

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer introduces the sub chapters that are included in this chapter. They are background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is important things in every aspects of human life, especially in daily communication. People need to use language to communicate, and express their feeling to others. It is used to express what people want to know and want get to others. A communication happens when a speaker and hearer can understand each other. But sometimes some people do not understand the point of the speaker talks because the ambiguity of the utterances produced by the speaker. It means that sometimes the hearer cannot define directly the meaning of words that are expressed by the speaker. It also occurs in written texts such as poems, lyrics and others.

It is important for people who learn language to know the meaning of words or sentences that are expressed by speaker or writer. Without understanding the meaning of a certain language, people will not be able to communicate and express their ideas well. As an idea, meaning can be conveyed from speaker's

mind to the hearer or writer's mind. One reason why the misunderstanding occurs is because the words or the sentences have another meaning so that they cannot be understood directly. To understand such this situation, people need to learn semantics especially about meaning.

Saeed (2009) said that, Semantics is learning of meaning communicated through language. As a learning of meaning, semantics focuses on how the meaning works in language. Native speaker intuitions about meaning of words and phrases are often used to base on the research.

There are three types of meaning in semantics that have their own characteristics. One of them is associative. Vizental (2009) stated that, associative is a type of meaning which the lexical item brings beyond their actual semantic charge. It means that sometimes dictionary is not the only tool which human linguistic communication rely on it. In reality, there are a lot of words which are interpreted variously among people.

Associative meaning provides the meanings which are not listed in the dictionary. Associative meaning has connection to the relationship of word with the condition beyond the language. For examples, the word "red" is associated with the word of "brave." The word "chair" in dictionary means moveable place to sit with a back. But "chair" also can be associated to "authority".

The situation above might appear in everyday situations or in daily communication whether in spoken or written, such as, speech, lyrics, prose and mostly in poems. Related to this study, the writer tries to analyze associative meanings in poems of Oscar Wilde. According to Bernie Ollila and Joe Jantas

(December 15, 2006), Poetry is any kind of verbal or written language that is structured rhythmically and is meant to tell a story, or express any kind of emotion, idea, or state of being.

Oscar Wilde's poems are selected by the writer because Oscar Wilde was a famous writer whose works are often recited by people. The works have also won some awards. As stated in https://ms.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Wilde, Oscar continues to show the brilliant achievements in Oxford. He gets Newdigate award for his poem and get Top ranking (First Class) for his work *Mods and Greats* by examiners.

There are a lot of words, phrases, clauses and sentences on Wilde's poems which have more than one meaning. Here, the writer takes an example of associative meaning that is found in the poems of Oscar Wilde.

Nay, there is nothing we should rue,
I have my beauty, - you your Art,
Nay, do not start,

The example above is taken from the *Apologia*. The word *nay* is the example of a word which contains social meaning, it is categorized as a word containing social meaning because it contains literary. This word has meaning refusal or disagreement meaning. In this sentence, it is use to strengthen someone disagreement. Today it is similar to the word.

Based on the background above, the writer is interested to investigate the types of associative meaning and the inference of the dominant appearance of associative meaning in Oscar Wilde's poems. In line with this study, there are some studies of associative meaning that are related to this study. The previous

studies have been conducted by Hidayati (2010), Yusuf (2010) and Jannah (2014). All of them use similar theory of associative meaning but no one analyses the associative meaning in Oscar Wilde's poems. Whereas in fact associative meaning in Wilde's poems is challenging to analyze.

1.2 Statements of Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, the writer formulates the statement of the research problems as follow:

1. What are the types of associative meaning found in *Oscar Wilde's* poems?
2. What can be inferred from the dominant appearance of associative meaning found in *Oscar Wilde's* poems?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statements of research problem, the objectives of this study are:

1. To explain the types of associative meaning found in *Oscar Wilde's* poems
2. To explain what can be inferred from the dominant appearance of associative meaning found in *Oscar Wilde's* poems.

1.4 Significances of the Study

There are two significances in this study. Those are theoretical and practical. Theoretically the writer hopes that this study can be a reference for another writer who is interested in studying associative meaning.

Practically, the results of this study are expected to help reader of poems to understand the meaning or the essence of the poetry, because for those who want to read poem, they have to know the message or the deep meaning of the words. So they are more able to digest the feeling of the poems. And for the writer of poems, the writer hopes it helps them to choose some diction to make a good poem. Mostly the words in the poems are difficult to understand and full of indirect message. And for the literary work, it can be used for other poets in creating and arranging good poems

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is associative meaning in the best of Oscar Wilde's poems. This study focuses only on types of associative meaning in the best of Oscar Wilde's poems. According to Leech (1981) Associative meaning is divided into five types of meaning. Those are connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning and collocative meaning. And the limitations of this study are the words, phrase, clauses and sentence that contain associative meaning in the best of Oscar Wilde's poems.