A Corpus Based Study on the Syntactic Behavior and the Semantic of Preposition "In,On and At"

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 ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to find out the kinds of the variations of syntactic behavior in preposition "in, on and at", and to find out the meaning preposition "in, on, and at" in syntactic structure. The research was conducted through corpus base study. The data was collected from four books namely; Language Curriculum Design, Code Switching By Teachers In The Second Language Classroom, Teacher Talk in Classroom Interaction: A Study at an English Department in Indonesia, and Teaching English As A Foreign Language in Indonesian Schools in the Reform Era: What Do Teachers Have To Say?. The data gathered had been analyzed through data analysis proposed by Toriida (2016) namely target material, collecting corpus, word eliminations, and analyzes of the words. The data was collected by identifying the preposition "in,on and at" by using antconc application. The results of this study indicate that variations of syntactic behavior in prepositions "in, on and at" are in the type of time, location, occasion and position that are usually found in sentences that connect words to several components. Preposition "in, on and at" ussually connect to phrases, subject substitutes, and nouns. The meaning of preposition "in, on, at" in syntactic Structure have distingused meaning in every sentences based on context. In one of preposition, such as preposition in, is having several meaning. It also can be used to mark the place, time, direction, and introduce an object.

Key word : Syntactic behavior, syntactic structure, the meaning of preposition.

INTRODUCTION

Corpus linguistics is the study of language as expressed in real world text. In some areas it is related to computational linguistics, then at last moves towards language processing applications. This means dealing with real input data, where descriptions based on a linguist's intuition are not usually helpful.

Sinclair (1997) believed that language cannot be invented; it can only be captured. He further distinct a corpus as a collection of pieces of language, selected and ordered according to explicit linguistic criteria in order to be used as a sample of

the language. In principle, any collection of more than one text can be called a corpus (McEnery & Wilson, 2001, p. 29). A corpus is a set of texts which is then put together in computer-readable form for some purpose. It may consist of written texts, transcriptions of spoken material or both. The term corpora are a plural form of it.

Trofimova (2014) obseved Semantics is the linguistic and philosophical study of meaning in language, programming languages, formal logics, and semiotics. It is concerned with the relationship between *signifiers* like words, phrases, signs, and symbols and what they stand for in reality, their denotation**.** Semantics focus on the study of meaning**.** It studies the meaning of words and language. Semantics study ways in which the meanings of words can be related to each other (synonyms, homophony, etc.), ways in which the meanings of sentences can be related to each other, and ambiguity. Ambiguity is one way of studying the meaning of language. A sentence is said to be ambiguous when it has more than one meaning.

In a sentence there is always found preposition. According Huddleston & Pullum (2002) preposition are a class of words used to express spatial or temporal relations (*in*, *under*, *towards*, *before*) or mark various semantic roles (*of*, *for*). A preposition typically combines with a noun or pronoun, or more generally a noun phrase, this being called its complement, or sometimes object. Prepositions don't stand alone. They work in groups of words that we call prepositional phrases. A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends in a noun. That noun is called the object of the preposition.

The use of prepositions "in, on and at" is very important to be conducted because there are no definite rules or formulas for choosing a preposition. Prepositions can be tricky for English students in Indonesian education. Therefore, the researcher was interested to conduct the research about the syntactic behavior and the meaning of preposition "in, on and at." The result of this study was expected to give contribution to the learning process in the use of the prepositions "in, on and at." The researcher has formulated two research questions as follows:

1. How are the variations of syntactic behavior in preposition "in,on and at"?
2. What is the meaning of preposition "in, on, and at" in syntactic structure?

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

There are some previous findings that related with this research. Schenk (1994) had conducted a research about syntactic behavior of idioms. He argue that the reluctance of some idioms part to undergo certain syntactic operation follows from

the fact that idioms are not built up in a compositional manner, because a compound idiomatic expression corressponds to one primitive meaning expressions.

Loke, D. L,. Ali,Juliana,. Anthony,N (2013) presented a research A Corpus Based Study on the Use of Preposition of Time 'on' and 'at' in Argumentative Essays of Form 4 and Form 5 Malaysian Students. The findings have shown the type of essay used in this corpus which is an argumentative essay the distribution patterns of on and at are limited in this corpus. In an argumentative essays it refrain students from using preposition of time however where the prepositions are used errors were committed by students.

Another study from Saravanan, J (2015) about The Use of English Prepositions: An Empirical Study. This study examined the writing skill of the students at the undergraduate level, with a special focus on the use of prepositions of place, time and direction in English. The findings imply that teachers should pay more attention while teaching the prepositions of place, time and direction and provide sufficient explanations about them to the students in the classroom.

Herdi & Andriana (2017) presented about A Study On The Students' Ability In Using Preposition Of Direction. The purpose of the research was to find out the students' ability in using preposition of direction. The researcher conducted survey design to identify whether the students have understood this subject or not. Finally, the result of the study showed that the average score of students' ability in using prepositions of direction was 66.47. In conclusion, the students' ability in using preposition of direction was categorized into "fair" category.

Yusuf, Yunisrina (2009) in her research about A Corpus-Based Linguistics Analysis on Written Corpus: Colligation of "TO" and "FOR". She was found that despite the subjects were Master students, grammatical errors were commonly found in the use of "TO" and "FOR" as prepositions.

Considering previous findings above there are some similarities and differences about the research. The researcher finds some extent that syntactic behavior is the way to arrange the sentences by using existing rules. Since most of the previous studies above had never conduct a research about syntactic behavior in the use of prepositions "in, on and at." Therefore, the researcher interest to conduct a research about syntactic behavior and the meaning of prepositions "in, at, and on". The syntactic behavior is the use of the behavioral of grammatical structure of an expression or the rules of well-formedness of a formal system. The syntactic behavior are the behavioral rules of a language to make a correct sentence in language. The meaning of preposition means words that has function to show the relationship

between the object and other parts of the sentence. A preposition is a word (usually a short word) that shows the relationship between two other nearby words.

METHOD AND DATA COLLECTION

This research used a corpus base study. The corpus based used descriptive method to explain the data and describe it according to the real data. A corpus is basically a collection of real samples of a language, put together in texts, which have been collated in a systematic and structured way with some specific purposes in the descriptive research of the language. Therefore, the use of corpus analyzes in this research, to identify and investigate the prepostion "in, on , and at." The data analyzed is the variations of syntactic behavior and the meaning of preposition "in,on,and at". The researcher take four books namely Language Curriculum Design, Code Switching By Teachers In The Second Language Classroom, Teacher Talk in Classroom Interaction: A Study at an English Department in Indonesia, Teaching English As A Foreign Language in Indonesian Schools in the Reform Era: What Do Teachers Have To Say?. The researcher adapted the corpus method by Toriida (2016). This research conducted on six steps, they were: Target material, collecting corpus, word elimination, and analyzes of the words.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
A. The variations of syntactic behavior in preposition "in,on and at"

The researcher has analyzed the four books. The researcher focusing on the syntactic behavior of three of the prepositional words in this corpus. The researcher found 2125 preposition "in", 721 preposition "on" and 406 preposition "at." The researcher has categorized prepositions based on the types. The researcher described variations of syntactic behavior in the preposition "in" based on the type of time, occasion, location and position. The researcher took several sentences representing the preposition "in".

1. **Variations of Syntactic Behavior of Preposition "in"**

a. **Time**

Table 1. variations of syntactic behavior

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example

1.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + adverb of time	1	… teachers teaching students in two different academic years. (596)
2.	Adjective clause + preposition "in" + adverb of time	1	…in the same different proficiency level in two different academic years ...(595)
3.	Adjective + preposition "in"+ adverb of time	4	… independence in 1945…(2) (others from data: 7,8 and 11)
4.	Verb + adverb manner + preposition "in" + adverb of time	1	…declared early (in 1955)… (4)
5.	Noun phrase + adverb manner + preposition "in" adverb of time	1	… Junior Secondary Schools approximately in the same year… (4)
6.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" + adverb of time	2	This curriculum (issued in 2004… (5) …began in 1988 …(3)

From the table above, there are 6 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "in" with type of time section. There are some examples of using the preposition "in" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. In this part preposition "in" showed that preposition "in" focused on mentioned the years. Preposition "in" from those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

b. Occasion

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example
1.	Modal + be + past participle+	37	… can be applied in a wide range of particular circumstances. (1)

	preposition "in" + article + adjective phrase		… can be approached in two ways… (others data from : 2, 7, 9, 11, 20, 21, 25, 28, 41, 45, 49, 50, 63, 65, 76, 78, 79, 83, 93, 101, 103, 115, 118, 134, 140, 142, 155, 158, 167, 178, 180, 189, 190, 191, 200, 539)
2.	Noun + preposition "in" + noun phrase + preposition at + adverb of place	5	... Professor in Applied Linguistics at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. (1) …knowledge in Applied Linguistics… (163) (others data from : 90, 24, 52)
3.	verb + preposition "in" + article + adjective + noun phrase	13	… result in a better informed evaluation as … (128) (other data from : 12, 17, 29, 45, 47, 51, 58, 78, 127, 169, 191, 589)
4.	Noun + preposition "in" + verb phrase	21	…value in coming to grips with its content through English. (4) ..student in deciding the topic...(12) (others data from: 3, 10, 13, 47, 48, 54, 57, 61, 113, 120, 126, 147, 150, 152, 161, 177, 186, 203, 206)
5.	Verb + preposition "in" + noun phrase + adverb	4	… communicate in a wide range of everyday situations.(6) study in a wide range of disciplines.(151) (others from data: 1 and 2)
6.	Verb + preposition "in" + adjective phrase	5	…used in most of the important spheres of society (1) (others from data: 142, 55, 92 and 110)

7.	Noun phrase + prepositon "in"+ adjective phrase	1	… the language of choice in contemporary governmental…(581)
8.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" + adverb of degree	3	bigger role in most courses (205) (others data from : 56, 581)
9.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + noun phrase	13	…the choice of codes in any given situation.(131) … covered in any order (72) …which means it is in the beneficial function. (1) (others from data: 39, 82, 131, 141, 200, 202, 203, 205, 583, and 588)
10.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" + adverb phrase	1	direction occurred in relatively short times. (1)
11.	Adverb degree + preposition "in" + gerund phrase	6	…many obstacles in building a good interaction …(2) (others data from : 49, 50, 56, 157, 591)
12.	Noun + preposition "in" + adverb degree	9	… place in many social …(46) (others from data: 1, 9, 19, 38, 53, 37, 140, and 590)
13.	Verb clause + preposition "in" + gerund + noun phrase	6	… many researchers who have spent their effort in observing discourse analysis …(48) (others data from : 29, 30, 47, 93, 593)
14.	Noun clause + preposition "in" +	5	…the education was populist in its orientation …(2)

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Statement of location
	possessive pronoun		(others from data : 11, 26, 44, and 172)
15.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + gerund phrase	5	…discuss teachers' strategies in discharging their professional…(3) (others from data : 20, 58, 127, 157)
16.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + complement	4	… they have in concert with central government …(4) (other data from : 5, 97, 150)
17.	Adjective + preposition "in" + possessive pronoun	8	… conclusive in their understanding…(8) (others from data : 9, 11, 12, 25, 28, 35, 49)

From the table above, there are 17 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "in" with type of occasion section. There are some examples of using the preposition "in" with type of occasion which the researcher found from the four books.. All of them showed that occasion told about the specific something that happen. Preposition "in" from those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

c. Location

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Statement of location
1.	Past participle of lexical verb + preposition (in) + adverb of place	8	He has taught in Indonesia, Thailand, the United States, Finland and Japan. (1) (others data from: 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11)
2.	Noun phrase + preposition (in) + adverb of place	7	…academic study in university … (4) (others data from: 22, 52, 63, 90, 177, 193)
3.	Dependent clause +	7	… who have been in the country … (589)

	preposition (in) + adverb of place		(others data from: 54, 105, 153, 163, 199, 590)
4.	Noun clause + preposition (in) + main verb (has) + subordinate conjunction	6	The curriculum design model in Figure 1.1 has goals as its centre. (12) (others from data : 1, 6, 2, 143, and 138)
5.	Irregular verbs (V2) of auxiliary verb + preposition (in) + adverb of time	5	hese lists can be found in George 1963a, 1963b, and 1972 (8) can be achieved in the classroom (585) (others from data :154, 590, and 173)
6.	Noun + preposition (in) + adverb of place	22	English, in Sri Lanka .. (588) Addition in japanese (163) (others from data :13, 43, 52, 91, 97, 72, 118, 133, 135, 162,164, 167, 156, 116, 189, 52, 191, 581, 589, 590)
7.	Noun + adverb of time + subordinate conjunction + preposition (in).	5	…(Brann, 1985, as cited in Karunaratne, 2009). (151) (others from data :584, 586, 595, 596)
8.	Noun + preposition (in) + adverb of place	12	Unlike undergraduates in other faculties …(582) Department of State in the United States (21) (others from data : 23, 55, 78, 133, 145, 117, 120, 177, 176, 119)
9.	Noun clause + preposition (in) + adverb of	7	Malik (1994) in an empirical study on CS in India ... (584)

	place		(others from data :590, 588, 586, 583, 585, 583)
10.	Noun + preposition "in" + noun phrase	6	…L1 in the ESL classroom can be justified. (595) (others from data: 592, 593, 590, 596, 583)
11.	Noun phrase preposition (in) + adverb of place	8	The extracts of student talk in classroom …(1) (others from data : 46, 49, 50, 59, 56, 57, 58)
12.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + past participle+ noun	5	The data collection in extract 3 is taken from the interview …(52) (others data from: 120, 147, 153, 203)
13.	Noun phrase + preposition (in) + noun phrase	32	*Learning Community in the Primary Classroom.* (59) …the areas in the field… (1) (others from data :1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 27, 30, 31, 39, 40, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54)
14.	Noun phrase + preposition (in) + noun	17	… students' problems and difficulties in speaking. (58) …types of information in the answers (27) (others from data : 3, 7, 12, 14, 25, 31, 41, 42, 43, 46, 596, 596, 50, 52, 59)

No.	Patterns	corcondance	Statement of location
15.	Noun phrase + preposition (in) + adverb of place	11	…Foreign Language (EFL) in Indonesia…(1) …teaching of EFL in Indonesia's schooling system…(4) (others from data :2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14,15,)
16.	Irregular verbs (V2) of auxiliary verb + preposition "in" + adverb	7	…subject to be taught in Junior Secondary Schools …(5) activities be included in a course (56) (others data from: 3, 45, 49, 63, 98)
17.	Adverb + preposition "in" adverb of place	15	…Junior secondary schools in Sukabumi Municipality… (7) (other data from: 3, 4, 5, 7, 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 196, 220, 585, 589, 590)
18.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" adverb of place	5	…elementary school teachers in Jakarta …(10) (other data from: 13, 16, 90, 98)

From the table above, there are 18 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "in" with type of location section. There are some examples of using the preposition "in" with type of location which the researcher found from the four books. All of them showed the location is used to refer to a place where something or someone is located.

d. Position

No	Patterns	corcondance	Statement of location
1.	Adverb phrase + preposition "in" + noun + particile phrase	5	…many of the areas in the field of Applied Linguistics...(1) (others data from : 2, 49, 52, 143)

2.	Participle phrase + preposition"in" + noun phrase	3	…these factors are considered in three sub-processes…(2) (others data from : 12, 138)
3.	Simple future tense	2	…they will meet in the course… (3) (others data from : 93)
4.	Noun + Preposition "in" +noun clause	3	…the situation in which the course will be used …(3) (others data from : 33, 199)
5.	Noun clause+ preposition "in" + noun	6	The viewpoint taken in this book …(8) (other data from: 28, 56, 117, 154, 187)
6.	Adverb phrase +preposition "in" + adjective phrase	2	…the amount of L1 in lower and higher proficiency classes …(1) (other data from: 594)
7.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + adjective phrase	4	… instructors teaching in lower proficiency levels… (1) …level used the L1 in significant quantities as a strategy …(1) (others data from : 594, 595)
8.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" + adverb phrase	11	…first time in the proficiency courses …(582) (others data from : 20, 47, 50, 52, 54, 59, 143, 154, 156, 163)
9.	Adjective phrase + preposition "in" + noun	1	…visible specially in the lower proficiency ESL classrooms (1)

	phrase		
10.	Pronoun + verb + preposition "in" + pronoun	4	Raheem and Ratwatte (2000, cited in Medawattegedara and Devendra, 2004, p.89) …(595) (other data from: 8, 581, 585)
11.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + noun + be + noun phrase	1	The method used in this research was a descriptive method.(1)
12.	Preposition "in" + noun clause	3	… in student talk…(1) (others data from : 134, 588)
13.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + noun phrase	5	…the effective talk for students in student-student interaction.(1) (other data from: 4, 16, 49, 67)
14.	Noun clause + preposition "in" + possesive pronoun	5	Menegale (2008) found in her research …(47) (other data from: 11, 49, 77, 110)
15.	Adverb phrase + preposition "in" + noun clause	2	… inside the classroom in the middle of teaching and learning process.(47) (others data from : 585)
16.	Noun phrase +preposition "in"+ gerund + adverb place	5	…EFL teachers' experiences in teaching English in Indonesian schools …(1) (other data from: 4, 50, 100, 179)
17.	Verb phrase +preposition "in" + noun	2	… to survive working in the system.(2) (other data from : 12)
18.	Verb	6	As indicated in the preceding

	+preposition "in"+ gerund phrase		paragraphs…(11) (others data from : 4, 5, 10, 11, 179)
19.	Noun phrase + preposition "in" + adjective clause	1	central government in the context of unitary nation-state of Indonesia.(4)
20.	Verb + preposition "in" + noun + adverb phrase	1	As indicated in the introductory part of this article, ….(5)
21.	Adverb manner + noun phrase + preposition "in" + noun phrase	1	...communicatively competence both in spoken and written modes. (7)

From the table above, there are 21 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "in" with type of position section. There are some examples of using the preposition "in" with type of position which the researcher found from the 4 books. All of them showed that position told about the level, condition, proficiency people, something, any object, etc. Preposition "in" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

2. Variations of Syntactic Behavior of Preposition "on"

In this section researcher have categorized prepositions based on the types above. The researcher described variations of syntactic behavior in the preposition "on" base on the type of time, occasion, location and position. The researcher took several sentences which represents the preposition "on.

a. Time

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Example
1.	Past particle + preposition "on" +	1	…are focused on today...(45)

	adverb of time		
2.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + adverb of time	1	…the topic or material on that day. (54)

From the table above, there are 2 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "on" with type of time section. There are some examples of using the preposition "on" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. Preposition "in" from those sentences insisted the condition clearly. Both of them showed that time told about whenever something happen.

b. Occasion

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Example
1.	Noun + preposition "on" + noun phrase	3	…publications on teaching and learning vocabulary…(1) (others data from : 122, 124)
2.	Noun clause + preposition "on" + noun phrase	14	…list of questions which focus on the nature of the learners…(3) (others data from : 32, 44, 67, 82, 91, 92, 95, 98, 104, 105, 127, 166, 204)
3.	Conjunction+preposition "on" +noun phrase	37	…based on a list of things .. (6) Others data from : 9, 10, 11, 13, 21, 38, 39, 40, 42, 59, 65, 72, 75, 86, 90, 100, 102, 104, 106, 110, 114, 115, 116, 126, 128, 133, 134, 137, 141, 166, 177, 178, 181, 185, 189, 208)
4.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	…include principles on the importance of repetition …(6)
5.	Past tense + preposition "on"+ noun	1	…found on research…(38)

6.	Conjunction +preposition "on" + noun	9	Based on the findings…(1) (others data from : 48, 50, 52, 55, 56, 586, 594, 598)
7.	Noun clause + preposition "on" + noun	1	… can make a significant impact on the students' …(594)
8.	Noun + preposition "on" + adjective	1	Research on the effectiveness …(586)
9.	Noun clause + preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	…Canagarajah's (1995) study on 24 secondary school …(588)
10.	Adjective + preposition "on"+ Adverb clause	1	… scarce on how much L1 …(588)
11.	Gerund + noun phrase + preposition "on" + adverb degree	3	… resulting in a reciprocal effect on each other. (47) (others data from: 49, 39)
12.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + exclamation	1	… facilitation of information on how they …(47)
13.	Adverb clause + preposition "on" + gerund	1	…there is less emphasis on transmitting information …(57)
14.	Adjective clause + preposition "on" + gerund phrase	1	… as well as on exploring attitudes…(57)
15.	Verb + conjuction + preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	… conducted based on the context of situation … (2)
16.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + noun		…greatest effects on the professionalism … (6)
17.	Passive sentence + preposition "on"+ preposition "on"	1	…will be presented on what teachers …(6)
18.	preposition "on" + compliment	1	… on what they have experienced…(8)
19.	Noun clause +	1	… who take control on most of

	preposition "on" +adverb degree		the values …(9)

From the table above, there are 19 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "on" with type of occasion section. There are some examples of using the preposition "on" with type of occasion which the researcher found from the book. All of them showed that occasion told about the specific something that happen. Preposition "on" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

c. Location

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Example
1.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	considerable research on the nature of language …(6)
2.	Gerund + preposition "on" + noun phrase	2	… deciding on the focus in presentation…(8) (33)
3.	To infinitive + preposition "on" + adverb of place	1	… to go on to university study in English.(34)
4.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + noun	1	… a group consensus on the answers.(60)
5.	Noun clause + preposition "on"+ adverb of place	1	The current study focuses on the Faculty of Arts …(583)
6.	Adverb manner + preposition "on"+ noun phrase	1	… focuses mainly on secondary schools and private institutes.(590)
7.	Verb phrase + preposition "on" + possessive pronoun	3	… trained to reflect on their classroom …(596) (192, 68)
8.	Noun clause + preposition "on" +	1	There are four classes registered on English Education Study

			Program…(50)
9.	Noun + preposition "on" + adverb manner + noun	1	…EFL teachers on the centrally-mandated curriculum …(4)
10.	Adjevtive phrase+ preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	…good scores on the part of students' learning …(9)
11.	Verb + preposition "on" + noun	4	…focuses only on reading…(9) (193,96,54)

From the table above, there are 11 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "on" with type of location section. There are some examples of using the preposition "on" with type of location which the researcher found from the 4 books. All of them showed the location is used to refer to a place where something or someone is located.

d. Position

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example
1.	Adjective phase + preposition "on" + noun	11	… the strongest effect on the design …(4) (5, 10, 46, 62, 66, 80, 86, 115, 133, 199)
2.	To infinitive + preposition "on"+ noun	1	…to move on to academic … (5)
3.	To infinitive + adverb degree + preposition "on" + noun	4	…to keep some check on vocabulary…(8) (others data from :73, 144, 180)
4.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + noun	1	… the text available on a computer …(44)

5.	Verb + preposition "on" noun phrase	2	…and put on cards or in plastic bags.(54) (other data from: 59)
6.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + verb phrase	7	… person to person depending on the language spoken ….(581) (others data from : 593, 5, 82, 104, 166, 199)
7.	Noun phrase + preposition "on" + gerund phrase+ adverb of place	6	… empirical study on Code Switching in India …(584) (others data from : 585, 586, 587, 588, 589)
8.	Article noun + preposition "on" + noun phrase	1	… a study on the use of L1 …(586)
9.	Gerund + preposition "on" +noun	6	… depending on the topic and the situation.(588) (others data from : 65, 115, 117, 585, 581)
10.	Noun phrase + preposition "on"+ noun phrase	2	…quantities depended on the language proficiency …(593) (other data from : 50)
11.	be +verb + preposition "on" + adverb phrase	11	… be focused on interaction in the classroom…(47) (others data from : 5, 45, 59, 84, 111, 113, 145, 198, 583, 593)
12.	Noun + conjunction + preposition "on"+noun phrase	2	… a discussion based on students' ideas …(48) (other data from : 157)
13.	Verb + tobe + preposition "on"+ noun + gerund phrase	4	… the focus is on the students and the process of learning…(56) (others data from : 7, 204, 86)
14.	Noun + preposition "on"+ noun phrase	3	… disorientation on the part of teachers…(4) (others data from : 9, 12)

15.	Noun + preposition "on" + gerund + noun clause	3	policy on the teaching of EFL in Indonesia's schooling system…(4) (others data from : 5, 46)
16.	Gerund phrase + preposition "on" + noun	1	…learning process based on text types/genres…(7)
17.	Noun clause + preposition "on" + gerund	3	…its focus on writing skills. (7) (others data from : 193, 29)
18.	Noun + preposition "on" + noun	1	…students in deciding on the topics …(12)

From the table above, there are 18 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "on" with type of position section. There are some examples of using the preposition "on" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. All of them showed that position "on" told about the level, condition, proficiency people, something, any object, etc. Preposition "on" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

3. Variations of Syntactic Behavior of Preposition "at"

In this section researcher have categorized prepositions based on the types above. The researcher described variations of syntactic behavior in the preposition "at" base on the type of time, occasion, location and position. The researcher took several sentences which represents the preposition "on.

a. Time

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example
1.	Verb + preposition "on"+ adverb of time	1	… focused **on** today…(45)
2.	Noun + preposition "on"+ adverb of time	1	… material **on that day…(54)**

From the table above, there are 2 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "at" with type of time section. There are some examples of using the preposition "at" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. Both of them showed that time told about whenever something happen. Preposition "at" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

b. Occasion

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Example
1.	Gerund + preposition "at" + article + noun	1	…looking **at** the factors …(15)
2.	Noun phrase + conjuction + preposition "at" + comparison verb	1	…language items and skills but **at** a rather superficial level…(21)
3.	Verb phrase + preposition "at" + gerund	4	… activities aimed **at** increasing the fluency…(55) (others data from : 40, 83, 90)
4.	Subject + modals + verb + preposition at + noun phrase	4	…teachers can aim **at** developing autonom…(44) (others data from : 58, 124, 583)
5.	Past participle + preposition for + gerund + preposition "at" + noun phrase	2	… presented for learning **at** the same time…(65) (other data from : 50)
6.	Noun phrase + conjunction + verb + preposition "at" + noun phrase	1	… English language that aim **at** improving students' language skills …(583)

7.	Subject + prepositon at + modals + be + past participle + preposition in + noun phrase	1	… teachers **at** will should be discouraged in the classroom. (588)
8.	Past participle + preposition "at" + adjective prhase	1	…kept **at** a level below …(588)
9.	Preposition to + verb + preposition "at" + modals + verb + article + noun phrase	1	… to codeswitch **at** will may pose a number of problems…(588)
10.	Past participle +preposition "at" + article + noun	9	… looked **at** the occurrence …(590) (others data from : 19, 97, 104, 105, 132, 147, 176, 178)
11.	Subject + verb + preposition "at" + gerund + noun phrase	1	The research **aims at analyzing** teacher talk…(1)
12.	Pronoun it + be + past participle + preposition "at" + gerund article + noun	1	It is **aimed at describing** the classroom interaction …(56)
13.	Subject + has + past participle + preposition "at" + adjective + noun phrase	19	Indonesia has witnessed **at least** nine times …(3) (others data from : 13, 36, 55, 56, 60, 85, 114, 116, 117, 119, 126, 127, 134, 137, 142, 156, 180, 200)

14.	subject + be + past participle + conjuction + preposition "at"+ adjective + being + past participle	1	It is already the time that teachers and students were involved (or **at least being consulted…(13)**

From the table above, there are 14 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "at" with type of occasion section. There are some examples of using the preposition "at" with type of occasion which the researcher found from the 4 books. All of them showed that occasion told about the specific something that happen. Preposition "at" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

c. Location

No	Patterns	Corcondance	Example
1.	Gerund + preposition "at" + gerund phrase + adverb of place	1	Reading **at** home and reporting to the class.(55)
2.	Noun phrase + preposition "at" +adverb of place	4	… experience of teachers **at** the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of State in the United States.(21) (others data from : 14, 196, 588)
3.	Noun phrase + gerund + preposition "at" +adverb of place	33	Environment analysis involves looking **at** the local …(22) (others data from: 3, 15, 20, 29, 31, 30, 33, 37, 41, 51, 56, 62, 72, 86, 96, 97, 105, 120, 121, 129, 138, 160, 162, 181, 186, 190, 193, 194, 200, 201,

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example
			205, 587)
4.	Adverb of manner + noun phrase +preposition "at" + adverb of place	2	… learners *regularly* do such activity **at** home.(55) (other data from : 61)
5.	Adverb phase + preposition "at" + noun + adverb of place	1	…fluency development **at** a conference in Cambodia.(196)
6.	Gerund phrase + preposition "at" + adverb of place	2	…the teaching of English **at** elementary, secondary and tertiary levels.(581) (other data from : 92)
7.	Past tense + preposition "at" + adverb of place	1	… taught **at** school…(581)
8.	Noun +preposition "at"+ noun phrase +adverb	1	… conditions **at** a single point in time.(591)
9.	Noun phase + preposition "at"+ adverb of place	1	…examine teacher talk **at the Speaking Class…(47)**
10.	noun+preposition "at"+ noun	1	**education at provincial level…** (5)
11.	Gerund + noun pharse +preposition "at"+ noun clause	1	The teaching of English as a Foreign **Language at these levels** of schooling …(5)

From the table above, there are 11 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "a" with type of location section. There are some examples of using the preposition "at" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. The preposition "at" showed the location is used to refer to a place where something or someone is located.

d. Position

No	Patterns	corcondance	Example

1.	Noun phrase + preposition "at" +	1	… three consecutive cards **at** a level...(23)
2.	Noun phrase + preposition "at" + noun phrase	1	…a variety of perspectives **at** a variety of times.(31)
3.	Verb phrase + preposition "at" + noun phrase + adjective	1	… needs analysis **at** the end of a course is useful.(31)
4.	Modal + Verb phrase + preposition "at" + noun phrase	2	The principle can be applied **at** all levels of language.(45) (other data from : 10)
5.	Noun + preposition "at" + noun phrase	1	… a learner **at** the end of a course.(117)
6.	Modal + verb + preposition "at" + noun phrase	6	…can occur **at** both inter- and intra-sentential levels. (584) (others data from : 11, 48, 56, 112, 151)
7.	Gerund + preposition "at" + noun phrase	32	When looking **at** all these studies…(587) (others data from : 3, 15, 20, 22, 29, 31, 33, 37, 47, 51, 56, 62, 72, 85, 96, 97, 105, 120, 121, 129, 138, 160, 162, 181, 186, 190, 193, 194, 200, 201, 205)
8.	Noun clause + preposition "at" + noun clause	4	No intervention is done **at** any stage.(592) (others data from : 1, 2, 157)
9.	Noun clause + preposition "at" + adjective clause + noun + noun clause	64	…the language have a tendency to look **at** the ones who are masters of the language with mixed emotions. (595) (others data from : 13, 14, 23, 25,

			23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 38, 44, 45, 49, 50, 62, 66, 69, 70, 77, 78, 86, 87, 88, 95, 97, 102, 108, 110, 111, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 127, 128, 129, 132, 134, 135, 137, 138, 141, 143, 147, 150, 158, 160, 161, 170, 171, 172, 174, 175, 176, 179, 181, 184, 187, 189, 198, 199)
10.	Noun clause + preposition "at" + noun clause	1	…the classroom **evaluate at the end of each meeting. (58)**
11.	noun phrase + preposition "at" + noun phrase	1	…EFL teachers **both at policy and practical levels**. (1)
12.	Verb + preposition "at"+ noun phrase	2	…**changes at the system level** … (4) (others data from: 3)

From the table above, there are 12 syntactic pattrens that often appear in this preposition "at" with type of position section. There are some examples of using the preposition "at" with type of time which the researcher found from the four books. The preposition "at" showed that position told about the level, condition, proficiency people, something, any object, etc. Preposition "at" in those sentences insisted the condition clearly.

The researcher found that syntactic behavior is the way to arrange the sentences by using existing rules. This research described what the variations of syntactic behavior of preposition "in, on and at" are. The researcher found that syntactic behavior was the used of grammatical structure or rules for establishing a correct sentence. Syntactic behavior was the rules of a language to make correct sentences. A preposition is a word (usually a short word) that shows the relationship between two other nearby words. In a sentence, there were usually found preposition "in, on, and at."

B. The meaning of preposition "in, on, and at" in syntactic structure

Those findings described by following sentence the researcher found:

Number	**Statement**

1.	Nunan (1992) quoting Jaeger (1988), states that questionnaires are capable of providing a 'snapshot' of prevailing conditions at a single point **in time.** (591)
2.	**In other words**, in order to utilize L1 as a tool, it is important that principles be established for the use of it in the classroom. (596)
3.	**…in light** of this, it is recommended that ESL teachers take these into consideration whe`n using L1 in their language teaching pedagogy.(597)
4.	**Adding on to this**, Jingxia (2009) claims that sometimes a lexical gap resulting from a lack of semantic congruence …(585)

preposition "in, on and at" explains that sometimes has a different meaning from its own context. What must be known is that prepositions in sentences always take the form of prepositional phrases. prepositional phrase is a combination of words where preposition as the core of the combined word. Mostly it was called prepositional prhrase referring to a group of words which are made up from a preposition, the object of the preposition and words which modify that object. In most instances, the prepositional phrase is used to modify either a noun or a verb. The use of the prepositional phrase to modify a noun or a verb is known as either an adjectival phrase or an adverbial phrase, respectively.

The meaning of preposition "in, on and at" in the syntactic structure made some prepositions could not be interpreted easily. That prepositions must be considered clearly for knowing the real meaning of the sentences. The meaning of preposition must be considered by syntactic structure for avoiding meaningless.

The uses of preposition "in, on, at" in syntactic structure have distinguished meaning. The meaning of preposition "in, on, at" in syntactic structure is based on the context of sentence. In one of preposition, such as preposition "in", is having several meaning. That is why the researcher conducted to analysis the sentence as whole. Based on the description above, the researcher concluded that syntactic structure is depending on meaning of the preposition "in, on, at."

CONCLUSION

From those books the researcher makes conclusion that variations of syntactic behavior in preposition "in, on and at" have their own place namely; time, occasion, location and position. Syntactic behavior also has a function to relate the preposition with its use. It is the common rule to use syntactic behavior in using those prepositions. That is why it called syntactic behavior.

The researcher also makes conclution about the meaning of preposition "in, on, and at" in syntactic structure. The meaning of preposition "in, on and at" has distingused meaning in every sentences based on context. In one preposition, such as preposition "in" it has several meanings. Preposition "in, on and at" are often found in sentences that explain time, occasion, location, and position.

A. SUGESSTION

After analyzing the data and making conclusion, the researcher has some suggestions of preposition ïn,on and at". To make a good sentence the writer should be aware to the rules of sentence that would be used. One preposition has different meanings. pay attention to the variations of what prepositions you want to use. Prepositions are words that connect several components in a sentence. This word can connect phrases, subject substitutes, and nouns. Its use in sentences has various meanings. It also can be used to mark the place, time, direction, and introduce an object.

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