

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five parts. The first part is background of the research. The second part is statements of problem which contains of research questions. The third part is describing the purpose of this research into the research objective. The fourth part is significances research which explains the benefits of this research. The fifth part is definitions of key terms.

### 1.1 Background of Study

The existence of language is an important component in human life to convey information and aspirations. Furthermore, language is a tool for conveying feelings, ideas or concept as a tool for communication or interacting. Interaction can be done in the form of verbal, non-verbal, spoken, written, formal, informal, and several ways to another convey it. Each the forms interaction depends into its purposes. Verbal interaction is used when a speaker exchange information through words. There are two types, namely written and spoken. Then, if a person exchange information without word named non-verbal interaction.

The form of language usually used apparent behaviors like gesture, facial expression, and touch. In addition, formal and informal interactions used one or two ways depends to the situation. Fasold explains, language is a system that allows speakers to compose sentences to interact (Fasold, 2006:1). Meanwhile, Chandler argues, the most powerful communication system so far is language (Chandler, 2007:6).

Song is one of ways to communicate directly or indirectly. Hornby explains, a song is a collection of words sung accompanied by short music to tell a story (Hornby, 2015:1440). In other words, a song has a series of words or poetry that sang with various rhythms which include an instrument and singing. Also, song is a part of literary works because they contain a series of words called lyrics. Each line of song lyrics has certain rhymes, rhythms, and elements which form the lyrics of a song, such as the structure of meaning and structure of form (Sayuti, 1985).

Composers or singers communicate through songs by conveying messages that contained in song lyrics to listeners. Many people speak through songs to convey ideas and feelings, such feelings of falling in love, anger, sadness, disappointment, or to convey social ideas, political ideas and so on. Song is reflection on human daily life.

In other words, a song can be called a bridge to the listener's feelings who feel the same as contained in the song. So, people become conscious it or not, songs have become part of human life. Every day, a song appears whether intentional or unintentional. Similar with poetry, that written in the lyrics does not necessarily show the true meaning. Thus, sometimes people find it complicated to understand the songwriter or composer meant in a song. Song lyrics written by composers usually has an implicit and explicit meaning. Knowledge of song is needed to understand the meaning.

Meaning can be interpreted in various ways. Semantics is the study of meaning in languages. There are three main components to understand semantic meaning, they are: the context which in a sentence is applied, the words meanings in the sentence, and its morphological and syntactic form (Fasold, 2006:138).

#### Ambiguous

In human daily language, the phenomenon of ambiguity often occurs which leads people to the multiple meaning of a words, phrases, or sentences (Fasold, 2006:494). This matter may cause misunderstanding and finally raises problems. Therefore, the main point to consider before utter and write is meaning and interpretations.

Based on the background, the writer thoughts that ambiguity is one of the crucial problems. The writer wants invite listeners to understand the meaning of the song so that listeners feel what is conveyed by the composer or singer. Because not a few people find the meaning of ambiguity in song-lyrics. This makes the writer aim to clarify the lyric meaning of the song by analyzing the ambiguity in the lyrics of the song. So, in this research, the writer feels interest to analyze the lexical ambiguity and took an album song as an object.

One of 5 Seconds of Summer 's album is "Calm" selected for research. "Calm" album itself released on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. However, in the early days after the release there was an error shipping. Albums are given to the public early, so the album will not be counted in first week sales due to Billboard's music chart policies.

Many fans are disappointed to hear this news, because 5SOS is the only band that has all their albums debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200, and this would break their record. Fans persisted and were determined to land their fourth album No. 1 for the band. Finally, the CALM album charted at No. 2 with a difference of less than 3,000 units between No. 1. It was a huge win, although it did not top the charts in the US, the Calm album went to number one in the UK and Australia (Nuha, n.d.).

Since then, fans have asked Billboard to reconsider, they've also campaigned for a music chart to tell the band's first week of sales following the shipping error.

The musician group 5 Seconds of Summer choose as object of research. 5 Seconds of Summer or abbreviated as 5SOS is an Australian band. They are known for their covers of popular songs, one of which is One Direction's songs uploaded via YouTube channel. Louis Tomlinson as the original singer of One Direction noticed his song performed by 5SOS, he loved it and flew them up. So, they got a record deal. They were most popular when toured with One Direction in 2013, a lot of One Direction fans became 5SOS fans too.

In this study, the writer chooses the 5 Seconds of Summer's album entitled Calm as source of data to analyze. The writer chooses lexical ambiguity in song lyrics as the theme of this research. Ambiguity is used in the song so that the song has beauty in the language and makes people interested in hearing it and even understanding the content of the song. Thus, the writer is interested in discussing it because there are ambiguous words in their song. This has the meaning that 5SOS wants to convey to their fans.

There are some related researches that discuss the ambiguity, such as conducted the first by Halim (2019) with the research entitled *An Analysis of*

*Ambiguity Rich Brian's Song Lyrics in The Sailor Album*. It was an analysis of lexical ambiguity in the 12 songs of Rich Brian's album entitled *The Sailor*. Based on Hurford and Heasley theory that found 36 data, that are found 27 data which contains polysemy and 4 songs which contains homonymy (Halim, 2019).

The second study by Azizah (2019), with the research entitled *Lexical Ambiguity in Stranger Things 1<sup>st</sup> Season Movie Series*. The focus of her research clarified about lexical ambiguity used in *Strangers Thins 1<sup>st</sup> Season Movie*. Based on Stephen Ullmann's theory and Murphy's theory, that the conclusion of her research is 35 word that found of lexical ambiguity and can be showed in oral or written language (Azizah, 2019).

The third, there is the ambiguous research from Faelani (2013) with the research entitled *Ambiguity in The Jakarta Post Weekender*. Focuses his research on grammatical ambiguity and lexical ambiguity. Based on Stephen Ullmann theory, his research got 21 data grammatical ambiguities and 17 lexical ambiguities (Faelani, 2013).

The fourth, Fathurrohman (2020) with the research entitled "*Lexical and Contextual Meaning 'Bring me the Horizon' sempiternal Album*". Focuses his research on lexical meaning and contextual. The object of his research is song, he researched *Bring Me The horizon's* chosen song in the album *Sempiternal*. The result of the analysis showed that lexical meaning found in the lyrics covered denotation, connotation, sense relation, grammatical meaning, lexical ambiguity, and sentence meaning (Fathurrohman, 2020).

The fifth, Sotoleh (2017) with the research entitled *Lexical and Contextual Meaning in 'Westlife' Where We Are Album*. Focuses his research on lexical meaning and contextual. There are thirteen songs from one album that are used as data objects. The results in his research show that; the lexical meaning is the same as the dictionary meaning, the contextual meaning in this study is adjusted from the context of the lyric stanza itself (Sotoleh, 2017).

The difference between this research and another previous research is in the object of the study and Apple Music is one of the interesting media which provides a lot of songs which is liked by many people especially teenagers and the

most important thing is no one has researched this “Calm” album of 5 Seconds of Summer before.

## 1.2 Statements of Problem

Song lyrics of 5 Seconds of Summer’s “Calm” Album has a certain purpose to say something. Thus, the writer wants to explain the true meanings in the lyrics of the songs in the album Calm which have many ambiguous words, because in the album there are songs that have unique meanings. The following is the formulation of the problem based on the background of the problem that has been described.

- 1) What types of lexical ambiguities are there in 5 Seconds of Summer’s “*Calm*” Album?
- 2) How are the meanings of lexical ambiguities which found in 5 Seconds of Summer’s “*Calm*” Album?

## 1.3 Research Objectives

Build upon the formulation of the research question above, then this research is conducted to comply the ambiguity from all song in Calm album was released on March 27, 2020. So, the writer is intended:

- 1) To find out the types of lexical ambiguity in Calm album by 5 Seconds of Summer.
- 2) To analyze and describe of lexical ambiguity in Calm album 5 Seconds of Summer.

## 1.4 Research Significances

This research can provide the writer's knowledge about word ambiguity, besides people enjoy to listen the music and know more about song lyrics, but there are also ambiguous words in song lyrics.

This study's result is supposed to bring theoretically benefits, because the theory used in this analysis is suitable with lexical ambiguity theory that focused types and meaning of lexical ambiguity.

The writer looks forward in this study that the readers in studying linguistics get more grasping about semantics, especially about lexical ambiguity

in song lyrics. Beside that can be used as alternative references or who are want to draw up similar study on lexical ambiguity.

### 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To prevent misconception about terms, the writer explains some of the key terms are used in this study:

- a. Semantic is the systematic study of meaning, and linguistic semantic is the study of how language organize and express meanings (Kreidler, 1998:60:3).
- b. Song is a piece of music with word that is sung or music for the voice; singing (Hornby, 2015:1133).
- c. Meaning is intended to communicate, that is not directly expressed (Hornby, 2015:726).
- d. Lexical Ambiguity is the condition whereby any linguistic form has two or more interpretations (Hurford et al., 2007:135).
- e. Homonymy occurs when the word has unrelated senses but it has the same phonological word (Kreidler, 1998:60).
- f. Polysemy is one lexeme has two or more related meanings (Kreidler, 1998:54).
- g. Lyrics is an expression of the writer's feelings or composed for singing (Hornby, 2015:703).
- h. 5 Seconds of Summer, often shortened to 5SOS, are an Australian pop rock band from Sydney, New South Wales, formed in late 2011. The group consists of lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist Luke Hemmings, lead guitarist Michael Clifford, bassist Calum Hood, and drummer Ashton Irwin (*5 Seconds of Summer* / *5 Seconds of Summer Wiki* / *Fandom*, n.d.).