Polysemy in Justin Bieber's Song Lyrics

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to discover the types of polysemy words to determine the meaning of polysemy words in twelve Justin Bieber's song lyrics. The qualitative-descriptive method was used in this research. The data were collected by downloading the lyrics, reading and understanding the lyrics, and note-taking. The researchers used the theory of Miles and Huberman (1994) to determine the steps of analyzing data. The theory of Asher (2011) was used to classify and analyze the polysemy word into types of polysemy which were accidental polysemy (unrelated meaning) and logical polysemy (related meaning). Furthermore, the theory of Haspelmath (2001) was used to classify and analyze the word classes of polysemy words. As a result, the researchers found 20 polysemy words which were 10 words classified into accidental polysemy, and 10 words classified into logical polysemy. Those polysemy words were mostly in abstract nouns. Lastly, this research was expected to provide valuable information about polysemy for other researchers who would take polysemy as the topic of the research.

Keywords: Polysemy; types of polysemy; word classes

INTRODUCTION

Language is a way for humans to communicate with each other. Not only for communication but language can also be used as a way for giving or sharing information. This statement is supported by Darmojuwono and Kushartanti (as cited in Tahir 2014, p. 1) who stated that "Language is a sign of sound system which is agreed to used by group of a particular society in cooperation, communication and to self identification." Thus, the existence of language is important to human and human absolutely needs language.

Related to language, there is a study about languages called linguistics. Halliday (2003, p. vii) stated, "Linguistics is a scientific study of language". Linguistics has several branches of study, such as; phonetics & phonology which study about speech sounds and how speech sounds pattern, morphology is the study of words especially in word formation, syntax is the study of how words combine to construct or form sentences,

semantic which study about meaning, and pragmatic which study about language in context.

Among those branches of linguistics, semantics is important because it is a study of meaning in language. Language without meaning is useless. People cannot communicate if they use language that does not have meaning. Meaning appears or comes from every word in a sentence. However, we usually find words that have a similar meaning, dissimilar meaning, or even words that have more than one meaning that can make someone confused in understanding the meaning. A study of words' meaning is called lexical semantic which is a part of semantics. One of the types of lexical semantics is polysemy which is a word that has multiple meanings.

Polysemy is one of the interesting topics to be discussed because it is discussing the double or different meaning of words that could confuse the receiver. It is supported by Palmer (1995, p. 65) who stated, "It is also the case that same word may have a set of different meanings." Therefore, this study is more concerned with a word with multiple meanings called polysemy. Polysemy can be found in spoken or written language. In written language, polysemy can be found in novels, fairytales, poems, textbooks, journals, song lyrics, etc. However, sometimes someone is confused and misunderstood the meaning delivered by writers which may cause the readers to produce different interpretations.

The researchers are interested in analysing polysemy in song lyrics for two reasons. First, song lyrics are in written form and it delivers messages and meaning and also the meaning itself will depend on the readers. Second, the song lyric is a kind of communication form among the people because sometimes the writers put lyrics to deliver messages or to mean something for someone. Thus, it is important to know the meaning delivered by the writers. However, sometimes readers are confused and misunderstood with the meaning delivered by writers because the song lyrics contain words that have more than one meaning or called polysemy. Therefore, to understand the meaning of the song lyrics, someone must know the polysemy itself. Hence, it is important to know polysemy in song lyrics because it will lead to understanding the meaning.

Thus, the researcher is interested in analyzing polysemy in songs' lyrics by Justin Bieber because the songs' lyrics have words of many meanings or polysemy. Moreover, the researchers decided to analyze Justin Bieber's song lyrics because the songs use uncomplicated words and only minimal slang. However, the readers might be confused to determine the meaning of the polysemy words in Justin Bieber's songs lyrics. Therefore, the researcher opines that analyzing Justin Bieber's songs lyrics is important to avoid misunderstanding in meaning. Before the researcher determines the meaning of the polysemy words, the researcher must categorize or classify the types of polysemy in order to make the researcher easier in determining the meaning of polysemy words.

LITERATURE REVIEW
POLYSEMY

Besides different words have different meanings, some of the same words also may have different meanings, it is called polysemy (Palmer, 1995, p. 65). If words have multiple meanings, it can cause someone to be confused in understanding the meaning of the words. It is supported by Setianingrum (2017) that said "Polysemy is the study of relationship which the most interesting meaning because of the multiplicity of meaning

contained in sometimes that make confusing.". Hence, if someone correctly determines the meaning of the polysemy word, it will provide a correct interpretation. However, if someone wrongly determines the meaning of the polysemy word, there will be a wrong interpretation.

The meaning of polysemy word is still related to one another. It is supported by Ahyaroni (2019, p. 16), who states that "Polysemy is a double-meaning word with every meaning having a closeconnection of meaning.".The multiple meaning in polysemy logically can be described by connecting the meanings of the word to its primary meaning. This is because these meanings are still related to their primary meanings.

Talking about polysemy, there are two types of polysemy by Asher (2011, p. 62-63). Those are accidental polysemy and logical polysemy.

ACCIDENTAL POLYSEMY

According to Asher (2011), who stated that "Words that do not receive the label called as accidentally polysemous." It means that words that have not related to each other are called accidental polysemy. For example, the word "bank" in "The **bank** opens at 08:00 am" and "the ball is in the river **bank**". The word "bank" in the first sentence means "an office" while in the second sentence means "alongside". As can be seen in the examples, those two "bank" are different and not related to each other. Thus, the word "bank" can be an accidental polysemy. Another example is the word "flat" in "The party last week was so **flat**" and "I will go there tomorrow and that's **flat**". The word "flat" in the first sentence means "boring or uninteresting" while in the second sentence means "absolutely". As can be seen, those two "flat" are different because "uninteresting" and "absolutely" are not related.

LOGICAL POLYSEMY

Asher (2011) stated that "Words or, perhaps more accurately, word occurrences that have closely related senses are called logically polysemous.".It means that words that have sense-relate to each other are called logical polysemy. For example, the word "Head" (Noun) that can be defined as part of the body above the neck and also can be defined as the person in charge of an institution or organization. It is related to each other because the first meaning of the word "Head" means the upper part of someone and the second meaning of word "Head" means the highest authority in something/organization. In sense, the two "Head" words can be logical polysemy because those words are related in form of position on something. Another example is the word "fire" in "There is a **fire** in that building" and "I will **fire** you with this gun". It is related to each other because the first meaning of the word "Fire" means burning and the second meaning of word "Fire" means shoot so the blast comes out from the gun. In sense, the two "Fire" words can be a logical polysemy because those words are related in form of the presence of fire in the building and from the gun.

METHOD

In this research, the qualitative descriptive method was used in order to find types of polysemy words in Justin Bieber's songs lyrics. In this research, the form of the data was the sentences in written language which is songs' lyrics. The source of data of this research was the songs' lyrics by Justin Bieber from twelve songs entitled Yummy,

10,000 Hours, I Don't Care, All I Want for Christmas is You, Intentions, Sorry, Love Yourself, What Do You Mean?, Never Say Never, As Long as You Love Me, Company, and One Time. The researchers chose the twelve songs because the words on the lyrics are uncomplicated. The researchers also took words that contain polysemy as the data. The data of this research were collected through following several steps: 1) Downloading the lyrics; 2) Reading and understanding the lyrics; and 3) Note-taking. After the researcher collected the data, the data were analyzing by using theory of Miles and Huberman (1994) such these following steps: 1) Data Reduction; 2) Data Display; and 3) Conclusion Drawing.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
FINDINGS

From twelve Justin Bieber songs' lyrics, the researchers found twenty polysemy words which were presented into two types of polysemy by Asher (2011). These are the following data in the tabular form below.

Polysemy Words	Types of Polysemy
Side	Accidental Polysemy
Down	Accidental Polysemy
Rain	Accidental Polysemy
Hand	Accidental Polysemy
Knock	Accidental Polysemy
Point	Accidental Polysemy
Right	Accidental Polysemy
Make	Accidental Polysemy
Way	Accidental Polysemy
Mean	Accidental Polysemy
Get	Logical Polysemy
Touch	Logical Polysemy
Bad	Logical Polysemy

Mind	Logical Polysemy
Late	Logical Polysemy
Back	Logical Polysemy
Love	Logical Polysemy
Heart	Logical Polysemy
Making	Logical Polysemy
Think	Logical Polysemy

TABLE 1 Accidental and logical polysemy words found

DISCUSSION

In twelve Justin Bieber songs' lyrics, the researchers find twenty words that spread into two types of polysemy word. There are ten words that included as accidental polysemy are *hand, down, rain, side, knock, point, right, make, way,* and *mean.* Whereas, there are also ten words that included as logical polysemy are *get, touch, bad, mind, late, back, love, heart, making,* and *think.* Thus, twelve Justin Bieber songs' lyrics have polysemy words which are included in accidental and logical polysemy.

Based on the finding above, polysemy words clearly exist in Justin Bieber songs' lyrics. The researcher assumes that those polysemy words exist because the writer of the songs' lyrics uses the word based on the function or the context in the sentence or lyric. Therefore, the writer often uses the same word in the different lyrics and it leads the existence of polysemy in Justin Bieber's songs lyrics. For example in the ***data 2 (Table 4.3)***, the word *down* have different function in the two different lyrics. The first *down* in *"Yeah, I know that I let you **down**"* has a function as a descriptive adjective because that word describes someone feeling which sad or depressed feeling. Whereas, the second *down* in *"First you're up and you're **down** and then between"* has a function as an adverb of place because that word tells position of something which the lower position. Those two *down* are not related to each other because someone feeling and lower position are two different things. Therefore, those are the type of accidental polysemy.

Another example comes from the ***data 13 (Table 4.14)***. That is the word *bad* that have different function in the two different lyrics. The first *bad* in *"Ooh, want the good and the **bad** and everything in between"* has a function as an abstract noun because that word tells something that has poor quality. Whereas, the second *bad* in *"I can deal with the **bad** nights when I'm with my baby, yeah"* has a function as a descriptive adjective because that word describes the situation of night which unpleasant night. Those two *bad* are logically related to each other because that word shows something that is not good. Therefore, those are the type of logical polysemy. Based on those two examples above, the researcher believes that polysemy words come from the writer who uses the same word for different function in each lyric.

Based on the twenty findings data above, the researchers find some similar polysemy words that also found by Tahir (2014) such as the words *down* and *back*. The words *down* and *back* in Tahir's research are in verb, noun, and adverb whereas the words *down* and *back* in this research are only in adverb. We could see that the word *down* and *back* can be in many word classes. Hence, this similar finding can support that the words *down* and *back* are exactly as a polysemy word.

Besides of findings above, among twelve polysemy words in this research, the researcher also finds one polysemy word that has uniqueness. It is the word *making*. Different with the other polysemy words, this word has got affixes process from base word *make* whereas the other polysemy words found are base word. It is supported by Setianingrum (2017) who is also found this type of polysemy word which called as polysemy of polymorphemic words or affixes.

Besides those similar findings, the researchers point that this research gives new findings. First, polysemy words are classified into specific word classes and most of polysemy word that found is in abstract noun such as *hand, point, way, touch, bad, mind, love, heart,* and *making*. However, not all polysemy words are in the same word classes such as *down* (descriptive adjective & adverb of place), *rain* (concrete noun & action verb), *point* (abstract noun & action verb), *mean* (descriptive adjective & action verb), *bad* (abstract noun & descriptive adjective), *mind* (action verb & abstract noun), *love* (action verb & abstract noun),and *making* (abstract noun & action verb). Even though, there are also polysemy word that is in the same word classes and same subclasses such as *knock* (action verb), *make* (action verb), *get* (action verb), *touch* (abstract noun), *late* (adverb of time), *back* (adverb of place),and *think* (action verb). Even polysemy word in the same word classes, it can be in the different subclasses such as *hand* (concrete noun & abstract noun), *side* (abstract noun & common noun), *right* (adverb of place & adverb of degree), *way* (common noun & abstract noun),and *heart* (concrete noun & abstract noun).

Second, types of polysemy word are based on relation of meaning which are accidental polysemy (unrelated meaning): *hand, down, rain, side, knock, point, right, make, way,* and *mean*; and logical polysemy (related meaning): *get, touch, bad, mind, late, back, love, heart, making ,*and *think*. In addition, among twenty data found, there are two words that have uniqueness. Those are the word *side* in the 'As Long As You Love Me' song lyric and the word *get* in the 'Sorry' song lyrics. Different than other words who are found in the different song, those two words are found in the similar song. It shows uniqueness because the researcher found similar words in the similar song, but those words are different in meaning even though that is in the similar song context.

CONCLUSION

Based on the data analyzed and discussed, the researchers conclude that two types of polysemy which consist of twenty words could be found in twelve Justin Bieber's songs lyrics. The first type is accidental polysemy (unrelated meaning) which consists of ten words such as *hand, down, rain, side, knock, point, right, make, way,* and *mean.* Whereas, the second type is logical polysemy (related meaning) which also consists of ten words such as *get, touch, bad, mind, late, back, love, heart, making,* and *think.*

Among those twenty words can be concluded that polysemy words are mostly in abstract noun such as *hand, point, way, touch, bad, mind, love, heart,* and *making*.

Additionally, polysemy words also can be in dissimilar word classes such as *down*, *rain*, *point*, *mean*, *bad*, *mind*, *love*, and *making*. Even though there are also polysemy words that is in similar word classes and similar subclasses such as *knock*, *make*, *get*, *touch*, *late*, *back*, and *think*. Additionally, polysemy words in similar word classes can be in dissimilar subclasses such as *hand*, *side*, *right*, *way*, and *heart*. Finally, the researchers conclude that polysemy words that exist in Justin Bieber songs' lyrics come from the writer who uses same word for different role in the different lyrics.

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