

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five subchapters. There are the background of the study, statement of the research question, objectives of the study, the significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the most important elements in human social life because language is the key to communicating between humans in social life. Although the language is very common and free to be used by anyone, a language speaker is bound by social rules that apply in the speech community. A person's language ability is based on the knowledge possessed by that person, and this knowledge is interesting to learn in linguistic studies.

Language is a communication device consisting of unit forms such as words, groups of words, clauses, and sentences that are expressed orally or in writing. From the speaker's point of view, language functions as a personal identity or functions as an emotive function. The emotive function means that the speaker expresses his opinion on what he says. Speakers not only express emotions through language but also show emotions when delivering their speech. Therefore, the listener can understand whether the speaker is angry, sad, or happy (Rabiah, 2018).

Besides using language that is commonly used to communicate and express opinions everyday, humans can also express their emotions through a song or music. Miell, MacDonald & Hargreaves (2005) stated that music can be simplified as good communication in society, and through music, people can share their emotions, feelings and intentions with everyone. From music, people can know what is on their mind and what they are feeling at that moment. In some ways, people tend to choose music songs that have a strong message, touch people's feelings and have the same condition as them at that time. Songs and music are two things that are almost the same but have

different meanings or definitions. Music is an art form of tone (musical instrument) which can be combined with rhythm, song, and lyrics and accompanied by strains of instruments that form a combination of tones. While the song is music that has lyrics so that it can be sung. In other words, a song has a vocal sound while music is only an instrument. The song is included in a literary work that meets the criteria of a typical literary language because the language and words contained in a song are usually the inner expressions of the poet, so the language in a song can often represent the feelings or emotions of the poet or the person who listens to it. The song is usually an image of someone who can describe the situation that is being felt by the writer, such as happy, sad, angry, and even a song can describe the writer's social situation. So, it cannot be denied that in a song there must be implied meanings as well as explicit meanings. To know the meanings of a song, one way that can be done is to study one of the branches of Linguistics that discuss and examines the meaning, namely Semantics and Pragmatics. However, this research only focuses on Semantics studies, especially on lexical relations.

Yule (2010, p. 112) stated that Semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. Semantics is the study of the “toolkit” for meaning: knowledge encoded in the vocabulary of the language and in its patterns for building more elaborate meanings, up to the level of sentence meanings (Griffiths, 2006, p. 1). In the study of Semantics, several types of knowledge will be studied based on the objectives or objects to be studied. If the object to be studied discusses the lexicon of a language, then the right type of Semantics to study the object is lexical-Semantics. As previously explained, that Semantics is a science that studies the meaning of words, so a Semantics study must have a lexical element as a result of the relationship or relation of a meaning. Lexical relations describe the relationship between word meanings, which this study is about how the lexicon is managed and how the lexical meanings of lexical items are related to each other. There are some different types of lexical relations. A particular lexeme may be simultaneously in a number of these relations, so it may be more

accurate to think of the lexicon as a network, rather than a listing of words as in a published dictionary (Saeed, 2016, p. 59).

According to Anwar (2019, p. 179) the notion of a meaning relation is a relationship between an expression (word, phrase, or lexeme) and its reference. The relationship referred to here is the relationship between form and meaning. In practice, the Semantics relationship is divided into two, namely the relationship between form and meaning, and the relationship between two meanings. These relations result in synonymy (more than one form having the same meaning), polysemy or homonymy (the same form having more than one meaning), and hyponymy (the inclusion of one meaning in another meaning), also the oppositeness is in some way present in the mind of the speaker and hearer during an act of utterance, which brings forward the notion of antonymy (Hurford and Heasley, 1986, p. 102).

Lexical relations can be found in several literary works such as articles, poetry, short stories, novels, songs, and many others. One of the interesting works that can be analyzed is the song. Here, the writer examines the lexical relations that exist in several collections of songs from a band from Manchester, namely *The 1975*. *The 1975* is a musical group consisting of four members, namely Matthew Healy (guitar vocals), Ross MacDonald (bass), Adam Hann (vocals, guitar), and George Daniel (drums). At first, the band was called *Talkhouse*, *The Slowdown*, *Big Sleep* and *Drive like I Do* before setting the name to *The 1975*. *The 1975*'s name was proposed by vocalist of the group, Matthew Healy, while he was reading a book about mental illness and suicide, which was on June 1, 1975. Finally, Matthew decided to change the name of his band to *The 1975*, which he felt was suitable for the character of their band. This music group has an indie-pop rock genre for their songs. *The 1975* is one of the music groups that have a new breakthrough in the world of music. They managed to combine the indie and rock genres, which is something that is rarely found in the music world. However, they managed to make this new breakthrough into a work that is different from other music groups. Their song have smart lyrics, and dares to include taboo things but is closely related to the true meaning of 'art'. For example, one of their songs called

“Chocolate” is a euphemism for marijuana, a song that describes an escape from a police chase with a pile of “chocolate” in a car. Because the lyrics of the song from *The 1975* have different arts and themes, and have vocabulary or also called lexical that is mixed and matched so as to produce cohesion. Then the relationship of the cohesion in each word in the song lyrics will produce a types of lexical relations.

The explanation above shows that from a song, humans can express their feelings in the song, because the song consists of good lyrics and a beautiful melody that is pleasant to listen to. With these elements, the song can be used as the right tool or means to express feelings for each other, because from the sentence or lyrics in the song there must be a meaning, and that meaning can be found through one of the Semantics studies in the field of Linguistics. Therefore, the writer is interested in analyzing the songs from *The 1975* because their songs contain art and have different themes so they are interesting to analyze. So, here the writer wants to analyze the meaning in the lyrics of the song from *The 1975* to find out the meaning contained in it so that it can help listeners to better understand the song, and be able to understand the relations between meaning and its forms in a song lyric.

1.2 Research Question

- a. What are types of lexical relations used in selected song lyrics by *The 1975*?
- b. How is lexical relation related to the principle meaning of different terms in selected song lyrics by *The 1975*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

- a. To identify the types of lexical relations are used in selected song lyrics by *The 1975*.
- b. To describe the relation between lexical relation and principle meaning of different terms in selected song lyrics by *The 1975*.

1.4 Significances of the Study

This research is expected to be useful for education, either directly or indirectly. This research also provides theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, this research is expected to provide and additional references for future research to find new research related to Semantics analysis, especially lexical relations. Practically, for the students that doing research in lexical relations, it can provide information to interpret the meaning of song lyrics by *The 1975*, so it's easily to understood the meaning that which will be delivered by the singer.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

To avoid a long and excessive discussion, the writer limits the discussion in this study. The scope of this research is ten songs by *The 1975*. And in this case, the researcher used Semantics theory to analyze, especially theory of lexical relations by John Saeed (2016) and theory of Principle Meaning by Albert Eugene Nida (1975). In this study, the writer also limits the types of lexical relations that will be discussed. That is, the writer will only analyze homonymy, polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, and meronymy contained in the song *The 1975* because this study aims to determine the relationship between words and meanings that are mutually bound or continuous. Meanwhile, members' collection and portion-mass will not be analyzed and discussed too far because they do not show the relationship between words and meanings.