

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter contains four points: background of the study, research focus, objective of the study, and significance of the study. The background of the research deals with general information about the research, and the motives of the researcher in conducting the study. Meanwhile, research focus describes what the research is focused on, and also the problems triggering the accomplishment of the research. Thus, to answer the research problem, the objectives of the study are performed. In addition, the significance of the research is presented as the final section of the chapter.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

People transfer information through communication. The communication is only possible to be delivered by language as language is the medium of communication. The language of communication is performed in the form of utterances. In the case of early ages children, they produce utterances in a simpler form. They are not concerned with the structure of their words as they are still lack of knowledge about sentence structure. They, however, sometimes mess with some utterances since the utterances are too simple. This action of messing with utterances confuses people in catching the actual meaning. That is why transferring meaning for early ages children is more important rather than arranging the words into a correct structural sentence.

As the children grow, their ability to produce utterances is also developed as well. They begin to consider the phoneme, grammar, and meaning as important

elements in their utterances. The three elements should be correlated with one another in order to produce a meaningful and understandable sentence. Phoneme is individual sounds of words. Then, the words are systematically arranged according to the grammatical rules to form a correct sentence. Each word in a sentence has meanings which play different roles, and they are under the correspondence of semantics. The more ability that people possess; the more complex sentences they could arrange. They combine simple sentences to form a complex sentence with high quality of structure and meaning. If they could do so, their ability of understanding complex sentence is also developed. To perform a communicative conversation, the speaker and the hearer should have at least the same level of understanding sentences. If the speaker and the hearer have different abilities in understanding sentences, the communicative conversation will hardly occur. In short, conversation occurs when two people who have the same understanding about the intention of a sentence are conducting the process of transferring and receiving meaning.

People have logical concepts which relate the meaning between sentences. The logical concepts emerged when they understand the meaning between sentences. When a sentence is related to another sentence, the idea conveyed becomes stronger than a stand-alone sentence. The relation among those sentences is called as entailment. Entailment happens when the truth of one proposition affects the other one (Griffiths, 2006: 25). Those two propositions must correlate with one another. In short, entailment is a relationship between sentences where the truth of one sentence necessarily implies the truth of the other.

The phenomenon of entailment can be found in daily conversation, but most people rarely recognize this phenomenon since they are not really aware about its emergence. In order to recognize the existence of entailment, people need to pay more attention on every single sentence. The recognition can be initiated by noticing sentences which are closely related. Furthermore, when sentences are closely related, there is a bigger possibility of the sentences to entail each other.

People in general conduct conversation to share each other's ideas. The conversation can possibly occur whether in real life or in a movie since movie is a reflection of real life in terms of culture and conversation. Movie portrays the social life of daily life which is presented more aesthetically by adding some fictions or fantasies. Thus, the phenomenon of entailment can also be found in a movie. In fact, language phenomena are not something which is hard to find in a movie. One of the movies which contains entailment in its dialogues is *The Da Vinci Code* movie.

*The Da Vinci Code* (2006) is a movie based on Dan Brown's international best seller novel with the same title written in 2003. It was filmed in 2006, and is directed by Ron Howard. *The Da Vinci Code* is a thriller mystery movie which tells about historical secrets. This movie is categorized as high rated movie as it can be seen by the awards which have been received. The awards must be given not only because of the enthusiasm of people in watching it, but also because the quality from the movie itself.

The researcher's interest in analyzing the entailment in *The Da Vinci Code* movie is basically because the characters of the movie mostly talk about codes and symbols. Sentences about codes are usually connected each other, so they have high possibility to entail each other since entailment possibly happens when the sentences are interrelated. That is why the researcher presumes that this movie contains enough entailments to be analyzed. Moreover, the high appreciation of the public regarding this movie has motivated the researcher in conducting this study. In addition, since semantic entailment researches are considered as scarcity in academic writing, the researcher is more motivated and challenged to contribute her contemplation regarding this study.

## **B. Research Focus**

Based on the background of the study, there are several linguistic phenomena which can be analyzed from the research topic. The first problem which can be identified is the lexical relations in the movie. The relation between words in the movie can be scrutinized by lexical relations which covers synonymy, antonymy, and hyponymy. As a matter of fact, the characters of movie mostly talk about religion. Thus, semantic approach can be applied to analyze the lexical relations regarding religion performed in the movie.

Furthermore, the second problem is related to the use of non-verbal communication conducted by the characters in *The Da Vinci Code* movie. Similar with the other movies, the characters in this movie also perform some non-verbal communications which can be indicated by visual signs such as nodding head, crossing fingers, holding up a thumb, and etc.

The last problem emerged is the meaning of symbols in *The Da Vinci Code* movie. As the movie concerns in revealing historical secrets, it contains some ancient symbols which the meanings can be analyzed by semiotic approach. In addition, the most vivid symbol reflected by the movie is feminism symbol.

However, as stated in the background of the study, the researcher is interested to conduct a research in semantic, particularly entailment because it becomes a language phenomenon which appears quite significant in this movie. Entailment can be found in written texts or even in daily conversations or movies. Therefore, to limit the problems, the research is focused on the application of semantic entailment uttered by the characters of *The Da Vinci Code* movie. Thus, the researcher observes all the utterances performed by the whole characters of *The Da Vince Code* movie.

Based on the research focus, the researcher formulates the problems into the following questions.

1. What types of entailment are uttered by the characters in *The Da Vinci Code* movie?
2. What are the orders of entailment applied by the characters in *The Da Vinci Code* movie?
3. What are the approaches used to detect the entailment in the utterances found in *The Da Vinci Code* movie?

### **C. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the formulation of problems, the objectives of the research are:

1. to identify the types of entailment uttered by the characters in *The Da Vinci Code* movie,
2. to describe the orders of entailment applied by the characters in *The Da Vinci Code* movie, and
3. to explain the approaches to detect the occurrence of entailment in *The Da Vinci Code* movie.

### **D. Significance of the Study**

The research is concerned with the employment of semantic entailment in *The Da Vinci Code* movie, and it has theoretical and/ or practical significance for readers from different backgrounds.

#### **1. English Department Student**

This research is expected to be useful for English Department students, especially Linguistics students as an appropriate reference in studying Semantics particularly regarding entailment since the research scrutinizes entailment.

#### **2. Other Researchers**

For other researchers, hopefully this research could motivate and inspire them to conduct further research concerned with entailment. Also, they could add this research as bibliographical variation to give more knowledge about entailment. They hopefully could improve their research to be much better than this study.

### 3. Lecturers

This study is expected to be included in the subject of learning in order to help the students understand more about entailment in an easier way.

### 4. Readers in General

This research hopefully could be beneficial for readers in general in enriching their knowledge about entailment, and hopefully could trigger their awareness about the occurrence of entailment in their daily conversation.