

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED REVIEW

This chapter covers the main points that related to the study, they are linguistics, semantic, the meaning of ambiguity, lexical ambiguity, structural ambiguity, Hello English magazine, and previous study.

2.1 Linguistics

General linguistics is concerned with human languages as a universal and recognizable part of human behavior and of the human abilities (Nasr, 1978:4). It is perhaps one of the most essential to human life; it is also one of the human capabilities on all mankind's activities.

Other resources said linguistic is the scientific study of human languages. Some of the areas that linguists can be described as: phonetics and phonology (the analysis of language structure focusing on the sound patterns of language), morphology (the structure of words), syntax (the structure of sentences), semantics (the interpretation of words and sentences) or typology (the pattern of variation observed in the structures of a broad range of the world's language (Alberta, 2001.)

In short, Linguistics refers to many aspects that are expressed in language, code or other form of representation. One of the elements is semantic.

2.2 Semantic

In linguistics, semantic is the subfield that is devoted the study of meaning. Thus a semantic theory has not only capture the nature of the relation,

between word meaning and sentence meaning, but it must be able to state in what ways this relation is dependent on word-order or other aspect of grammatical structure of sentence. Not only this but both words and sentences can be ambiguous, and in different ways (Kempson,1977 : 3)

Dealing with semantics, there are three conditions which a semantic components appear such as:

1. It must characterize the nature of word meaning and sentence meaning for an language and explain the nature of the relation between them.
2. It must be able to predict the ambiguity in the forms of language, whether in words or sentences.
3. It must characterize and explain the systematic relations between words and between sentences of a language (Kempson 1977: 4).

In short, semantic covers word or sentence meaning that one of them occur in ambiguous language.

2.3 Ambiguity

All languages depend on words and sentences in constructive meaning. Every word and sentence is conventionally associated with at least one meaning. However, one of the fundamental facts about words and sentences is that, many of them in our languages have more than one meaning. According to Hong Qi (2001) an utterance, a word or phrase within a sentence or sentence itself may be ambiguous when more than one sense can be assigned to it, that is to say ambiguity occurs when such utterance can be understood in two or more distinct sense. Its mean that it is universally recognized and demonstrable fact that many

of acceptable utterances of English are ambiguous because they can be in interpreted in two or more different ways.

Ambiguity exists where a single form has two or more entirely distinct meaning (Katamba et, al : 1989). According to his, ambiguity takes place when a single form of word or sentence can be interpreted in two or more interpretation. The interpretation itself must be different from one to another.

Kempson (1977), defines ambiguity as words or sentences which have more than one meaning. Based on his statement, he clearly states that ambiguity is caused by words or sentences in which they can be interpreted in more than one meaning.

Chaer, (1994) defines ambiguity in *Pengantar Semantik Bahasa Indonesia* is a word or a sentence which have double meanings. According to him, ambiguity can be a word or a sentence which have more than one meaning.

According to Grinder (2002), linguistics theorist have identified into two main types, lexical ambiguity and structural ambiguity.

2.3.1 Lexical Ambiguity

Words are organized into relatively small number of lexical. Lexical Ambiguity arises when context is insufficient to determine the sense of a single word that has more than one meaning, (www.wikipedia.ambiguity). Lexical ambiguity is the double or multiple meaning come from the meaning of the words themselves (Katamba et, al 1989 ; 174). It means that lexical ambiguity related to lexicon condition that has more than one meaning.

Words that is called lexical ambiguity will stand by it self without see the words before or after it. Different with structural ambiguity appears depends on the words, phrses or sentence which stand and before or after them. So far in the example : “I went to the bank”. The word “bank” has several meaning including “financial institution” and “edge of the river”, but if someone says “I deposited \$100 in the bank”, the intended meaning is clear. Another example the word “good“ can mean “useful” or “functional” (*That’s a good hammer*), “exemplary” (*She’s a good student*), “pleasing” (*This is good soup*).

In short, we should know first the meaning than we can conclude the word is called lexical ambiguity because it happens as the result of vocabulary or words which have two or more the different meaning.

2.3.2 Structural Ambiguity

Another type of ambiguity is structural ambiguity because it is based on the structure. Some sentences are structurally since their component words can be arranged into phrases in more than one. This to be distinguished from lexical which is the meaning of the words themselves. According to Fromkin (1978 : 77) state that “sentences are structurally ambiguous when the structure of the sentences permits more than one interpretation rather than the words in the sentences”. The statement shows that structural ambiguity is caused by the structures which have more than one interpretation.

Bach states that structural ambiguity occurs when a phrase or sentence has more than one underlying structure. It means that it occurs when one more than syntactic structure can be associated with a sequence of words.

2.3.2.1 Revealing of Structural Ambiguity

To ease identification of the characteristic of structural ambiguity, the researcher reflect from some expert. They define ambiguity as follows:

1. Katamba (1989) further issue that it can be simply explained by “what modifier what” to reveal the ambiguity as an illustration is given as follow;

Annie whacked a man with an umbrella

From the sentence above, the prepositional phrase (PP) with an umbrella construct ambiguity. The possible interpretations are:

1. Annie had an umbrella and she whacked a man with it.
 2. Annie whacked a man and the man happened to be carrying an umbrella.
2. Hurford and Heasley (1983 ; 121) on Handayani's thesis issues that a word or a sentence is ambiguous when it has more than one sense. A sentence is ambiguous if it has two (or more) paraphrases which are not themselves paraphrases of each other. For example:

Visiting relatives can be boring

The possible paraphrases for this structurally ambiguous sentence are:

1. It can be boring to visit relatives.
 2. Relatives who are visiting can be boring.
3. Hurford and Heasley (1983:123) further argue that a sentence which is ambiguous because the word related to each other in different way. Even none of the individual words are ambiguous is structurally (grammatically) ambiguous, for example is *the chicken is ready to eat* none of the words in this sentence are ambiguous but it can be interpreted into two different ways.

1. The chicken is ready to eat something
2. The chicken is ready to be eaten by someone.

Based on the characteristic above, the researcher assumes that there are some other characteristics can be also defined as described below:

First : The sentence is ambiguous because relative pronoun.

Example : *Some people with a child who need help*

Meaning one : Some people who need a help are with a child

Meaning two : A child himself who needs a help.

Second: The sentence is structurally ambiguous when the stress is applied.

Example : *The English history teacher is having her tea.*

Meaning one : The teacher of English history who is having her tea.

Meaning two : The teacher who is having her tea is English.

Third : In complete sentence (without subject)

Example : *Wanna ask you something.*

Meaning one : Someone who wants to accept something from you.

Meaning two : Someone who wants to propose a question from you.

Fourth : The use of dash (-) inappropriate word phrases (without fragment of word).

Example : *I'm Dian, 14-year-old-girl, from Kediri.*

Meaning one : A girl whose age is 14 years.

Meaning two : A girl whose age is 14 belongs to an old girl.

Fifth : The use of word, phrases, sentence in certain field (register).

Example : *I like to reading you, coz it can increase my English.*

Meaning one : There are lot of “englishes” and they can be increased by reading magazine.

Meaning two : There are lot of competences in English and they can be increased by reading magazine.

Sixth : Different grammatical structural interpretation.

Example : *I'm new reader.*

Meaning one : I am a new reader of certain magazine.

Meaning two : I have just been able to read so that I am new reader.

In short, the most important thing is focusing the attention on the context rather than the word themselves is in structural ambiguity because it happens or caused by whole components of sentence. Words must be framed in the one the unity of a sentence. It means that the grammatical pattern is quite influence in sentence composition.

2.4 Hello English Magazine

Hello English Magazine is published monthly by Widya Niti Bahasa Foundation to provide English learners of any background study (especially youth) with good reading materials in learning English (Hello English magazine). Since its establishment in 1987 magazine has developed into a prestigious magazine respected for its independent views and bold coverage of various content. It is also sustained by experienced journalist and editorial staffs who have excellent skill in English.

For the business target side, a special material was set up to help manage learning English especially for youth. The objective of the publication was to present to the public a magazine of the highest quality that would provide it readers with all the news that was not only fit to print, but that would deepen their insight into the learning English by improving the good reading materials as members of the great family of magazine.

2.4.1 Organization Materials in Hello English Magazine

Hello English magazine published in fifty two pages. The pages of Hello English magazine can be divided up into some section. The division of the paper can be described as follows:

1. Headlines

This section contains of the hottest issues covered by famous people and taken from major global material. The content may derive from various materials.

This section is on page 1 – 3.

2. Readers' Forum

The content of this section are various opinion or suggestion gathered by letter writer sent by the readers. This section is placed on page 4 – 5.

3. Jokes

This section contains joke that reports events or situation that make smile or laugh, in which taken from website.

4. Music

The content of this section are solely hot album music. The music is a various kinds such as national and international music in which it is consisting of text songs music.

5. Bookwatch

This section of business covers local and international books.

6. Features

This section is divided up into two subsections; First features: Portpourri containing articles on culture, social life and health. Second features: entertainment containing articles on people, music, and film.

7. Short stories

This section covers stories life any work of fiction, is not real life account but an imagination story.

8. Classified additional

This section contains English test that can be classified according to the kind of background study especially youth to be tested. Besides that, this section also contains poem writing contest, teen slang dictionary, quotation etc.

2.5 Previous Study

The researcher reviews the research by Nur Ifa Handayani (2006), the students of Muhammadiyah University of Gresik entitled “*An Analysis of Ambiguity on Wallace Stevens Selected Poetry*”. In her study of ambiguity in poetry, she analyzed 35 structural ambiguities and 20 lexical ambiguities from

seven poems of Wallace Steven in 1879 – 1955. In her theory she classified ambiguity into two lexical and structural ambiguities.

In regard of the study of ambiguity on poem that Handayani did, the researcher gets input on the theory and the methods that Handayani did. In this study, the writer classifies both types of ambiguity, lexical and structural ambiguity, in which Handayani analyzed on the poem. Actually this study takes subject which is most of the text seem not to be complicated text compared with poem but it is so familiar in this modern world while the writer takes the articles of readers' forum column of Hello English magazine. It has a special value as well as plays an important role in the human life because modern society can not live no longer without getting it, since it fulfills their necessity on information.