

## An Ambiguous Meaning Uttered by Characters Found in “My Lecturer My Husband Movie Season 2”

Dewi Nuryanti<sup>1</sup>, Siti Nurhalimatus Sa’diah<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Institut Bisnis Nusantara

[deaprodhite@gmail.com](mailto:deaprodhite@gmail.com)<sup>1</sup>, [adeputrifive@gmail.com](mailto:adeputrifive@gmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

This research aims to find out the reasons of characters uttering some ambiguous words, phrases, or sentences in the movie and to describe the meaning of ambiguous words uttered by characters. This research will also provide some ambiguous characteristic information that appears more often in the movie. The method used for this research is descriptive qualitative and the writers use theory by Crystal (2008). The data audio-visual data taken from the part of the conversation of the movie. The research obtained nine data contained the ambiguous word, phrases, or sentences. They are lexical and structural ambiguity. Lexical ambiguity is a characteristic that often appears in this movie. There are eight data using ambiguous lexical characteristics, while there is one data that uses ambiguous structural.

**Keywords:** Ambiguous, Ambiguous meaning, Characters, Meaning, My Lecturer My Husband Movie Season 2

### ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui alasan karakter-karakter pada film mengujarkan beberapa kata, frasa, atau kalimat yang taksa (ambigu) dalam film tersebut. Selain itu juga bertujuan untuk menjelaskan makna kata-kata taksa yang diucapkan oleh karakter. Penelitian ini juga akan memberikan beberapa informasi karakteristik yang bersifat ambigu/taksa yang muncul lebih sering dalam film. Metode yang digunakan untuk penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif dan penulis menggunakan teori oleh Crystal (2008). Data penelitian berupa data audio-visual diambil dari bagian-bagian percakapan dalam film. Penelitian ini mendapatkan sembilan data yang berisi kata, frasa, atau kalimat yang taksa atau ambigu. Hasil penelitian dikelompokkan ke dalam dua jenis utama yaitu leksikal dan struktural ambigu. Leksikal ambigu adalah karakteristik yang sering muncul dalam film ini. Ada delapan data yang menggunakan karakteristik leksikal ambigu, sedangkan ada satu data yang menggunakan struktural ambigu.

*Kata kunci: Ambigu, Karakter, Makna, Makna bersifat ambigu, My Lecturer My Husband Movie Season 2*

### INTRODUCTION

Ambiguous sentences are sentences that have two meanings or double meanings which sometimes cause the listener to get confused with the sentence. The same word that has two different meanings and characteristics. These characteristics are words that have more than one meaning. The feature is a word that has two or even more meanings. The second word causes a listener to feel confused. The word usually occurs because it has a less clear meaning. The ambiguous utterances may be found in written or spoken language by all speakers. It also may be found uttered by the teenager for different purposes.

Aside from ambiguous characteristics, ambiguous also has types. The ambiguous types are lexical ambiguous and structural ambiguous. Lexical ambiguous is a sentence that has the same word but has a different meaning. Structural ambiguous is an ambiguous sentence that occurs because the

sentence is incomplete or the result of writing contains errors, such as misplaced modifiers. Bosacki (2012) and Sennet stated that ambiguity is often referred to as uncertainty or doubtfulness of the meaning of language. According to her theory, everyone can understand that ambiguous is a word or sentence that can create confusion. It then causes the addressee to guess what the speaker's intention by his/her word(s).

According to Shuy (2014), "At other times the ambiguity stems from unintentionally omitting information" (p.48). She explained that ambiguous information is also lost accidentally. Sometimes, a speaker does not have any purpose or plan to utter ambiguous statement. Therefore, it comes naturally in speaking.

According to Nuryanti (2019), "Teenagers express their feeling directly, usually teenagers use slang words or even use their grouped jargon. Differ from teenagers, adult speakers use language which much complete expressions than teenagers". Ambiguous words or sentences may be understood from a person's expression. Conversely, words or sentences can become ambiguous for someone if a group uses vocabulary that is only understood in that group.

### **Types of Ambiguous**

#### **a. Lexical Ambiguous**

Crystal (2008) stated that lexical ambiguity exists when a word or phrase has some than one interpretation. Crystal explains that if there is more than one interpretation in a word or phrase, the word or phrase can be called lexical ambiguous. It can be seen from example 1 "Do you look the crane over there?" Yudith (2018). The use of the word 'crane' in the example may give confusing meaning to the reader, if the context is not so clear. The first meaning of the word 'crane' can be considered as a 'bird'. 'Crane' is a type of bird that probably everyone knows. It is probably understood by the students who learn how to make an origami crane or by people who see the bird in their daily live. On the other hands, the second meaning of the word 'crane' is 'a large machine used to move heavy objects'. This meaning is understood by people or by those who work in the constructions field or harbour. Therefore, from this example the word 'crane' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. It is because the word 'crane' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different context and fit to the interpretation of phrase as theory by Crystal. The lexeme occurs to be ambiguous.

#### **b. Structural Ambiguous**

Crystal (2008) unlike lexical ambiguity, structural ambiguity exists when a phrase or a sentence has multiple grammatical interpretations, also called grammatical ambiguity. Crystal explains that if there is more than one grammatical interpretation in a sentence or phrase, the sentence or phrase can be called lexical ambiguity or grammatical ambiguity. It can be seen from example 2 "I list the book in library" Yudith (2018). The use of the phrase 'in the library' can convey a confusing meaning to the reader, if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the phrase 'in the library' can be assumed that someone is registering the books in the library but s/he is not being in the library. While, the second meaning of the phrase 'in the library' is someone is registering books, but someone is doing it in the library'. So,

from this example the sentence 'in library' can be said to be structurally ambiguous. That's because the sentence 'in library' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to the interpretation of the sentence as a theory by Crystal.

The research about ambiguous meaning may not be the first done by the writers, but it had been done by others. Kristian (2018), Simatupang (2007), and Shuy (2014) were some reserachers who did the research about it. The former researchers did their analysis by using different data, such as from Jakarta Post articles while the writers take the data from characters' utterances in one film.

The research limits to some questions that will be analysed: 1) why can a sentence in the film My Lecturer My Husband Season 2 film be ambiguous? 2) what are the characteristics of ambiguous sentences in the film My Lecturer My Husband Season 2 film? And 3) what types appear more often on the film My Lecturer My Husband Season 2 film?

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The writers use a descriptive qualitative research approach related to the research objectives. According to Creswell (2018), Qualitative research is a research approach or method to explore and understand the meaning contained in individuals and groups related to social problems. Qualitative research is often referred to as descriptive research. So, this research will be explained by describing the meaning in ambiguous sentences in the film.

Qualitative research is often referred to as descriptive research. That is because the qualitative research is explained in words (Pragita and Nuryanti, 2022). Therefore, qualitative research usually describes data information and data results in the form of sentences that can be easily understood. In conclusion, sentence structure is used in explaining the data in qualitative research.

Data is taken by watching and understanding the conversations in the film and choosing words or sentences that seems included in ambiguous words or sentences in the film "My Lecturer My Husband Season 2". The writers study ambiguous words or sentences in film in order to find data that will be examined, such as identifying ambiguous words or sentences, identifying the appropriate meaning of the film, classifying them based on the theory used in this research.

### **DISCUSSION**

The writers think that there are lot of utterances uttered by characters contains ambiguous meaning. The utterances have been grouped and marked as data to be analyzed. The details information about the ambiguous utterances is given in the following analysis.

#### **Data 1**

This data is found in minutes 02:50 until 02:56. The conversation is carried out in class. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit. It is Arya who utters these words. Arya is a lecturer and the husband of a student (Inggit) who he teaches at a campus. Arya uttered those words to rebuke Inggit.

While teaching the class, Arya finds that his wife is late. The situation can be seen from the following dialog:

The dialogue 02:50-02:56

Arya : *Kenapa terlambat?*

Inggit : *Macet, Pak.*

Arya : *Basi*

In that expression, there is the use of the word 'basi'. The word 'basi' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'basi' is considered to be 'smelling bad with rot'. 'Basi' is usually used to refer to a food that has undergone a process of decay or smells bad or sour. This may be understood by everyone, especially a mother who likes to taste her food before giving it to her child. While the second meaning of the word 'basi' is 'things that are not new anymore'. This meaning is understood by people or those who have long understood or known each other. From the word 'basi', it can be said that the word uttered in this data is seen to be lexically ambiguous. It is because the word 'basi' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 2**

This data is found in minutes 04:24 until 04:31. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit. During this conversation, Arya and Inggit are in a bedroom. They are chatting on the bed like common husband and wife. Inggit is imagining kissing Arya in a class. This is done as a punishment from Arya because she was late for class. After Inggit has a wild imagination, Arya responds to his wife imagination. It can be seen in the following dialog.

The dialogue 04:24-04:31

Arya : *Imajinasi kamu makin liar banget, ga boleh gitu.*

Inggit : *Ih ko ga boleh gitu si mas? Itu seru kali.*

In the conversation, there is the use of the word 'liar'. The word 'liar' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'liar' is considered to be 'non tame animal'. 'Non-domestic animal' is a type of animal that is not kept by anyone or is not cared for by anyone. This may be understood by everyone, especially people who understand animals. While the second meaning of the word 'liar' is 'irregular'. The meaning of this meaning is the attitude or behavior of someone who is disorganized or does not comply with the existing rules. From the word 'liar' used in the utterance, it can be said that the word 'liar' to be lexically ambiguous. That is because the word 'liar' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 3**

This data is found in minutes 09:04 until 09:08. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit in the car in the morning. Inggit is annoyed by Arya, her husband, who does not wake her up early in

the morning. This made her unable to have breakfast at home, while Arya has his breakfast at home alone without his wife. The situation is shown in the following dialog.

The dialogue 09:04 until 09:08

Inggit : *Tiba-tiba udah sarapan sendiri, curang.*

In the dialog above, the use of the word 'curang' is found to be ambiguous. The word 'curang' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'curang' is considered 'dishonest'. 'Dishonest' is a hypocrite. This is probably understood by everyone, and is usually done when asking questions and not answering it honestly. While the second meaning of the word 'curang' is 'unfair'. This meaning is also understood by everyone. So, from the use of the word 'curang' in the dialog above, it can be said that the word 'curang' is a kind of lexically ambiguous. The word 'curang' is found to have more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and conforms to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 4**

This data is found in minutes 12:23 until 12:33. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit. During this conversation, Arya and Inggit are in the car. They are in the campus basement where both have their own activity. Inggit, who is getting ready to get out of the car is reminded to always wear a mask by her husband, Arya. The situation of their talk is shown in the following dialog.

The dialogue 12:23-12:33

Arya : *Maskernya nanti dipake. Kalo lagi nongkrong-nongkrong di cafe atau di mana nongkrong sama temen yang laen jangan di lepas pake, lepas pake, lepas pake.*

In the dialogue, there is the use of the word 'nongkrong'. The word 'nongkrong' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'nongkrong' is considered to be 'squatting'. 'Squatting' is something that squatters do. While the second meaning of the word 'nongkrong' is 'to hangout'. This meaning is usually used by people or those who are teenagers or adults who like to sit and chat while ordering a drink or food at a cafe or other cafe-like place. So, from this dialog the word 'nongkrong' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. The word 'nongkrong' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 5**

This data is found in minutes 13:01 until 13:12. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit when they arrive at the campus basement. Inggit who permits to leave the car to enter the classroom. Arya is annoyed because her way of saying goodbye just as long as it is not like saying goodbye to her husband. It can be seen from the following dialog.

The dialogue 13:01-13:12

Arya : *Pamit yang manis aja kaya suami istri gitu, bisa gak?*

Inggit : *Fine*

In the conversation, there is the use of the word 'manis'. The word 'manis' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'manis' is considered to be 'a taste that is like the taste of sugar'. While the second meaning of the word 'manis' is 'very friendly and gentle'. This meaning is the meaning of someone who has a face, smile, words, and so on. So, from this dialog the word 'manis' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. The word 'manis' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and conforms to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 6**

This data is found in minutes 13:59 until 14:06. This conversation is in the lobby between Rara and Lim, Inggit's friends in campus. They walk towards the class where the exam is in progress. They get emotional because they are late for class to take the exam. It causes them to be panic to enter the classroom. The situation is shown by the following dialog.

The dialogue 13:59-14:06

Rara : *Aduh! Sumpah deh, kenapa pake telat gini sih? Otak gue mulai ngeblank.*  
Lim : *Gue juga, tapi lu mah tiap hari.*

In the conversation there is the use of the word 'blank'. In this conversation, speakers use English in speaking which can contain ambiguous words or sentences. The word 'blank' can convey a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'blank' is considered to be 'form'. 'Form' is a paper containing fields or letters that must be filled in to provide some information required by the giver of the form or paper. This is understood by everyone, especially people who will carry out an activity and are asked to fill in personal data. For example, someone who is going to register for a school will be asked to fill out a form. While the second meaning of the word 'blank' is 'empty'. 'Empty' is the meaning of something that does not contain or is not inhabited. So, from this dialog the word 'blank' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. It is because the word 'blank' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and conforms to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 7**

This data is found in minutes 15:20 until 15:24. This conversation is between Inggit and Iim. Inggit, Rara, and Iim enter the class when the exam has already started. They are asked to sit by the lecturer in the class. After they sit down, they are given the exam questions. However, they are given a value that has been reduced by five questions. This makes them to get bad grades because the exam questions are reduced.

The dialogue 15:20-15:24

Inggit : *Nilai gue jelek dong nih semester ini.*

In the dialogue, there is the use of the word 'jelek'. The word 'jelek' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'jelek' is considered

to be 'something unsightly or bad'. 'Something unsightly or ugly' is usually used to make judgments about faces. While the second meaning of the word 'jelek' is 'something unpleasant'. This meaning can be interpreted as something that makes one's heart unhappy because of something. So, from this dialog the word 'jelek' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. That is because the word 'jelek' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 8**

This data is found in minutes 20:20 until 20:37. This conversation is between Inggit and Iim. Inggit and Iim are on a video call. Inggit has video call in her room. They are talking about their assignments. Then Arya gets into the room to tell Inggit about important thing. However, Arya cancels to talk to Inggit because he sees online with her friend. He finally leaves the room. This causes Inggit to get annoyed and thinks that Arya is so confusing for not know of what to say.

The dialogue 20:20-20:37

Arya : *Inggit, ini malam Jumat kan ya?*

Inggit : *Iya*

Arya : *Aku ada sesuatu yang penting yang mau di omongin. Cuman... kamu lagi ngobrol sama Iim ya?*

Inggit : *Suka gajelas deh!*

From the conversation there are ambiguous sentences. People will have two meanings on it. First meaning is 'Inggit who likes Arya is not clear', and second meaning is 'Arya likes to do obscure things'. The sentence is considered ambiguous because of the intonation in the sentence. Therefore, the sentence has two interpretations. The functions of words, affixes, and stress are very important to understand a meaning so it does not become ambiguous. The sentence should use intonation and affixes or additional words so that the reader can understand the meaning of the sentence. So, from this dialog above, the sentence 'Suka gajelas deh!' can be said to be structural ambiguous. That is because the sentence 'Suka gajelas deh!' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

#### **Data 9**

This data is found in minutes 23:14 until 23:17. This conversation is between Arya and Inggit. Inggit comes out of the room in strange clothes. She feels like Jennie, one of the girl band personnel from Korea called Blackpink. She leaves the room and walk to Arya, who is sitting in the dining room, to seduce Arya. Seeing this, Arya feels so strange to see Inggit. In the end, Inggit puts her foot on Arya's shoulder to seduce Arya, her husband. It can be seen from the following dialog.

The dialogue 23:14-23:17

Arya : *Kamu jangan mancing.*

Inggit : *Kenapa saya mau mancing-mancing.*

In the dialogue, there is the use of the word 'memancig'. The word 'memancig' can give a confusing meaning to the reader if the context is not very clear. The first meaning of the word 'memancig' is considered to be 'catching fish with a fishing rod'. 'Catching fish with a fishing rod' is an activity that is usually used to fill spare time or can be used as a hobby for someone. This may be understood by everyone, especially the anglers.

While the second meaning of the word 'memancig' is 'to do something to attract other people'. This is usually done by someone to be able to get what they want. So, from this dialog the word 'memancig' can be said to be lexically ambiguous. That's because the word 'memancig' has more than one meaning which is interpreted in different contexts and according to Crystal's interpretation of the phrase as a theory.

### CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data, the writers find eight from nine data that had been collected which belonged to the lexical ambiguous type. In other words, there are eight data belonging to the lexical ambiguous type. Meanwhile, there is only one structural ambiguous has found after analyzing in the data. Writers conclude that the ambiguous type that appears more often in this film is the lexical ambiguous type.

### REFERENCES

- Asri, Rahman. (2020). *Membaca Film Sebagai Sebuah Teks: Analisis Isi Film "Nanti Kita Cerita Tentang Hari Ini (NKCTHI)"*. Jakarta: Universitas Al Azhar Indonesia
- Bosacki, Sandra L. (2012). *Culture of Ambiguity: Implication for Self and Social Understanding in Adolescence*. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers
- Carnie, Andrew. (2013). *Syntax: A Generative Introduction (3<sup>rd</sup> ed)*. New York: Blackwell Publishing
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research design: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (Fifth edition)*. Los Angeles: SAGE.
- Kreidler, Charles W. (1998). *Introducing English Semantics*. New York: Routledge.
- Kristian, Yudith Aprila K. (2018). *Lexical and Strutural Ambiguity Found in the Jakarta Post Articles on the E-ID Graft Case*. Yogyakarta: Universitas Sanata Dharma.
- Muharyanto, A, Aristyaningrum, & Anistaningtias. (2017). Analysis of Expressive Utterances on Social Media of BBM Update Statuses. *BRIGHT: Journal of English Language Teaching, Linguistics and Literature*, 1(1), 9-16. Retrieved from <https://jurnal.stkippritulungagung.ac.id/index.php/bright/article/view/249>.
- Nuryanti, D. (2019). *Utterances in The 2017 Jakarta Gubernatorial Debate of Regional Election*. *ESENSI LINGUA*, 1(2), 1-15. Retrieved from <https://ibn.ejournal.id/index.php/LINGUA/article/view/729>
- (2019). Showing Emotion of Surprise Using Metaphorical Expression by Arabic Descendent



Community. *ESENSI LINGUA*, 1(1), 42-50. Retrieved from <https://ibn.e-journal.id/index.php/LINGUA/article/view/151>

Pragita, S., & Nuryanti, D. (2022). Hedging by Raisa on Eric Nam's Podcast 'Daebak Show'. *Anaphora : Journal of Language, Literary, and Cultural Studies*, 5(2), 143-161. <https://doi.org/10.30996/anaphora.v5i2.7181>

Shuy, Roger W. (2017). *Deceptive Ambiguity by Police and Prosecutors*. Washington, DC: Oxford University Press