

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will discuss 5 sub-chapter consisting of the background of the research which shows the reasons for choosing this topic, research question, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope limitation of the study. This 5 sub-chapter are important because it provides an outline of the background and the context of this research.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important aspect of human life. The science that studies language is linguistics. In linguistics, language has a grammar that refers to the system of rules that organize to how we speak or even make a sign. Then, how we put sounds or signs together to form words, then to put words together to form phrases, and to put phrases together to form sentences. Therefore, all languages and all variations of languages can express the meaning needed by those who need and use the language (Cavallaro, 2023) If we talk about language, we will also discuss communication as the main function of language. According to Megginson as state in Sharma (2017), communication is the process of transmitting meaning, ideas and understanding from one person to another person or group. This statement highlights the importance of meaning and understanding in communication. Then, in communication each individual must have the same interpretation of the meaning of what they are talking about.

Everything we do has its own problems, and communication is no exception. When communicating with someone, we often misunderstand what the other person means. This phenomenon happens because our interlocutors say words or sentences that contain ambiguity. A word or sentence is ambiguous if it has more than one meaning and a sentence will be ambiguous if it has more than one paraphrase that is not part of the paraphrase of another (R. Huford et al., 2007). Ambiguity has two types,

called lexical ambiguity and structural ambiguity. Lexical ambiguity is a type of ambiguity caused by one word that has more than one possible meaning. Meanwhile, structural ambiguity is a type of ambiguity caused by the relationship between parts of the sentence (Cavallaro, 2023).

R. Huford et al. (2007) give an example of lexical ambiguity as in the sentence “*the captain corrected the list*”, the sentence contains ambiguity because the word “*corrected*” has two different interpretations of meaning, the first is the word “*corrected*” can be interpreted as the captain is indeed correcting errors in the list or the second is the word “*corrected*” can be interpreted as the list is a list that has been corrected by the captain. As for an example of structural ambiguity is as in the sentence “*the chicken is ready to eat*”, the sentence contains structural ambiguity because it has two different interpretations, the first is that the chicken is ready to eat something, or the second is that the chicken is cooked and ready for someone to eat. Examples of ambiguity above will often be found in daily communication. It depends on the context, background and situation of the communicating people. And can lead to various reactions and understandings in just one word or even one statement. Not only communication in real life, we can find ambiguous words and sentence in the literary works such as in songs that we often listen to, in a novel, or even in our favorite movies.

Based on the explanation above, researchers will use the *Inside Out 2015* movie as a research object. *Inside Out* is a movie by Walt Disney Pictures and produced by Pixar Animation Studios. *Inside Out* released its first movie in 2015. *Inside Out 2015* was produced based on the story of Pete Docter and Ronnie del Carmen who had an 11-year-old daughter who experienced behavioral changes. Then for the film scenario developed by Pete Docter assisted by Meg LeFauve and Josh Cooley. As for the voice actors in this film, it was done by several actresses such as Amy Poehler, Phyllis Smith, Bill Hader, Lewis Black, Mindy Kaling, Kaitlyn Dias, Kyle MacLachlan, and Diane Lane. In addition, the movie was also assisted by a number of psychological scientists for the development of the movie.

Inside Out 2015 tells the story of a girl named *Riley Andersen* who is 11 years old and, in her mind, and thoughts has a series of emotions such as; *Joy, Sadness, Disgust, Fear, and Anger*. These emotions have their own duties and cheerful as the most dominant emotion to ensure that *Riley* is always happy, therefore *Joy* sometimes does not let *Sadness* do her job. The beginning of the conflict in *Inside Out 2015* is when *Riley* and her parents decide to move from Minnesota to San Francisco. Since the beginning of her move, *Riley* has felt sad about her new environment. Then *Joy* who tried to keep *Riley* from being sad instead messed up everything and made *Riley* not even feel any emotions. The climax of *Inside Out 2015* conflict occurs when *Riley* decides she wants to leave her home and return to Minnesota. *Joy* and *Sadness* try to fix everything to prevent *Riley* from leaving her home and parents. Long story short, *Joy* and *Sadness* managed to restore everything and *Riley* returned home. When *Riley* is home, *Joy* lets *Sadness* do her job and *Riley* cries in front of her parents. The message of this movie is that all emotions are valid, humans have the right to feel all emotions.

Regarding on the character names who play as *Riley's* emotions such as *Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger, and Disgust* in the *Inside Out 2015* movie is the personification of human emotions, as well as dialogues that often use words that contain layers of indirect meaning, making the *Inside Out 2015* colored with ambiguity. Ambiguity can lead to multiple interpretations, causing confusion for the listener. In response to this issue, semantics is a branch of linguistics concerned with meaning provides a theoretical framework to analyze and clarify this phenomenon. As stated by Yule, (2010), semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. One of the goals of a semantic theory is to explain ambiguities in words and in sentences. Therefore, analyzing ambiguity from a semantic perspective is essential for understanding how meaning is constructed, conveyed, and potentially misunderstood in communication. The researcher decided to examine ambiguity including lexical ambiguity and structural ambiguity in the dialog of *Inside Out 2015* movie. Based on the explanation

above, researchers are interested in conducting research with the title “*An Analysis of Ambiguity Found in Inside Out 2015 Movie*”.

1.2 Research Questions

Referring to the background of the study that has been explained. The researcher decided to identify the statement of the problem which will be discussed below as:

1. What are the types of ambiguity present in the dialogs of “*Inside Out 2015*” movie?
2. What are the factors that causes ambiguity in the dialogs of the “*Inside Out 2015*” movie?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Referring to the statement that became the research problem that has been explained, this research has the following objectives to:

1. To explain the types of ambiguity present in the dialogs of the “*Inside Out 2015*” movie.
2. To explain the factors that causes ambiguity in the dialogs of the “*Inside Out 2015*” movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the researcher hopes that this study can provides information and understanding of words and sentences that contain ambiguity in a movie to readers. In addition, readers can also categorize words and sentences that contain ambiguity and know the factors that causes ambiguity of these words and sentences. And the most important aspect is to know the words and sentences that contain ambiguity and their factors that causes ambiguity in the dialog of the *Inside Out 2015* movie.

Practically, this research gives readers a different understanding of words or sentences that contain ambiguity in movies. The researcher hopes that with this research, readers or movie enthusiasts who read this research

will not be confused if they find ambiguous words and sentences in movie dialog, especially in the *Inside Out 2015* movie. In addition, the researcher hopes that this research will be a useful reference for further research on the same or different topics.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

In this study, researchers used ambiguity theory with a Semantic approach. This research focuses on identifying words and sentences that contain ambiguity and their factors in the dialog of *Inside Out 2015* movie. A special focus on categorizing ambiguous words and sentences uses the theory of R. Huford et al., (2007). Meanwhile, the analysis of the factors that causes ambiguous words and sentences uses the theoretical focus of Ullmann (1962). The limitation for this research is from the dialog of all characters in *Inside Out 2015* movie produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Pixar Animation Studios, which is selected as the category of lexical ambiguity and structural ambiguity.