

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters, namely background of study, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they will describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of Study

Language plays an important role in every aspects of human life, especially in the communication world. As human beings, people need to use language to communicate, and express feeling or thoughts with others. A communication happens when the hearer can understand what the speaker says. But sometimes people do not get the point of the speaker talks because of the ambiguity of the utterances. It means that sometimes the hearer cannot define directly the meaning of words that are uttered by the speaker. It needs to be explored by the hearer.

One of ambiguity in language is that a word has more than one meaning. This case almost exists in most language. For instance, in English the word “good” has a meaning *well condition of people* and a meaning *thing for sale*. To understand this case, people should know the study of meaning, that is Semantics

Semantics is the study of meaning communicated through language. The study of semantics looks at how meaning works in language, and because of this it often uses native speaker intuitions about the meaning of words and phrases to

base research on (Saeed, 2009). Semantics also looks at the ways in which the meanings of words can be connected to each other. It is well known as lexical semantics.

Lexical semantics is a subfield of linguistic semantics. It is the study of how and what the words of a language denote. Words may be taken to denote things in the world or concepts, depending on the particular approach to lexical semantics. Lexical semantics covers theories of the classification and decomposition of word meaning, the differences and similarities in lexical semantic structure among different languages, and the relationship of word meaning to sentence meaning and syntax (Pustejovsky, 1996).

The word meaning that is ambiguous makes the speaker and hearer confused. The meaning is also different in one word according to the context. Sameness of meaning is easy to deal with but there is something nothing inherently about difficult different meaning. Not only different words that have different meaning but a same word also has it (Palmer, 1981). One of lexical semantics is polysemy. It is a single word form can be associated with several different meanings. Such words are known as polysemous.

Polysemy results an ambiguity to the interpretation of items and is considered one of the most difficult problems in language processing studies. It is the core of lexical semantic research. Traditional approaches tend to regard polysemy as a matter of different senses being listed under a single lexical entry with the comprehension of a polysemous word involving selection of the contextually appropriate sense from among the list of senses (Falkum, 2011).

Most of languages have polysemous words. For instance, English has many words which are polysemous. One of them is the verb "to get" which can mean "procure" (*I'll get the drinks*), or "become" (*she got scared*), or "have" (*I've got three dollars*), "understand" (*I get it*). Madurese, the language being studied also has polysemous words. For example in Madurese, the noun "*Taretan*" in the sentence *Mahbub jiyah tang taretan* (Mahbub is my sibling). The word *taretan* here means a relation of person in a family. It can be a brother or sister. But in context : "*Dha' taretan Mahbub bakto kaula ngator agih*" (To brother Mahbub, time is yours), the word *taretan* here does not mean a brother, but the sense relation of those is as an expression to show a close relation just like a sibling.

In this study, the writer analyzes the polysemy in Madurese vocabularies. The writer would like to know and to breakdown it to be introduced to other readers, especially, they who do not know about Madurese. By this study, the writer intends to show that Madurese is necessary to learn because it also contains ambiguous words that will make people are difficult in understanding words while reading a Madurese written text, such as *Jokotole* magazine.

Many people judge that Madurese language is unique and it seems it is a strange language. For people outside Madura who first come to this island and just to see and to listen the conversation of Madurese people, it sounds like a dispute conversation. Madurese dialects makes it as polemic, there are some people judge Madurese as a rough language. Also some of them judge that it is included into strange language because the dialect is unique and tends to unwell to listen. (<http://susimardiyanti.blogspot.com/2013/01/bahasa-madura-dibalik-tirai->

belajar.html/)

Another reason why the writer chooses this study is because this study has never been conducted by English Study Program Students in University of Trunojoyo Madura. It makes this study becomes the first study that is conducted about polysemy, especially the types and the factors that make a word become polysemous.

This study is also conducted because there are some meanings of an entry or a word in some Madurese dictionaries are not explained. By being this study, the writer hopes the lexicographers can make the result of the study as the reference to revise the dictionaries. .

In this study, the writer analyses polysemous words found in Jokotole magazines. These magazines are chosen as the source of data because they are the famous Madurese magazines that are published by experts of Madurese in East Java.

There are some related studies that have been conducted by others writers. One of them is a study that is conducted by Hamlaoui in 2009. The similarities of both Hamloui's and the writer's is both researches try to find the polysemous words that make people are difficult to understand and the differences, Hamloui uses translation project that conducted by students while the writer uses magazines as source of data and the writer also tries to finds the types that is not conducted by Hamloui. The other study is conducted by Abdullah in 2014. This is a new study which has a similarity in finding the lexical item of the polysemous words but what makes this study different from the writer's study is the writer

uses Pustejovsky's theory that mentions the types of polysemy based on the category preserving and category changing while Abdullah only analyzes the lexical item of the polysemous and also Abdullah does not elaborate why the words become polysemous just like the writer does.

1.2 Statements of Research Problems

Through this research, the writer emerges the following questions:

1. What are the types of polysemous words found in Jokotole magazines?
2. Why are the factors that cause the words to be polysemous?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statements of research problem, the purpose of the study are :

1. To explain the types polysemous words found in Jokotole Magazines
2. To explain the factors that cause the words to be polysemous

1.4 Significances of the Study

The significances of this study are to give contributions both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the results of this study are expected to give understanding about lexical semantics, especially polysemy. The writer also hopes the readers can understand further explanation about the term of polysemy and to help other students who plan or look for references about polysemy.

Practically, the purpose of this study is to help people in interpreting the polysemous words that have multiple meaning. This study also can become an

alternative for the readers in understanding *Jokotole Magazines* that have been published and distributed to public. People will not be confused when they find a single word that has more than one meaning, especially, for another person outside Madura. And the results of this study are expected to be used in adding or revising new entry of Madurese words in Madurese dictionaries because there are some meanings that are not explained, especially in the polysemous words.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is polysemy. In addition, this study focuses on the types of the polysemous words by Pustejovsky (1996) and the factors why the words become polysemous by Pateda (2001). Furthermore, the limitation of this study is the polysemous words in *Jokotole Magazines 6, 8 and 10 editions*.