1.1. Background of the Study

When people write or speak in a language, they deliver meaning so that people who read their writing or people whom they talk to can understand them. Therefore, we can consider that language is used to make meaning. Showing how language is related to its use and how meanings are built up through the use of words are the main concerns of functional linguistic. It indicates that there are three important elements as the main object of the systemic functional theory: language, meaning and grammar.

With language, functional diversification is modeled through metafunctions - ideational, interpersonal and textual. Ideational function is concerned with representation. Ideational function is divided into experiental and logical function. Interpersonal function is concerned with interaction, and textual function is concerned with information flow (Martin & Christie : 2000, 13). These metafunctions have a systemic relationship with the lexicogrammar of the language.

Each function is realized by different system. Textual function is realized through theme system. Interpersonal function is realized through the system of mood. Ideational function is realized through transitivity. There are three important elements in transitivity system. They are: circumstances, processes and participants. Circumstances represent time, place, manner, cause, accompaniment, matter and role. Participants attend the circumstances and do the process. Process can be
regarded as various actions. There are indeed six different process types identified by Halliday: material, mental, relational, behavioural, verbal and existential.

The relationship between language metafunctions and lexicogrammar shows that meaning and grammar have a connection in arranging texts. There are many types of text that people know. Some of them are recount, report, analytical exposition, narrative, procedure, anecdote, description, explanation, discussion, news and many more.

These various types of text are called genre. Moreover, the term ‘genre’ refers to different types of texts that enact various types of social contexts. Gerot & Wignell said that genre is defined as a culturally specific text-type which results from using language (written or spoken) to (help) accomplish something (2001 : 17). Texts of all types have three particular things which have associated with genre:

a. Purposes or goals of the text
b. Schematic structures of the text
c. Lexicogrammatical choices of the text

One of many existing genres which interests the writer is news genre. According to Gerot and Wignell (2001 : 200), news genre is a type of text which function is to inform readers, listeners or viewers about events of the day which are considered newsworthy or important. The reason why the writer chooses news genre to analyze is due to the need of information as human being. News provides us important information about what is going on, why, when, how and who gets involved. News also can influence, persuade and entertain people.
Generally, news genre exists in articles of newspaper and magazine. In this study, the writer chooses Time online magazine’s political articles as the source of data. The online edition is chosen because it is more actual, more up to date, easier to access, and cheaper than the printed edition. In this online edition, there are many articles with various topics. There are US News, politics, world news, business, technology, health, science and entertainment. The reason why the writer chooses political articles is due to challenging issue of political news. Politics is a topic that many people around the world are fond of, since it portrays human problems in the real life situation. Politics also can provoke people with its news. Political news encourages people to view things from different perspectives so that we can be more critical.

In this study, the writer chooses to analyze the transitivity process and the schematic structure in six political articles of Time online magazine. The reason why the writer chooses to analyze the schematic structure of news genre is due to the particular stages that genre should have to achieve its goal. It is important to know what stages a text should pass through to get its goal so that we can learn how to arrange a good news text. The transitivity process is chosen to analyze due to the important role of grammar to build up a text. Through the choice of verbal groups, we can understand the events in the news.

The underlying theory which is applied in the analysis of transitivity process is called the systemic functional theory by M.A.K. Halliday and the analysis of news genre’s schematic structure applies J.R Martin’s model of genre which is developed by Linda Gerot and Peter Wignell.
1.2. Problem of the Study

From the preceding background, there are two problems which are focusing in this study. The problems are as follows:

1. What kind of transitivity process occur in Time online magazine’s six political articles?
2. What schematic structures of news genre occur in Time online magazine’s six political articles?

1.3. Objective of the Study

In regards to the problems of the study, the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out and identify types of transitivity process which occur in Time online magazine’s six political articles by referring to systemic-functional theory by M.A.K Halliday.
2. To find out and analyze the schematic structures of news genre which occur in Time online magazine’s six political articles by referring to genre model by J.R Martin which developed by Linda Gerot and Peter Wignell.

1.4. Scope of the Study

With regards to the problems and objectives of the study, the writer has to limit the scope of the study. Therefore, the writer focuses on the analysis of the schematic structure and transitivity process of news genre which exist in six selected political articles. Those articles were taken from six different days of Time online magazine’s publications. The first political article is entitled “Senate Renews Ban on Plastic Guns, Rejects Expanded Restrictions” published on December 09, 2013. The
second political article is entitled “White House Touting Mental Health Funding After Sandy Hook School Shooting” published on December 10, 2013. The third article is entitled “Pivotal Senator Backs Out of Iran Sanctions Push” published on December 11, 2013. The fourth article is entitled “Senator Will Fast To Support Immigration Reform” published on December 12, 2013. The fifth article is entitled “Women in Federal Workforce Face More Obstacles Than Men” published on December 13, 2013. The sixth article is entitled “Newtown Anniversary Comes One Painful Day Early For Obama” published on December 14, 2013.

1.5. Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected to enrich more studies which discuss the discourse analysis study in terms of transitivity and genre analysis.

Practically, this study may also be used as a reference to scholars who are studying discourse analysis, especially in method of analysis of the schematic structure and transitivity process of news genre.