

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Language is a tool or facility for a human being in a part of communication with others. In a social life, language is the key of life when language is applied for interaction in daily life. People use language to express their feelings, ideas, emotions, thoughts and to deliver information.

Wierzbicka state, the function of language that is as a convey meaning (Wierzbicka, 1996: 3). Meaning held an important role in communication. People have successful in communication if they understand well about the meaning. Usually, people communicate by spoken and written ways. Spoken communication is communication happens directly and it is not limited by distance, where two parties can meet face-to-face, for example, dialogue two people, interview or meeting and so on. While written Communication is communication carried out in the form of letters and used to convey the news.

Written communication is more difficult than an understanding of a spoken communication form. Because if the listeners do not understand what we say, they can ask as directly what we mean as to confirm. On the other hand, a reader cannot ask directly to a writer of the letter, book, magazine and newspaper or other written media when the reader does not understand what the writers wrote.

Nowadays, there are many media, whether electronic or printed media to share information. People can get the information about the development of the world and everything happens in a day. As means of communication, both printed and electronic media hold an important role to the development of language. They become a source for people to get factual information or news, whether national or international news because nowadays printed and electronic media are more global. As an international language, English also holds an important role in the development of globalization that is as a means of communication in business, politic, science and technology. There are many English News TV programs, radio talk shows, entertainment, advertisements, songs, newspapers and magazines, especially daily newspaper, has a big contribution for people. People can get information about local or international events every day because the news and information are up to date.

Considering the importance of media in social life sometime people can have many interpretations from the text that they read in media. Here, the researcher found

text of Jakarta Post that can lead the readers having two interpretations. “Sandiaga **upbeat** to win election first round” This has posted on February 8, 2017. The text tells us about Sandiaga ambition but the word **upbeat** in the text may have two meaning according to online dictionary Thesaurus.com.

- a. Confident
- b. Hopefully

The readers can interpret the word “upbeat” into confident or hopefully. The first interpretation: Sandiaga feels **confident** to win the election on the first round. It means, Sandiaga believes that he will win for the first round. Meanwhile the second interpretation is Sandiaga **hopefully** to win the election on the first round.

As we can see from example of above, it is usually happened in articles especially Jakarta Post, so that the researcher assumes that it need to do a research to avoid misinterpretation. Generally, the journalist tries to give perfect, complete and accurate information for people. The accuracy of the article is determined by the sentences which refer to the words structural. However, words structure and sentence structure can lead to be ambiguous even though they are grammatically correct.

According to leech, an expression is said to be ambiguous when more than one interpretation can be assigned to it (leech, 1981: 30). This ambiguous expression can happen in one word or one phrase/ sentence. That’s known as lexical and structural ambiguity. Ulmann states, ambiguity divides into three kinds, those are; phonetic, grammatical and lexical (Ulmann, 1977: 256). Here, the researcher focus to analyze lexical, grammatical and also the casual factor of ambiguity in Jakarta Post. This has many lexical and structural ambiguity data.

As we can see, Jakarta Post is a daily English news paper in Indonesia with an average circulation of around 40,000 copies; its largest English newspapers in Indonesia Eklöf, Stefan (2003). And it has been known well by the common people. There are some section offered by this news such as international, national, city, business, and sport, politic and so on. International: Presents news about events happening around the world. National: contains political, legal, health, religious, and educational news. City: contains everything that happens in Jakarta. Business: all about macroeconomics, microeconomics, and international business. Sports: everything related to sports.

In this research, the researcher chose political news because he can find the type and casual factor of ambiguity. Beside, Jakarta election on 2017 is much different than before. Many people state that Jakarta election seem like presidential election. All parties follow the election process from Sabang until Merauke.

According to political analysis Arif Susanto called the year 2017 as the year of hate politics. It can be found the head line of Kompas.com (12/08/2016, 21:04 WIB) "DKI Jakarta Political Dynamics Shows Political Fear". Another example in Padarnews (17 Oktober 2017: 11:38:44 WIB) "Political Dynamics in DKI Jakarta Shows Political Fear". It also can be proven by the data from Bawaslu DKI which has 308 cases during the Jakarta election. Musni Umar state Jakarta as the center of social, political, and economic. While if Jakarta experiencing a security disturbance, immediately give a negative impact to the entire line of life not only in Jakarta, but also throughout Indonesia. That why media plays an important role to calm the situation but in fact that sometime the author makes ambiguity words to create a certain situation. So this research is very important to be conducted to give the true meaning to the readers.

1.2 Research Problem

According to the background of study above, the researcher intend following question as follows:

1. What is the type of ambiguity found in Jakarta Post?
2. What is the causal factor of ambiguity found in Jakarta Post?

1.3 Scope of the Research

In analyzing of The Jakarta Post here, the researcher focuses on type and the casual factor of ambiguity in the Jakarta Post. The data of this research are taken from the article of The Jakarta Post issued from January to July 2017. After selecting the data, the data will be analyzed focusing on type and casual factor of ambiguity.

1.4 Research Objectives

Base on the research problem above, the researcher intend following answer as follows:

1. To analyze the type of ambiguity in Jakarta Post.
2. To analyze the casual factor of ambiguity in Jakarta Post.

1.5 Research Benefit

By doing the research, the researcher expects this research can be useful for everyone. The research benefit is as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

- a) The researcher expects this research can be used to other researcher as a reference and also as relevant type of study.
 - b) The researcher who applies the theories make the theories long last.
 - c) The researcher gives widen example of lexical and structural ambiguity in The Jakarta post
 - d) The researcher gives references of ambiguity to be learned by students who have relevant study.
2. Practical Benefit
- a) To the readers
The finding is expected to enrich understanding of semantics especially lexical and structural ambiguity
 - b) The students of English Education Department
The finding expected to develop students of English Education Department knowledge in semantics.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To make the reader easy to understand, there are some terms that researcher use:

1. Semantics : (Patrick Griffiths, 2006: 21) states, semantics is the study of context-independent knowledge that users of a language have of word and sentence meaning. Semantics is the study of the relationship between linguistics form and entities in the world; that is, how words literally connect to things (George Yule, 1996: 5).
2. Meaning : Idea or concepts, which can be transferred from the Mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them. Leech states that the word “meaning” is described in various definitions by semanticists, for instance, Leech (1981: 23).
3. Lexical Meaning : The smallest meaning unit in the meaning system of Language that can be distinguished from other similar Units. Lexical meaning is meaning that possessed by a lexeme without any context, it is the actual thing that is observed through human sense (Chaer, 1994: 289). For example, the lexeme,

‘cat’ according to lexical meaning, ‘cats’ a small furry animal with four legs, a tail and mustache. Another example ‘house’ according to lexical meaning, the building made for people to live in.

4. Grammatical ambiguity : (Samsuri, 1987: 14) states that, grammatical meaning is the meaning about the way the word which is carried by the form of the word. Grammatical meaning is usually called structural meaning, or meaning which is used in sentence composition. Grammatical meaning is meaning that possibly a stem because of grammatical process, such as affixation or tense. For example, in the Affixation of suffix –s attached to a stem ‘book’ produces ‘books’.
5. Ambiguity : According to Cann, Sentence is said ambiguous if the sentence related to two or more different meanings (1993:8). Christopher Kennedy states that ambiguity has played a central role in the development of semantic theory by providing crucial data for both building and evaluating theories of lexical representation and semantic composition (2009: 15).
6. The Jakarta Post : Jakarta Post is a daily English language in Indonesia with an average circulation of around 70,000 copies; its largest English newspapers in Indonesia. Jakarta Post has been known well by the common people.