

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five subchapters, namely background of the study, statement of research problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. They are necessary so many to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the Study

Each human language is a complex of knowledge and abilities enabling speakers of the language to communicate with each other, to express ideas, hypotheses, emotions, desires, and all the other things that need expressing (<http://linguistics.ucsc.edu/about/what-is-linguistics.html>). Linguistics is the study of these knowledge systems in all their aspects: how such a knowledge system structured, how is it acquired, how is it used in the production and comprehension of messages, how does it change over time. Linguists (people who are specialists in Linguistics) do work on specific languages, but their primary goal is to understand the nature of language in general, what distinguishes human language from other animal communication systems, what features are common to all human languages, how are the modes of linguistic communication (speech, writing, sign language of the deaf) related to each other, how is language related to other types of human behavior. Language is a phenomenon with many topics from the sounds that come out of people's mouths to the meanings that those sounds express. The field of linguistics is

composed of sub fields and most professional linguists become specialists in one or more of those subfields (<https://linguiststicks.files.com>).

This study explained about semantics especially on sense relations. Semantics is a sub discipline of linguistics which focuses on the study of meaning. Semantics tries to understand what meaning is as an element of language and how it is constructed by language as well as interpreted, obscured and negotiated by speakers and listeners of language (<https://sites.google.com/a/sheffield.ac.uk/all-about-linguistics/branches/semantics/what-is-semantics>). Meaning associated with words and sentences by the language system, and not the speaker meaning is called 'sense'. Sense of expression is the hard core of meaning, excluding any influence of context or situation. Sense of expression can be thought as a sum of its sense properties and its relations with other expressions.

Based on James's book, sense relations deal with the relationship between the senses of the words in the sentence. The idea of sense is parallel to the idea of extension. A speaker's idea of sense of a predicate provides him with an idea of its extension. Sense of a predicate determines or 'fixes' the extension of that predicate. To consider the implication of such relationship between sense and extension, we need to recognize the concept of necessary and sufficient conditions. The sense of an expression is the whole set of sense relations it contracts with other expressions in the language. It should be concerned with the sense relations which involve individual predicates and whole sentences. Therefore, sense relations are appropriate to analyze using text. Text can found in many printed media in this world such as magazines,

novels, newspaper, and the others. One kind of newspaper is BBC News but the difference BBC News is online news media but it could be printed. The data use printed BBC News.

BBC News is an operational business division of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) responsible for the gathering and broadcasting of news and current affairs. The department is the world's largest broadcast news organization and generates about 120 hours of radio and television output each day, as well as online news coverage. The service maintains 44 foreign office news and has correspondents in almost every country. On the online BBC News there are some interesting column beside news column such as weather, sport, traveling, culinary, science & environment column, etc. Many Indonesian people do not know about BBC news, in Indonesia the citizens only read and watch local news. Actually that is very good, interesting, and actual news and broadcasting. So, BBC News is appropriate to analyze with this study.

In BBC news there are many language or sentences that contains of sense relations like, “male and female had a small bony structure”. The word male and female is belonging to antonymy. Some people often find that there are a sense relations in a words, sentences, or language. Not only in written language but also in spoken language. Subconsciously, sense relations such as synonymy, hyponymy, homonymy, polysemy, antonymy, meronymy, member collection, and portion-mass are often appear in daily conversation or in daily life. In some texts like an article, novel, or anything else are included sense relations. By adding one of sense relations

in the text it can make the text more colorful. Nonetheless, people rarely conduct the study using this theory but actually this study is very interesting to be conducted.

So, there are reasons why this study should be conducted using the theory of sense relations in Science & Environment Column on BBC News. First, Science & Environment column contain kinds of sense relations in its sentences, words, and phrases so that make this news text is pretty appropriate and interesting to be analyzed. Moreover, BBC News is popular online broadcasting not only in UK but also throughout the world like in Indonesia. This online news presents the latest news and also make the reader knows about information or events that currently occurs.

The second one, by conducting this study the reader can improve knowledge and give more understanding about that one of sense relations or more, for example synonymy. There are some advantages for the reader to know about sense relation because in this theory could state about the similarity of sense, contradiction, a fold sense or over sense. The advantages to study sense relations are to know how differentiate some text which have many senses on it such as can differentiate which is synonymy or which is polysemy. The other advantage is after the readers can differentiate the sense and meaning in each sentence of the text, the readers can also applied sense relations in our spoken in daily conversation. Based on these reasons, this study was interesting to be conducted.

This is the example about sense relations in one topic in Science & Environment column:

“Wind farms are causing controversy in rural **areas** and the government is choking off planning permission for new **sites**.”
(21 October 2014 last updated at 23:07)

According the sentences above there is word “areas” and “sites” it show that “areas” and “sites” are synonyms. Areas and sites have related meaning. An area means a region or part of the world, a country, a city, etc and sites means place where a building, town, etc was, is or will be situated. This study is interesting to conduct because this study suggests the text-maker or the author to know the usage rule of sense relations in order to make a good text. English learners or the readers, it should be one of additional information for them who are interested in linguistics. The information will be useful for their daily-life because linguistics is not only focused on theory but also makes the learners study about human being life, interaction, and the problem solving of communication’s misunderstanding.

Another example:

"The **male** has large bony claspers. These are the grooves that they use to transfer sperm into the female," explained Prof Long. The **female** fish, on the other hand, had a small bony structure at their rear that locked the male organ into place.”
(19 October 2014 last updated at 18:17)

Based on the data above it belongs to antonymy. The words male and female have clear means and have absolute characterization. This character showed that the two words are different. It means that male is not female and also female is not a male. This antonymy also has a relational because if the one word is appearing so the other word must appear too. If one of the word does not exist so the other word is also does not exist.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

Related to the background of the study, the problems to be solved in this study are:

1. What are the types of sense relations applied in Science & Environment Column on BBC News?
2. What type of sense relations is frequently applied in Science & Environment Column on BBC News?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problems above, this study is intended to:

1. To explain some kinds of sense relations applied in Science & Environment Column on BBC News.
2. To explain the types of sense relations those frequently applied in Science & Environment Column on BBC News.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected give more understanding to the readers about sense relations. The writer hopes that this study can give deep explanation until the reader easy to study sense relations well. Also, the findings of the research are expected to be one of references and alternative information in the next research especially about sense relations. This research could enrich the theoretical framework for semantics study.

Practically, this study can help the reader or person or students that want to write something (text) he/she can know the usage rule of sense relations in order to

write a good text, for the reader also it should be one of additional information for them who are interested in linguistics. The information will be useful for their daily life because linguistics is not only focused on theory but also makes the learners study about human being life, interaction, and communication.

The advantages to study sense relations are to know how differentiate some text which have many senses on it such as can differentiate which is synonymy or which is polysemy. The other advantage is after the readers can differentiate the sense and meaning in each sentence of the text, the readers can also applied sense relations in our spoken in daily conversation. Based on these reasons, this study was interesting to be conducted.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is semantics study. This thesis will only concern with the sense relations. The sense relations that will be analyzed by the writer is only in the one article in BBC News online. BBC is the famous news in British that concern in news and current affairs. In this study the writer only chooses one column in BBC News namely Science & Environment column. The writer focuses on one month, which is during 16 until 31 October 2014.

Analyzed data, observing those data which is in the form sentences, words, and phrases where sense relations exist. In the other word, the data used in this study is not all sentences in the articles but only sentences, words, and phrases containing sense relations.