

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Ambiguity is a condition in a word or sentence that has two or more possible meanings. It is commonplace in language that often occurs in conversation and media in daily life one of which is the movie. People frequently mishear or misinterpret words that sound similar or have different meanings in conversation, especially in movies. As a result, there is miscommunication or misbelief occurs among listeners and readers. On the other hand, ambiguity can be beneficial when creating literary works such as poetry, music, and fairy tales. It intentionally gives a different interpretation and an interesting impression of the work due to the confusion of words or sentences.

Words or sentences that appear ambiguous usually have a different meaning than the previous meaning. It will happen as long as the individual has not mastered a language with a large vocabulary. Hurford and Heasley (2007) proposed classifying ambiguity into two types: lexical ambiguity and structural ambiguity (p. 128). Lexical ambiguity refers to words that have more than one meaning, whereas structural ambiguity comes from phrases, clauses, or sentences with different concepts.

From a lexical and structural perspective, the study will look at the meanings of language that exist in language forms, including words, phrases, sentences, and discourses. One field in this study specifically investigates

Meaning, called semantics. It is critical to avoid using ambiguous words so that the message or information's recipient understands what the sender means. Kreidler (1998) states that the systematic study of meaning is semantics, and linguistic semantics is the study of how languages organize and express meaning (p. 3). Overall, the semantics demonstrate how the language conveys meaning and information to others.

As is known, linguistics is the study of language. In general, linguistics does not only study a language. Aside from semantics, there are several related branches, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and pragmatics. As a result, language as a communication tool is critical for humans to communicate in everyday life. Nowadays, foreign languages, particularly English, are used in various contexts because it is an international language spoken almost everywhere in the world.

One of the literary works is a movie. The writer chose to examine the movie "Captain America: The Winter Soldier 2014" for lexical and structural ambiguity. Because there are various interpretations of the movie, the writer will explain the exact meaning in ambiguous conversations. As a result, the entire conversation focuses on all the cast talking to one another. The research on ambiguous lexical is focused on polysemy and homonyms then seen from words that have the same spelling or sound but have different meanings, while structural is seen in phrases, sentences, and contexts.

The movie tells about a man who lived in the era of World War II who had extraordinary powers named Steve Rogers. After decades of suspended

animation, he now lives and struggles in the modern world, having risen from his frozen body. He also teamed up with his fellow Avenger and S.H.I.E.L.D agent named Black Widow to face a new threat from a mysterious assassin known as the Winter Soldier. This incident began when Nick Fury the director of S.H.I.E.L.D., secretly sneaked into Rogers' house, and a few minutes later Nick was killed by a mysterious killer, the Winter Soldier, but before he was killed, Nick Fury informed Rogers that SHIELD had been taken over by their enemies. Then, SHIELD branded Rogers as a traitor and the cause of Nick Fury's death so he became a fugitive. Captain America, with the assistance of Black Widow and her new friend, The Falcon, must solve this deadly mystery. However, during the battle, Rogers encounters an unexpected enemy that this Winter Soldier seems to know, as well as Nick Fury, who turns out to be still alive.

Overall, Captain America movie has three sequels. There are Captain America: The First Avenger (2011), The Winter Soldier (2014), and Civil War (2016). The writer finally chose The Winter Soldier as the second movie to study, because based on the first movie has a simpler story that shows ancient times the story of Captain America's formation that uses simple conversations. It is not interesting to research if the third movie, was chosen because it contains many other superhero characters who do not dominate Captain America. Finally, the writer thinks that if those two movies are not chosen, finding ambiguous words, phrases, or sentences that match what the writer desires will be difficult. Meanwhile, there are difficulties in interpreting words and sentences because

several words have not been understood, creating ambiguity, which the writer notices while watching the second movie. Furthermore, the writer believes that this second movie has an interesting and compelling story, so it would be a shame not to examine it.

Captain America: The Winter Soldier released in the United States on April 4, 2014, following a March 13, 2014 premiere in Los Angeles. Anthony and Joe Russo aka Russo Brothers directed the movie, written by Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely, and starred Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Robert Redford, and Samuel L. Jackson. Then, this American superhero movie produced by Marvel Studios, distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, and based on Marvel Comics' Captain America comic book series.

Before it is released to the general society, a movie usually goes through a fairly lengthy and well-planned process. Many things will be shown in the movie, including the actors' acting, the storyline, editing, and, most importantly, the subtitles. All of this must be integrated, consequently that the audience can enjoy and understand the movie. The process of making a movie is certainly not simple, but the main thing is to have a good script.

Based on the phenomena and explanations above, the writer is enthusiastic about conducting research related to ambiguity. This study will analyze words, phrases, or sentences that contain ambiguity found in the Captain America movie script. At last, this study discusses lexical and structural ambiguities in the movie entitled Captain America: The Winter Soldier.

B. Questions and Scopes of the Research

1. Questions of the Research

Based on the background of the research, the writer explains several questions:

- a. What are lexical and structural ambiguities found in the script of The Winter Soldier of Captain America movie?
- b. What are the causal factors of ambiguities found in the script of The Winter Soldier of Captain America movie?

2. Scopes of the Research

In this research, the writer focuses on the topic discussed lexical and structural ambiguities. First analyzed the types of ambiguity based on the theory of Hurford and Heasley (2007, p. 128) which classifies ambiguity into two, lexical and structural ambiguity. Second, the writer uses Ullmann's theory (1972, in Pateda, 2001, pp. 203-206) to analyze the causal factors of ambiguity that contribute to lexical and structural ambiguity. The data for this research are ambiguous sentences taken from The Winter Soldier of Captain America movie in 2014. The source of the data in this research is the transcript with a duration of 2 hours 16 minutes in a 225 pages script from all movie actors.

C. Objective and Significance of the Research

1. Objective of the Research

Based on the problem of the research mentioned above the objectives of the research are described, as follows:

- a. To find out lexical and structural ambiguities found in the script of The Winter Soldier of Captain America movie.
- b. To explain the causal factors of each ambiguity found in the script of The Winter Soldier of Captain America movie.

2. Significance of the Research

The writer hopes that this research will be useful in providing information about semantics material from the field of linguistics, as follows:

- a. For other writers who are interested in analyzing lexical and structural ambiguity in their research. It can provide a useful reference for working on their thesis for further research on ambiguity.
- b. For the student can get a lot of understanding and knowledge about the meaning of an ambiguous sentence from the semantics field.
- c. For these readers to recognize, understand, and apply the use of ambiguity in various situations of daily activities.

D. Operational Definition

After having read and understood several books, the writer provides some operational definitions of terms by including the theory contained in various source books, as follows:

1. Ambiguity

Kreidler (1998) noted that ambiguity is the condition where any linguistic form has two or more interpretations (p. 298). In this study, ambiguity theory is a part of linguistics that focuses on meanings called semantics, which often occur in words or sentences that have two or more interpretations. It concluded that ambiguity is a condition that can appear anywhere when a word has two or more different meanings.

2. Lexical and Structural Ambiguity

According to Hurford and Heasley (2007), ambiguity classified is into two, lexical and structural ambiguity (p. 128). Lexical ambiguity is a linguistic term to indicate a word with two or more distinctly different meanings, which is often a problem in language learning. Structural ambiguity is a sentence or phrase that appears that we can interpret into more than one meaning by using structured sentences.

3. Semantics

Semantics are branches of linguistics specifically related to words, the study of the meaning of words (Ullmann, 1972, p. 1). From this understanding, semantics is a science that studies the meaning of words,

phrases, and sentences found in languages, codes, or other types of representation.

4. Movie

A movie is a visual communication tool that displays moving images and sound to convey messages through a story. Many people choose movies as entertainment spectacles because they have numerous life benefits. In movies, there are three types: fiction, documentary drama, and experimentation. It also has various combinations of two or more genres, from genres: drama, action, horror, comedy, and so on.

E. Systematization of the Research

The systematic of the research means presenting the research well-edited composition. The writer divided this research into five chapters, as follows:

Chapter I Introduction, which explains the background of the research, the questions and scopes of the research, the objective and significance of the research, the operational definition, and the systematization of the research.

Chapter II Theoretical descriptions, which contain two concepts. The first concept is a description of semantics. The second concept is a description of ambiguity, and then research of the relevance.

Chapter III Research methodology, covers the method of research, procedure of the research, technique of the data collection, technique of the data analysis, and data source.

Chapter IV Analysis data that shows data descriptions the description, and action of the research findings.

Chapter V Conclusions and suggestions, which gives the summary of the conclusion (relates to the discussion) and suggestion (relates to the significance of the research).

