

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the problems background related to the problem, research problems, research objectives, the significance of this study, and definition of key terms.

### 1.1 Background

In understanding a language, it is better to understand the meaning or meaning of each word or sentence conveyed. One branch of linguistics that studies meaning is semantics. Semantics is the part of language structure that is related to the meaning of expressions, systems and investigations of meaning, and meaning in a language (Kridalaksana, 1984: 174). Semantic studies study meaning relations. meaning is the link that exists between the elements of the language itself (Djajasudarma, 1993: 5).

Meaning is an important part of a language because with meaning, communication can occur smoothly and mutual understanding. Meaning relationship is a meaningful relationship or relationship between a word and language unit and other words or language units (Chaer, 2009: 83). This relationship can take the form of similarity of meaning (synonymy), opposite meaning (antonymy), multiple meaning (polysemy), difference meaning (homonymy), and inclusion of meaning (hyponymy).

In the modern era filled with cultural diversity and artistic expressions, music has become a powerful medium for conveying meaning, emotions, and values within society. Song lyrics, as an integral part of the musical experience, are not merely a string of words accompanying a melody, but also a potent medium for conveying meaning, evoking emotions, and reflecting the social and psychological conditions of their creators.

Most of the time, people who sing or listen to music are unaware of the significance of the lyrics. As a result, when they sing a song, they are unable to memorize it, which prevents them from conveying the intended meaning to the audience. The linguistic components involved in intralingual can be found in the term connection. As a result, we must examine the meaning relationship that a word contains in order to fully understand the meaning that is contained inside it. This will help us figure out what exactly provides the meaning of the word under investigation its unique character. As a result, we must examine the meaning relationship that a word contains in order to fully understand the meaning that is contained inside it. This will help us figure out what exactly provides the meaning of the word under investigation its unique character.

However, a lot of listeners are not understanding the message that the singer is attempting to get across in the song. In addition, the song acts as a vehicle for the singer to share their messages with the audience. People from different cultures can communicate with each other through songs. Some people have developed the habit of vocalizing their emotions through songs as a means of communication, substituting words for their sentiments. Meanwhile, when

people sing a song and listen to music, they thought to have learned about the song early on, particularly while singing a song. This is particularly valid when enjoying certain music. Olivia Rodrigo's songs were chosen by the researcher to be the first subject of this study because of the impact that her music has on listeners, as evidenced by the touching lyrics that resonate with many people who have experienced similar circumstances.

One of Olivia Rodrigo's recent works that has garnered widespread attention is her album titled "*GUTS*". In this album, Rodrigo presents a collection of songs with meaningful and emotive lyrics, exploring various aspects of human life and experiences in depth. In works of art such as this, there is a richness of language that can be an intriguing subject for research, particularly in the context of polysemy analysis, where words can have diverse meanings.

The polysemy analysis of song lyrics in the album "*GUTS*" by Olivia Rodrigo becomes an interesting research topic in the field of applied linguistics and cultural studies. By understanding the various meanings contained within the lyrics of these songs, we can delve deeper into the messages Rodrigo seeks to convey and do not misinterpret it.

This research will not only contribute to our understanding of linguistic creativity in the context of modern pop music but also open doors for further reflection on the relationship between art, language, and human experience. Thus, this study is expected to provide valuable insights for the development of literary studies, applied linguistics, and popular culture studies.

Several researchers have studied polysemy. There are three papers that the researchers chose that are relevant from previous research. The first is the research of Yuliyanti from the Raden Intan States Islamic University of Purwokerto in 2023 with the title “*Polysemy Analysis of Song Lyrics in The Albums of "Positions" by Ariana Grande*”. In this thesis, this research uses Asher and Haspelmath's theory and aims to find the types of polysemy and also the word classes used in Ariana Grande's songs. This research is qualitative research. Textual or visual analysis is used to collect data, with several stages including downloading, reading, researching, and highlighting song lyrics.

The second was by Setianingrum with the title “*A Polysemy Analysis of Vocabulary in the Handbook of Islamic Banking of English for Economy at Islamic Banking Major*”. The aim of this research is polysemy, which includes the form of lingual vocabulary units, the types of lingual units that form polysemy, and the types of polysemy. The researcher chose the Handbook of Islamic Banking as the subject of this research because this book contains all the references needed by Sharia Banking students, and the researcher's focus is on the economic field, especially Sharia Banking. This research is qualitative research. Data reduction, data presentation, and data conclusions are used to examine the data.

The third was by Elihu Jemal Suryono and Afrianto from the University of Teknokrat Indonesia, with the title “*Polysemy Analysis of Katy Perry's Songs: A Semantic Study*”. In this journal, the author uses descriptive qualitative methods. All the data that the author took were words in sentences with regular

and irregular polysemy identified in the lyrics of the song “*Teenage Dream*” from the Katy Perry album. The first step the author took was to look for the song lyrics on Spotify. Next, the author shows evidence of the lyrics. After that, the writer chooses which words contain regular and irregular polysemy. Then, the author analyzes and describes which words contain regular and irregular polysemy. Finally, after analyzing and describing the data, the author will count the number of words containing regular and irregular polysemy in the lyrics of Katy Perry's songs on the album “*Teenage Dream*”.

## 1.2 Research Problems

The analysis of polysemy in song lyrics in the album “*GUTS*” by Olivia Rodrigo is an interesting research topic in the field of applied linguistics and cultural studies. This research focuses on polysemy because people had doubts about the meaning of the sentences in Olivia Rodrigo's songs until a conspiracy emerged on social media. By understanding the various meanings contained within the lyrics of these songs, we can delve deeper into the messages Rodrigo seeks to convey and do not misinterpret it.

So, based on the background described above, the problems that can be found in this study are:

1. What are the types of polysemy in Olivia Rodrigo song lyrics on the albums “*Guts*” ?
2. How do the factors that influence polysemy occurrence in Olivia Rodrigo song on the albums “*Guts*” ?

The researcher employs a polysemy theory developed by Alwi to examine the various forms of polysemy and a theory developed by Pateda to explain the factors that contribute to the appearance of polysemy in Olivia Rodrigo songs as a means of discussing the issues that have arisen during the course of the research.

### 1.3 Research Objective

In this research, the researcher got the objectives as follows:

1. To find out about the types of polysemy found in Olivia Rodrigo songs from the “*Guts*” album.
2. To explain the factors that influence polysemy occurrence in Olivia Rodrigo tracks from the "*Guts*" album.

### 1.4 Research Significance

This study has both theoretical and applied significance.

1. Theoretically, the aim of this research is to increase knowledge about linguistics, especially about semantic studies. It can also serve as a reference for researchers, especially those working in the field of polysemy.
2. Practically, It is hoped that this research will provide insight into the various meanings of words that can be explored further in future research. In addition, it is hoped that this research will be useful and contribute to future research.

### 1.5 Definition of the key terms

1. Semantics, Chomsky (2009:5) said, “Semantics is one of the components of grammar. Apart from the syntactic and phonological components, semantic studies can also be used to analyze distinguishing features or distinctive features”.
2. Polysemy, The term “polysemy” refers to a situation where two or more words have the same form and connected meaning.
3. Song lyric, the song is a short poem or other sets of words set to music or meant to be sung. Lyric is expressing the writer's emotions, usually briefly and in stanzas or recognized forms. Lyric is a person's expression about something that has been seen, heard or experienced.
4. Olivia Isabel Rodrigo is an American singer and actress, known for her roles as Paige Olvera on the Disney Channel series *Bizaardvark* and as Nini Salazar-Roberts on *Disney+*.