

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of six subchapters. They are background of the study, statement of research problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of terms.

1.1 Background of The Study

Language is one of the products of human's creative thought. Through language humans make the life easier and more effective. Their act as social creature can be assisted by the existence of language. People use language as a tool or a medium to communicate with each others. They share information, feeling, ideas, willingness, etc. Because of being creative creature, humans freely create languages with many varieties of words in order to support their needs. Hence, it is called arbitrary. Bloch and Trager (1942) define language as a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates. The statement above infers that every single person has a right to create any words he or she wants as long as the word is acceptable by his or her group.

The consequence of being free to create any language emerges many various words which have similar sense or meaning which is called synonymy. Synonymous words are often used in daily life. In most condition, it is found that people use different words but still in the same meaning either written or spoken in doing communication activity. People usually use it to avoid repetition and to

avoid rigidity in conveying a message. Besides, it enriches the vocabularies of the language since human is creative. Hurford revealed that synonymy is the relationship between two predicates (words) that have the same sense. For example; in most dialects of English, *stubborn* and *obstinate* are synonyms. Meaning, there are two or more words which have the same sense or understanding in mind (2007).

Saeed (2009) expresses that synonyms are different phonological words that possesses of the same or very same meanings. The words ‘courageous’ and ‘brave’ are certainly ‘different’ but both of them can be considered as synonyms which express the similar thing. Between the words ‘brave’ and ‘courageous’, there are distinctions which remain the differences in frequency and in the preciseness in use; the kinds of collocation associated with each, including the relative proportions of animates abstracts they describe (brave people, courageous actions). Overall, it is easier to see ‘courageous’ as a special word for ‘brave’ than a word for a special kind of bravery (Moon, 2013). Based on that, Palmer (1981) comments that both ‘courageous’ and ‘brave’ can, however, be maintained that there are no such real synonyms, that no two or more words have exactly the same meaning.

Synonymous words actually have a little distinction in sense. There are some factors of synonymous words to reveal the differences which are surely interesting to be analysed on how the word choice is used in certain context or condition. The factors can be recognized from time the words uttered, place or region where the words are commonly used in, social factor to whom the words are delivered, field

of activity which the words are commonly applied in, and the last the nuance of meaning (Abdul Chaer, 2013). However, these factors cannot be applied at whole to reveal and to break down the distinctions if the language itself does not possess any various meaning or various regions where the various words commonly appear.

Madura is one of many regions in Indonesia which have many various words with various pronouncers. Furthermore, the area of Madura is divided into four regions; those are Sumenep, Pamekasan, Sampang, and Bangkalan. Those regions stand altogether and create many variations of their own language which unite them to be Madurese language.

Madurese language has its own characteristics. It performs uniqueness either on formula or on the way of the language uttered. It can be found that each region of Madura has its own dialect that contains many variations which can be different with one another. Sumenep people identically utter pronoun ‘you’ with *bâ’na*, Pamekasan people with *bâ’ân*, Sampang people with *kakéh*, and Bangkalan people with *hédâh* or *bâ’eng*.

Other examples related to this study are the words *lémmét* and *abit* as synonymous word for ‘long’. Both can be used in same sentence *bâ’na ma’ cé’ **abiddhâh** wa, engko’ taghâr pendet sé’ ngantos* and *bâ’na ma’ cé’ **lémméddhâh** wa, engko’ taghâr pendet sé’ ngantos* (Why are you too long? making me so tired to wait). Both have same sense which listeners will not find any awkwardness. However, if it is compared with another context *bâ’na ma’ **abit** pajhâlânnah* and *bâ’na ma’ **lémmét** pajhâlânnah* (why did your walk take long?), it will give

different sense for listeners. Listeners will find awkwardness when *abit* is uttered in that condition. In this matter, *abit* is not available to use since it declares the end of the process; whereas *lémmét* is appropriately used in a process of event. It clearly shows that Madurese people has their own characteristics in delivering vocabularies of Madurese language and it will be completely deplored if no body conducts the research such this.

Synonymy has become one of issues of linguistic study recently in order to reveal the exact meaning of a word. It can be proven by several studies which have been conducted by students or linguistic observers. Rahmatika (2013) concerned with synonymy which focused on dialect of Banyumasan in Javanese language. Her study was concerned on ‘nomina’ (noun) and ‘adjectiva’ (adjective). Meanwhile, Utami (2010) analyzed synonymy on ‘nomina’ (noun) in Indonesian language (Bahasa). Both researchers similarly applied the theory of Chaer (2013) related to factors causing synonymous words. However, both researchers were not concerned with the type of synonymy which the words were distinguished based on the classification proposed by Cruse (2000). Besides, the writer of the study analyzes the local language of the writer’s language, Madurese language, which is found in dictionary. Even, the writer does not restrict on *nomina* or *adjectiva*; but synonymous words which exist in the dictionary are analyzed.

Another reason which makes the writer interested in analyzing Madurese language specifically about synonymy is a care of the writer to the existence of Madurese language. Nowadays, by the presence of Suramadu Bridge, people out

of Madura are strongly facilitated to come to Madura either because of educational and economical purposes or tourism purposes. However, it brings several changes, even disadvantages to Madurese people's living. One of the changes is toward social and culture of Madurese people as their identity. In this case, language as the conspicuous identity of Madurese culture becomes collective and serious attention. The language is easily threatened to descend if Madurese people do not keep using it in daily communication and holding such linguistic studies continually. Therefore, this study is one of the ways to keep maintaining the language.

Another way to maintain the presence of a language is by integrating it into a dictionary. Madurese language dictionary is a product of Madurese linguists' thought. It provides many words, terms, phrases of a language as reference either for Madurese people or for language learners. However, sometimes or even most, dictionary as a reference is not fully helpful. It just provides the translating words from one language into another without providing the right usage of the word in certain context. It is problematic since learners use it based on their restricted knowledge.

Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura Edisi Revisi is written and arranged by native speakers of Madurese linguists and other linguists namely Puspa Ruriana, Siti Komariyah, Dwi Laily Sukmawati, Tri Winiasih, and Iqbal Nurul Azhar. This is a bilingual dictionary which is translated from Indonesian Language into Madurese Language. It was published by *Balai Bahasa Provinsi Jawa Timur* in 2013. The dictionary is complemented by an example in each entry. However, the

dictionary just provides limited example without giving more explanation about the distinctions when those words are applied in certain context. The writer is interested in analyzing this dictionary since it provides many words belonging to synonymy by covering all dialects which exist in Madura. Besides, the dictionary is the newest publication which has already adapted to language phenomena in recent years.

1.2 Statements of Research Problem

As the guidelines of the research, the writer uses two questions dealing with synonymy. Those are;

- 1) what types of synonymy are found in *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*?
- 2) what are the factors that cause the occurrence of synonymy found in the dictionary?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

Based on the statement of the problems, the aims of this study are:

- 1) to explain the types of synonymy found in *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*
- 2) to explain the factors which cause the words become synonyms

1.4 Significance of The Study

By conducting this study, it is expected that this study can give both theoretical and practical contribution on the field of semantics analysis particularly on the analysis of synonymy found in bilingual dictionary, *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*.

Theoretically, this study is important because it provides explanation about the word usage of Madurese language vocabularies adapted to certain contexts. Sometimes it can be encountered misunderstanding and even confusing by the hearers if speaker uses unfamiliar or inappropriate words in doing conversation. Then, it also brings a hope that this study gives a contribution to the dictionary, *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*, by considering the words choice which is precise to be the words equivalent to each entry. It is next also expected to give a reference for those who want to conduct such this study.

Practically, this study is expected to help readers either native speakers or language learners to improve their knowledge about the use of synonymous words in case of bilingual dictionary. For native speakers or Madurese students, it can support them to deepen and enrich more their knowledge of the language since language is dynamic. Then, for language learners, it will strongly help them as reference in learning and increasing their Madurese language insight toward effectuality in word choices they should use. Therefore, they can implement the appropriate word which is then applied in daily communication correctly.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on analyzing the synonymous words found in bilingual dictionary, *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*. The scope of the study is semantics specifically the theory of synonymy. The theory used in the study is proposed by Alan Cruse about types of synonymy which are absolute synonymy, propositional synonymy, and near-synonymy. Another theory comes from Abdul Chaer regarding to factors causing synonymy. Then, the writer limits the study on synonymous words which are found in the bilingual dictionary, *Kamus Dwibahasa Indonesia-Madura*