first one. Therefore, it does not show any ambiguity because the meaning is still understandable what is the meaning of the sentence.

The process of omitted the sentence structure could be seen in the hierarchical tree diagram as follows.
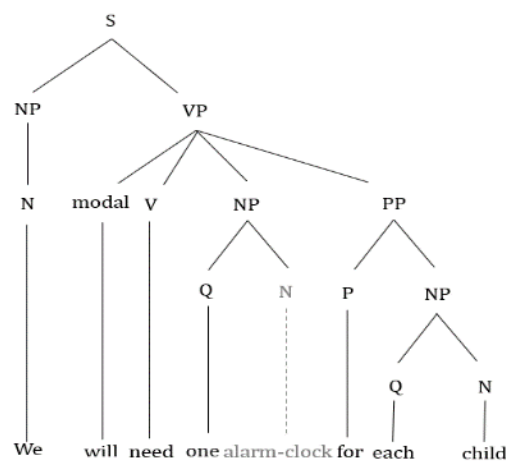
Figure 7 re-structured NP-ellipsis

Concerning the elided phrase in the tree diagram above, it demonstrates the omitted constituent is after the quantifier "one" which is supposed to be followed by a noun phrase "alarm-clock". However, the noun phrase is elided in this case because there is another NP is already inserted in the previous clause. Figure 7 above shows the mother node S and followed by NP and VP. As the first NP, it is only derived into a pronoun. On the other hand, since the context of sentence is related to each other, another NP is also followed by possessive quantifier and noun. Because, to avoid the redundant sentence constituent, it is omitted right after the quantifier "one" which describes the context of noun phrase "alarm-clock" in the next constituent.

3.4. *Fragment answer*

Fragment answer ellipsis elides the whole clause that is considered as the constituent of the answer to a question.

Data 5

[9] "*Are witches different in every country? Completely different Ø.*" (p.37)

[10] "*Are witches different in every country? [~~The witches are~~] completely different [~~in every country~~].*"

The elliptical phenomenon is shown as a fragment answer in the data above. The sentence is between a question and answer in a dialogue. The question is directly delivered as antecedent in this case while the following answer is a part of elided clause because as could be seen in the data, it only describes adjective phrase "*completely different*" as the only one constituent structure that left behind. On the other hand, the rest of the structure is unpronounced. The antecedent in the sentence said that "Are witches different in every country". Meanwhile, the response must be "*The witches are completely different in every country*" as it is identical from the antecedent. Even though, most of the constituents of the sentence are omitted but it does not make an ambiguity between the speaker and hearer and also the meaning is still understandable.

The constituents that are elided below show the fragment answer as the explanation above.
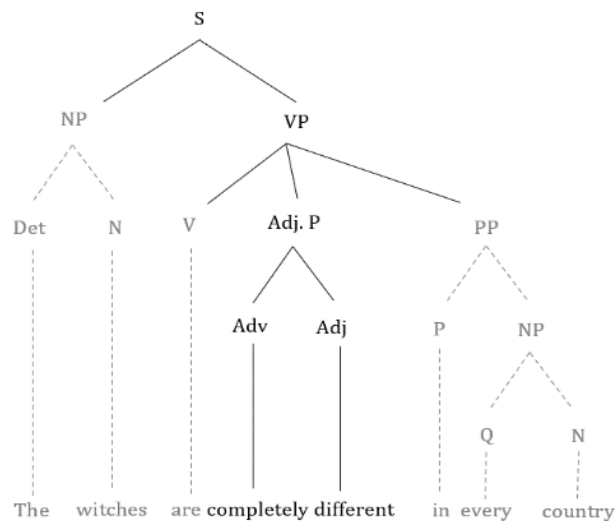
Figure 8 Re-structured fragment answer

Referring to the elliptical sentence that portrayed in the tree diagrams above, figure 8 showed the phenomenon of elliptical sentence over the fragment answer between a question and an answer. The elided clause is mentioned in the answer as it described in figure 8, the only constituents that left behind is adjective phrase "completely different". However, the rest of constituents are deleted from the whole sentence they are NP "the witches", VP "are", and PP "in every country".

Data 6

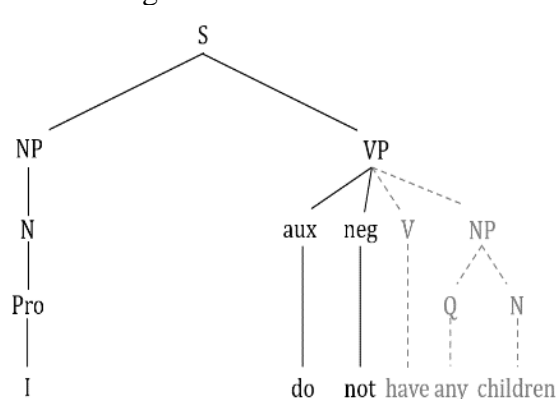[11] "*Do you have any children, my dear? I do not Ø.*" (p.143)

[12] "*Do you have any children, my dear? I do not [~~have any children.~~]*"

The data above represents how the elliptical phenomenon of fragment answer occurs in the question and answer of a dialogue. A direct question could be seen in the data and as the response, the answer is delivered under the subject pronoun and auxiliary constituents "*I do not*". On the other hand, the whole interrogative sentence said that "*Do you have any children*". The whole clause is elided in this context and it only leaves an answer of the question. Moreover, after being analyzed, the completed answer is presented in sentence (12). The unpronounced constituents in the sentence do not make an ambiguity between the speaker and the hearer without changing any semantic aspect of the sentence. The sentence only leaves the initial clause and the other following constituents are deleted.

The hierarchical tree diagrams below can show the missing constituents as the main concern of the elliptical phenomenon of the fragment answer.
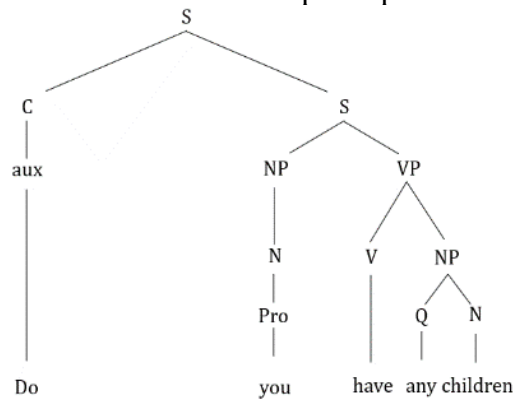
Figure 9 Fragment answer   **Figure 10 Re-structured fragment answer**

The hierarchical tree diagram above shows the fact that the figure 9 represents the syntactic structure that consist of the mother node S and then followed by complementizer and also another node S. The complementizer describes the auxiliary "do" while the node S contains NP "you" and VP "have any children". On the other hand, the figure 10 is the elliptical sentence where the constituent is left only subject pronoun and auxiliary; the rest of sentence constituents are unpronounced. This elliptical phenomenon in figure 10 shows the same structure like the antecedent that provides in the question.

3.5. *Stripping*

This type of ellipsis is very similar to fragment answers where there is only one constituent leaving after eliminated from the whole clause. However, the difference is that it is usually accompanied by a negation "not" and an intensifier "too".

Data 7

[13] "*The doctor had his way about the holiday, but Ø not about the cigars.*" (p.51)

[14] "*The doctor had his way about the holiday, but [~~the doctor had~~] not [~~his way~~]*"

about the cigars."

The phenomenon of stripping could be found in the sentence (13) above. The sentence that is presented in the data shows a negation which constructed by two coordinate clauses with a conjunction "but" between both clauses. The antecedent clause is delivered in positive clause "*The doctor had his way about the holiday*" while the elided clause is in negative clause "*not about the cigars*" that is supposed to be correlated with the antecedent clause. Because the meaning that is related to each other. The remnant of prepositional phrase about "the cigars" is left behind in the second coordinate structure and the rest of the sentence constituents are elided. The restructured sentence with each part of missing constituents is presented in the sentence (14). The missing constituents in the bracket are "the doctor had" and "his way". The sentence in this case is not ambiguous as it delivers the effective communication through its meaning.

This data shows the tree diagram that explains the phenomenon of stripping below.
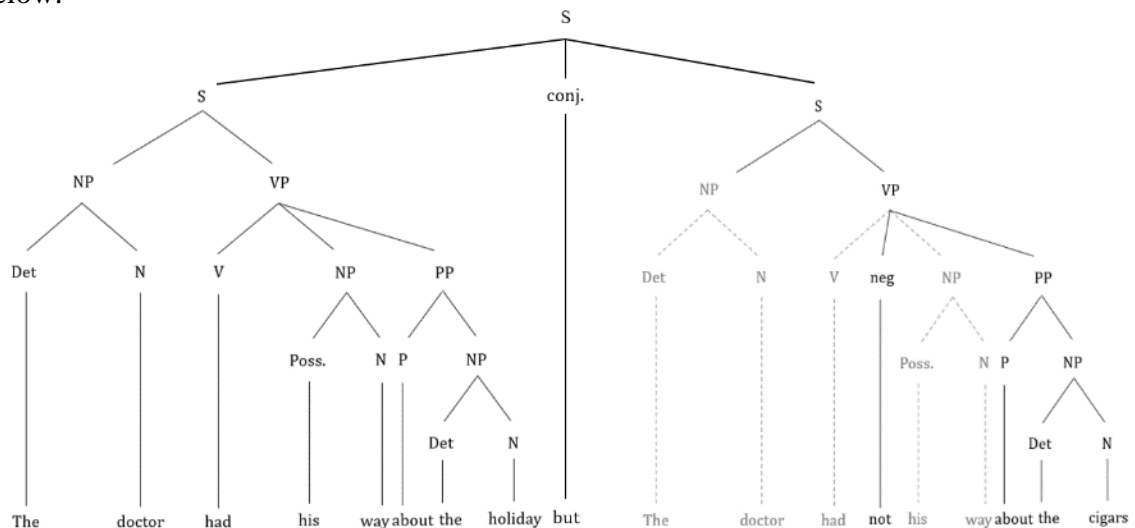
Figure 11 Re-structured stripping

Figure 11 shows the tree diagram of elliptical phenomenon of gapping. In this case, the omission is occurred in coordinate structure as described above. The mother node S is divided into two sister's nodes S and separated by a conjunction "but". The antecedent clause consists of NP and VP which NP is followed by a determiner "the" and a noun "doctor". On the other hand, there are 3 constituents constructed under VP namely, V "had", NP "his way", and PP "about the holiday". Meanwhile, this structure focuses on the elided clause in the second one, which was occurred in the NP "the doctor", VP "had", and another NP "his way". However, the constituents that are still left behind is PP "about the cigars" and also this sentence is presented the negation "not".

3.6. *Gapping*

Leaving the remnant constituents that are contrasted with the antecedent, which is quite similar to stripping but it is not only provided a negator or intensifier.

Data 8
[15] "*She went bustling out of the bedroom and along the corridor, Ø banging her stick on the carpet.*" (p. 135)
[16] "*She went bustling out of the bedroom and along the corridor, [~~she went~~] banging her stick on the carpet.*"

As illustrated in the sentence (15) above, it is constructed by two coordinated clauses which is linked through a conjunction and. The first clause said "*She went bustling out of the bedroom*" and the second clause mentioned "*along the corridor, banging her stick on the carpet*". The missing constituent structures in this case can be seen from the omitted subject pronoun and verb phrase which should be interpreted as the first clause since both clauses have structural and semantic parallelism. They need to be identical from one to another which is also the sentence is compound sentence. In this case, there is only the clause "*banging her stick on the carpet*" left behind, the rest of the sentence is unpronounced. The reformed sentence can be seen in the sentence (16), "*She went bustling out of the bedroom and along the corridor, she went banging her stick on the carpet*". Even though, the elliptical phenomenon in this case omitted the second clause, but at least the sentence context is still allowed and contextually understandable.

This data shows the tree diagram that explains the phenomenon of gapping below.
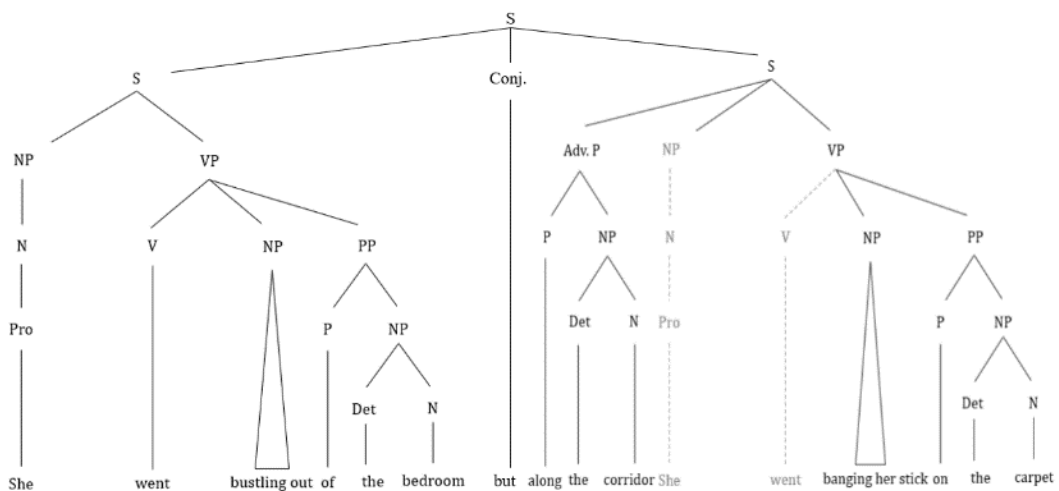
Figure 12 Re-structured gapping

The process of deleting some parts of constituent in the sentence above is categorized as elliptical phenomenon of gapping. Figure 12 above described the sentence as it represented by a coordinate sentence and the mother node S is divided into two sister's nodes S. The first clause as the antecedent is divided into NP and VP. The NP consists of pronoun "she" and VP is separated into V "went", NP "bustling out", and PP "of the bedroom". Meanwhile, the second one as the elided clause deleted pronoun "she" and the main verb "went". Moreover, the sentence constituents that left behind are only the NP and PP after the omitted constituents and also there is additional

adverb phrase "along the corridor" before the missing constituents.

3.7. *Pseudogapping*

Combining VP-ellipsis and gapping categories is the process of pseudogapping. The verb phrase is elided except the one contrasted constituent. This category can apply in subordinated structures such as comparatives.

Data 9
[17] "*They vanished just as Ranghild did Ø.*" (p.16)
[18] "*They vanished just as Ranghild did [vanish].*"

According to the sentence (17) above, it represents the elliptical phenomenon of pseudogapping because it involves the elided clause of a verb while the nonverbal element of direct object is still left behind as the replaced constituent sentence. Pseudogapping similarly is like the combination between gapping and VP-ellipsis where the sentence constituent of an auxiliary verb as the replacement of the verb phrase. In this case, the auxiliary verb can be seen in the sentence "*They vanished just as Ranghild did*" is still exist while the other constituents are deleted from the sentence. Generally, the completed sentence can be seen in the sentence (18) as it said "*They vanished just as Ranghild did vanish*" because there are two clauses in this case that connected by a conjunction "as". The subordinated clause in the second position must be equal as the first clause that's why both clauses have identical syntactic structure.

The missing constituent of the sentence structure can be seen from the analysis of hierarchical tree diagram below in order to show the process of constructing the elliptical sentence.
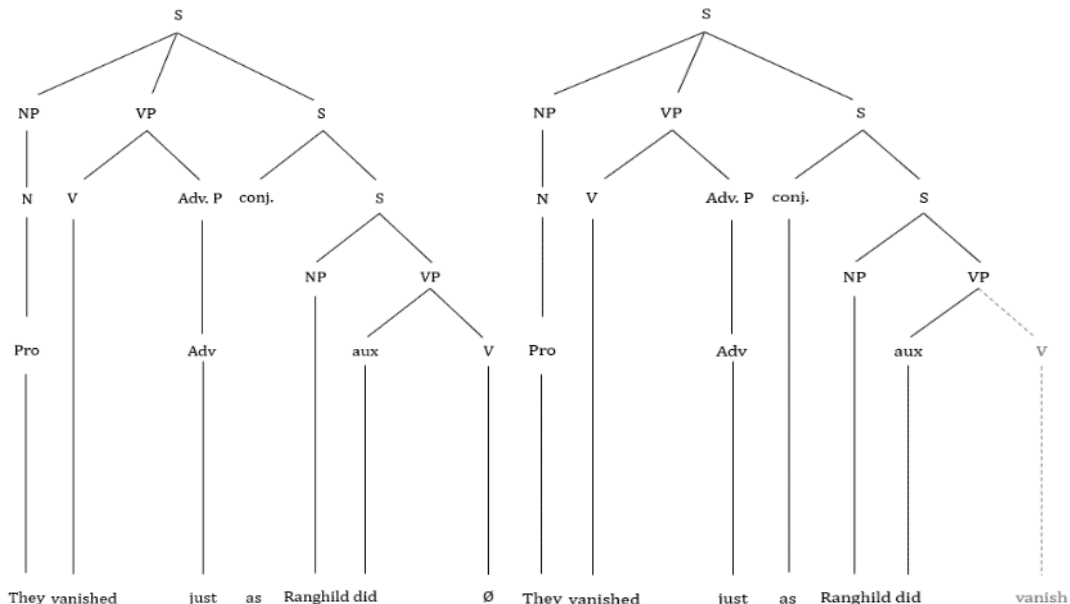

Figure 13 Pseudogapping   Figure 14 Re-structured pseudogapping

Referring to the elliptical sentence that portrayed in both tree diagrams above, figure 14 shows that the sentence structure of the data is constructed by a mother node S and then followed by NP, VP and the sister node S which indicates the sentence as

a subordinate clause to form a complex sentence. Moreover, the subordinator conjunction in this case, connects the sentence by using "as". The elliptical phenomenon is happened on subordinated clause especially under VP which is V is omitted in this sentence. Whereas, the replacement is an auxiliary verb "did" is left behind after the NP. Actually, both structures between the first clause and the subordinate clause represent the identical syntactic structure because the antecedent clause shows VP "vanish" while the subordinated clause deleted the VP, and then changed into auxiliary.

3.8. *Modal Complement Ellipsis*
This type of ellipsis elides the complement of (root) modal verbs in the whole sentence and it is more than just verb phrase.

Data 10
[19] "*Nobody can have blue spit! – Witches can Ø.*" (p.31)
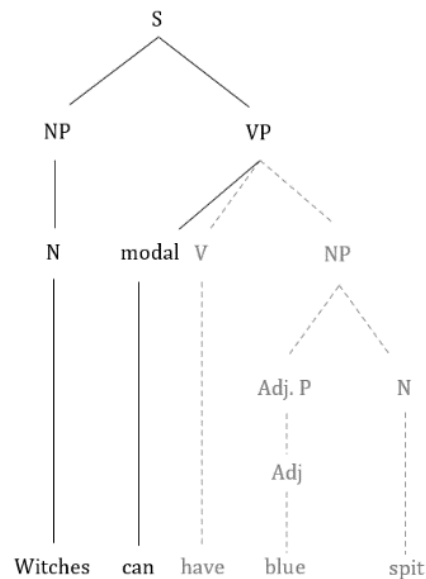[20] "*Nobody can have blue spit! – Witches can [have blue spit].*"

Instead of VP-ellipsis, modal verb ellipsis is also interesting to be analyzed in this research. MCE phenomenon is given through the sentence (19) above which the antecedent clause said "*Nobody can have blue spit*" while the elided clause only left the sentence constituents until modal verb constituent and the rest of the sentence is unpronounced. The elided constituents are not mentioned in the second clause "*Witches can*" which must be identical from the antecedent clause. The modal verb "can" is left behind and the whole constituents are omitted. However, the sentence above must be completely represented as "*Witches can have blue spit*", it can be seen in the sentence (20). Although, the structure is mostly omitted in this sentence, but the meaning is understandable enough because the semantic structure is still totally transferred as the effective communication.

The missing constituent of the sentence structure can be seen from the analysis of hierarchical tree diagram below in order to show the phenomenon of deleting the modal complement in the sentence.
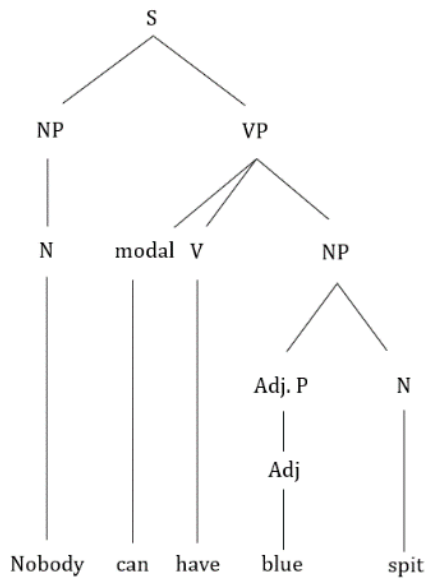
Figure 15 Modal complement ellipsis   **Figure 16 Re-structured MCE**

Referring to the elliptical sentence that portrayed in the tree diagrams above, figure 15 and 16 focused on the phenomenon of modal complement ellipsis on how the rest of constituents are deleted after the modal verb. As it is shown in figure 16, the noun "witches" and the modal verb "can" are the only sentence constituents left behind while the rest are omitted which is about the verb "have" and NP "blue spit".

3.9. *Null Complement Anaphora*
Omitting the whole complement in a sentence is known as null complement anaphora category. The elided complement can be finite clause, infinitive phrase, or prepositional phrase, but it can work with a noun phrase.

Data 11
[21] "*You mean she died? Who knows Ø?*" (p.19)
[22] "*You mean she died? Who knows [she died]?*"

The last ellipsis type regarding to the sentence structure is null complement anaphora. This type is classified as the elliptical phenomenon when it elides the whole complement clause after the main predicate. As it can be seen in the data above, the main predicate in the elided clause is "knows" and then the rest of clause is omitted after the predicate. Referring to the antecedent clause, the clause mentioned "*You mean she died*", that's why the elided clause can be interpreted as "*Who knows she died*" as it shows in the sentence (22). Even though, the whole complement clause is deleted in this case, but the meaning is well understandable since it does not show any ambiguities related to the information that delivered.

The constituents that are elided below show the ellipsis of null complement anaphora as the explanation above.
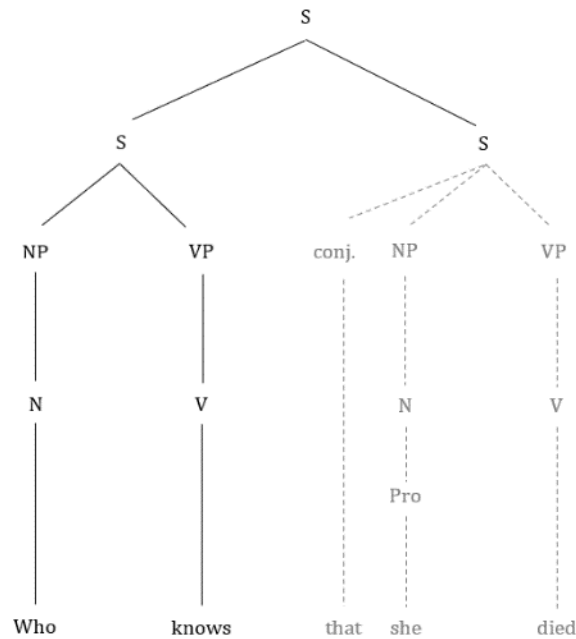
Figure 17 Re-structured NCA

Concerning the phenomenon of ellipsis that happened to the null complement anaphora as above, the verb complements are deleted after the main verb presented in the structure. Figure 17 shows the mother node S is divided into two identical sister's nodes S. The first one consists of NP "who" and VP "knows". Another clause presents NP she and VP "died" which is separated by a conjunction "that" in the sentence above.

Conclusion

This research highlights the elliptical phenomenon upon the sentence structure that found in the novel entitled The Witches written by Roald Dahl as using Kiss and Alexiadou's theory and elaborated with Brown and Miller's theory to illustrates the sentence constituent in hierarchical tree diagram. This study focuses on conducting the study only based on the syntactic analysis field and concerns to nine types of ellipsis phenomenon that proposed by the previous scholars. Each of type is found in this research that consists of VP-ellipsis, sluicing, NP-ellipsis, fragment answer, stripping, gapping, pseudogapping, modal complement ellipsis, and null complement anaphora. Among all types that are analyzed in this research, the highest data that found is NP-ellipsis.

Instead of providing the total data as above, this research also shows the process of constructing the elliptical sentence through hierarchical tree diagram using Brown and Miller's theory. From the analysis, it proves that the sentence is still acceptable and grammatical enough although some constituents of the sentence are omitted as long as there is antecedent clause remained in the preceding sentence. Otherwise, the sentence structure is ungrammatical and also the meaning is not understandable.

Therefore, the antecedent recovers the elided structure as it also shows the same constituent structures from one to another.

This article only manages the elliptical phenomenon in the sentence as well as its constituent structure using hierarchical tree diagram. Therefore, this analysis is still limited to those two types of research objectives. However, this research is not a close-ended paper. Since the analysis only concerns to the ellipsis types and also its constituent structure, hopefully the further studies with comparative perspectives are interested in conducting the reasons why elliptical sentence used in the communication as it shows in the written or spoken platforms.

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Appendices

N   : Noun
V   : Verb
Adj   : Adjective
Adv   : Adverb
Pro   : Pronoun
Det   : Determiner
Poss. : Possessive adjective
P   : Preposition
C   : Complementizer
Conj. : Conjunction
NP   : Noun phrase
VP   : Verb phrase
Adj P : Adjective phrase
Adv P : Adverb phrase
PP   : Prepositional phrase
S   : Sentence
Ø   : Elliptical constituent
[...]   : Re-structured constituent