

## Sentential Meaning: Ambiguity In Moana Movie's Soundtrack Songs

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### Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis ambiguitas dalam lagu soundtrack Film Moana. Metode penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif yang berfungsi untuk mengidentifikasi dan menganalisis data-data yang terdapat pada lagu-lagu soundtrack Film Moana. Penulis menganalisis dua lagu soundtrack, lagu pertama adalah "We Know The Way" dan lagu kedua adalah "I'm Moana". Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah terdapat 8 ambiguitas yang ditemukan pada lagu soundtrack pertama "We Know The Way" dan terdapat 9 ambiguitas yang ditemukan pada lagu kedua "I'm Moana". Dan makna ambiguitas dalam lagu-lagu soundtrack Film Moana dimaksudkan untuk membuat penonton film menjadi tertarik tidak hanya pada film itu sendiri, tetapi juga pada audio dan berbagai gaya bahasa yang digunakan dalam film tersebut.

**Kata kunci:** Ambiguitas, Semantik, Arti Sentential

### Abstract

The purpose of this research is to analyze the ambiguity in Moana Movie's soundtrack songs. The method of this research is descriptive method that is the function to identify and analyze the data that found in the Moana Movie's soundtrack songs. The writers analyze two soundtrack songs, the first song is "We Know The Way" and the second song is "I'm Moana". The result from this research is there are 8 ambiguities found in the first soundtrack song "We Know The Way" and there are 9 ambiguities found in the second song "I'm Moana". And the ambiguity meaning in the Moana Movie's soundtrack songs are mean to make the audience of the movie become interest not only to the movie itself, but also to the audio and various language style used in the movie.

**Keywords:** *Ambiguity, Semantic, Sentential Meaning,*

### INTRODUCTION

Semantics is one of the micro-linguistics' parts that is the study of the language meaning, especially in textual language such as clauses, sentences and meanings of certain words. Through semantics, people will understand the message's the meaning from the one person to the other. It is clear that meaning plays a very important role in every speech act situation. Without meaning, all speech is a language useless or without meaning there would be no language, or if language not intended to communicate meaning, there will be no interaction think like we do in everyday life.

Meaning is not only determined by the meaning of each sentence component. We will see how the placement of words and phrases in a syntactic structure is also related to the overall meaning of the sentence, following the principle: The principle of compositionality. meaning plays a very important role in interpreting ambiguity. One sentence that looks ambiguous also has its own meaning

A sentence, phrase can be consider having an ambiguity meaning if the phrase or the sentence can be understood or explained in more than one senses, or in another word we

can say that ambiguity occurs because a word, phrase or a sentences with unclear meanings.

In our daily life, sometimes communication cannot work effectively if we don't express our sentence clearly. This causes the listener or reader to understand our sentence in different ways. On the contrary, if the reader does not understand what we have written in a book, novel, song, etc., it will lead to the reader misinterpreting or misinterpreting the message contained in the text so that there is a misunderstanding or error in interpreting a meaning. This misunderstanding is called ambiguity.

The concept of ambiguity is generally contrasted with the ambiguity of a word or sentence so that the sentence or word looks unclear. In this ambiguity, specific and different interpretations are allowed (although some may not be immediately obvious), whereas with unclear information, it is difficult to form any interpretation at the desired level of specificity.

Even so, ambiguity is used intentionally to add a sense of humor to a text. So there is ambiguity in a text or song, it is a deliberate act by the author. In certain contexts, the verbs disambiguous and ambiguous can be used as adjectives.

Therefore, in this research, the writers chose the Moana movie's soundtrack songs as the object to identify and analyze the ambiguity of the songs. The researcher wants to find out how much ambiguity there is in the soundtrack, and explain the ambiguity in the soundtrack. So that when you understand this song, you will not encounter the case of misunderstanding the song in Moana movie and found out the meaning of the song.

### **Semantics**

The study of the meanings/meanings incorporated in language, codes, or other types of representations is known as semantics. In shorts, semantics is the study of meaning. Semantics is frequently associated with two other aspects: syntax, which is the production of complex symbols from fundamental symbols, and pragmatics, which is the practical application of symbols by people in specific contexts.

Semantics is the study of meaning, according to Lehrer (1974) semantics is a very broad field of study since it deals with aspects of language structure and function, allowing it to be linked to psychology, philosophy, and anthropology.

### **Semantic Relation**

Based on Hjørland (2007), he mentioned that semantic relations are the relations between concepts, meaning or senses. These relations cannot be confused with the terms, expressions, signs, or words that are between them that used as the expression for the concepts. There are three types of semantic relations, they are: lexical relation, phrasal relation and the last sentential relation.

### **Sentential Meaning**

Sentential semantics, (sentential meaning), is concerned with the meaning of syntactic units bigger than words, such as phrases, clauses, and sentences, as well as the semantic links between them. The meaning of a sentence is defined not simply by the meaning of each component. It will look at how the placement of words and phrases in syntactic structure affects the overall meaning of a sentence.

In the sentential aspect, the meaning of a sentence is a grammatical unit, namely a sentence of a certain type, whose condition is well defined in the grammar of the language. A sentence has meaning exclusively based on the words it contains, and its grammatical arrangement. We can assume that the grammar of a language is associated with the principles of composition, i.e. the rules that tell us how to put together the meanings of the constituent constructs to obtain the global meaning of the construct. Even though a sentence beyond a certain usage has no truth value, it does have a truth condition, i.e. a condition that must be used to make a true statement. The aspects of sentence meaning that are used to make in a given situation true or false are collectively known as the propositional content of the sentence.

Sentential meaning has many types; there are contradiction, paraphrase, entailment, vagueness, tautology, presupposition, anomaly, analyticity, and ambiguity. In this article will be focused on ambiguity.

## Ambiguity

According to Leech (1981: 30), an expression is said to be ambiguous when it can be interpreted in more than one way. Furthermore, Rodman and Fromkin (1983:129) define ambiguity as a word, phrase, or sentence that can be understood or interpreted in more than one manner. We can simply deduce from the passages above that an ambiguity happens when a word, phrase, or sentence has more than one interpretation.

When a word, phrase, or sentence can be understood or interpreted in more than one way, we have an ambiguity. In other words, an ambiguity happens when a word, phrase, or sentence has an uncertain meaning.

Ulmann (1972: 156) goes on to say that ambiguity in spoken language might be produced by the phonetic structure of the sentence. Based on the statements, it can conclude that ambiguity is classified into three sorts based on the reasons that produce it: lexical ambiguity, structural ambiguity, and phonetic structure ambiguity. However, the writers will concentrate on structural ambiguity in this piece.

## Structural Ambiguity

According to Hurford et al. (1983:128), a statement is structurally (or grammatically) ambiguous if its words are related to each other in diverse ways, even if none of the individual words are ambiguous.

Syntactic or grammatical ambiguity is another name for structural ambiguity. Due to the arrangement of words or lexical units, structural ambiguity occurs when a phrase, clause, or sentence can be read in two or more ways. Rather than the words in the sentence, Rodman and Fromkin (1983:172) define structural ambiguity as the framework of a statement that allows for many interpretations.

## METHOD

In this research, the writers used the descriptive method in analyzing the ambiguity meaning that found in the soundtrack songs of Moana Movie. With descriptive method, the writers will describe the ambiguity that found in the songs and will explain what the real meaning of the lyrics. Walliman (2011) explain that the descriptive method deals with the describing of a phenomenon about how we think about something. In order to describe, descriptive method will try to examine the situation. As for this research, Moana Movie soundtrack song is the research object. The writers collecting 2 songs from Moana Movie soundtrack songs and then analyzing the lyrics.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this research, the writers will analyze 2 songs from Moana Movie soundtrack. The first one is a song with title "We Know The Way" (the English lyrics only) and the second is a song with title "I'm Moana".

**Table 1. First songs' analysis: *We Know The Way***

No.	Lyric	Ambiguity	The Meaning
1.	We read the wind and the sea	The meaning of this lyric is ambiguous because the wind and the sea cannot be read (thing that can be read is something that written)	They are trying to find out about how is the condition of the weather
2.	When the sun is high	This is ambiguous because the sun is not growing just like human, plant, or animal	It tells that the time is morning already
3.	We sail the length of the sea	The lyric is ambiguous because the meaning is not clear, they are sailing the sea and the	The sail many or various of seas

		length of the sea is means the size of the sea? Or they sail many sea?	
4.	On the ocean breeze	According to the previous lyric, they are sailing on the ocean breeze which mean they are sailing in the wind? Or they are flying in the ocean breeze?	They are sailing the sea with the help from the wind or the ocean breeze to run the ship or so that the ship can sail.
5.	At night we name every star	They cannot have to name each star because the stars do not life like people which need to be named	Every time they sail the sea, they will give sign that have been there before.
6.	We set a course to find	Set a course means that they will set their way? Or they will set things that they will find?	They will set the way to find something or they will make sure that they will find something and their journey will not be in vain
7.	A brand-new island everywhere we roam	A brand-new island everywhere we roam means a new name of the island or the new island that they just found?	They find a new island when they are roaming or find new location which they had never been to
8.	We keep our island in our mind	They keep their island in their mind means they save or keep the island in their mind? Or they take care the island? Or they always remember about their island?	They will always remember about their island even if they often go elsewhere

In the song with tittle "***We Know The Way***" the writers found there 8 ambiguities.

**Table 2 Second songs' analysis: *I'm Moana***

No.	Lyric	Ambiguity	The Meaning
1.	She stand apart from the crowd	She stands apart from the crowd means that she stands alone away from the crowd or she prefers to be alone and does not really like the crowd?	She (Moana) does not really enjoy being in the crowd and she prefers to be alone
2.	Sometimes the world seems against you	Sometimes the world seems against you is ambiguous because the world cannot even talk to argue with you or the world cannot fight with you	It feels like the world do not support what she (Moana) did for example whatever she does or wants to do then there is something that makes what she does wrong or there is an obstacle that thwarts something she plans to do
3.	The journey may leave a scar	Why the journey can leave scar? Is it something dangerous or is it	This means that a every journey will give

		something sharp to the point that it can hurt people?	experience, whether it is a bad experience or a good experience
4.	The things you have learned will guide	How the things we learn work to guide us? Is it going to tell us everything that we have to do? Or is it going to show us how to do things?	Every experience will give lessons for her (Moana) that she might need in the future, when she experience the same thing as before so that she know what to do and how to face it
5.	And nothing on earth can silence	This is ambiguous because earth cannot talk, so why it cannot stay silent? Or everything on earth can make a sound or talk?	It means the world and everything on it will always give support, whether it is human, or even animals and plants.
6.	The quiet voice still inside you	What does the quiet voice still inside you means? Is there a voice inside of us or our body can produce a voice?	This means that deep down she (Moana) still wants to do what she really like, she has different thoughts from others, and she wants something different from what people expect her to do
7.	Who found their way across the world	How do they get across this huge world? The world is too big to be across, no one has ever crossed the world.	This means that they can always go to wherever they want around the world. In this case they go by sailing
8.	I am everything I've learned and more	Does it mean that she had learned so many things to the point that she became into those things she learned?	She (Moana) had learned so many things, and those things make her knows about almost everything
9.	I will carry you here in my heart	Heart cannot carry anything, so what does she mean?	She (Moana) remains confident in what she wants, she will always keep her ambition in her heart

In the song with title "*I'm Moana*" the writers found there 9 ambiguities.

## CONCLUSION

From the first soundtrack song with title "We Know The Way" the writers found there are 8 ambiguities, and those all are the structural ambiguities. And in the second soundtrack song with title "I'm Moana" there are 9 ambiguities. The meaning from these soundtrack songs were intentionally made to fit the scenes in the film that are about Moana and her island. In the song with title "We Know The Way" they sing about their journey sailing the seas. And in the song with tittle 'I'm Moana" Moana and her grandmother sing about Moana

herself, they describe Moana and her own struggle. The ambiguity in the Moana Movie soundtrack songs are mean to make the audience of the movie become interest not only to the movie itself, but also to the audio and various language style used in the movie.

### **SUGGESTION**

The writers hope that this research will provide additional understanding and knowledge to the reader about sentential meaning, especially about ambiguity. But aside from reading this research, the writers suggest the readers to look for and also read the other references regarding sentential meaning, not only about the ambiguity but also about the other types of sentential meaning.

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