CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

English language is a language spoken in many countries and used as a language of international communication throughout the world (Oxford, 2007:506). Language may be used to perform many communicative functions. People make the general assumption that the most important function is the communication of information.

Linguistics want to understand how language works. It is concerned with identifying the meaningful elements of specific language. Linguistics also deal with the meaning expressed by modulation of speaker's voice and the processes by hearers and readers relate new information to the information they already have. (Charles, 1998: 3). There are differences in the manner of production in writing and speech. The writing text as a printed record is familiar in the study of literature, but representation of a text must assign speeches to the correct characters.

The speakers can make their thought and feeling and intentions known to other speakers of the language and can understand what others say. If it is hard to say what meaning is, it is fairly easy to show what knowledge speakers have about meaning in their language and therefore what things must be included in an account of semantics. (Charles, 1998: 9). One of ten aspects of any speaker's semantic knowledge is ambiguity. Some sentences have double meaning; they can be interpreted in two

ways. Speakers are aware of this fact because they appreciate jokes which depend on two-way interpretation, like the following;

"Benn met old friends and an acquitances". This sentence has two meaning. Old includes to friends or friends and acquitance. A sentence that has two meaning is ambiguous.

There are many ways to communicate so that the hearers accept to inform of the speakers. In formal condition such as discourse, the hearers can not give responses for speech of the speaker. The hearers will need sometimes to understand of speakers mean, if sentences are ambiguos. However, word stucture and sentence structure can lead to be ambiguous event though they are grammatically correct. People may have the different interpretation due to the ambiguous words, phrases, and sentences.

The English word "ambiguous" derives most immediately from the french ambiguite, which comes from the Latin word ambiguus. This word combined the stems ambi- (on both side) and agere (travel or drive) which taken together mean to wander about or to drive on both sides. (David, 1989:205).

Ambiguity needs to be thought deeply, to be exposed and eliminated. It brings specific communicational effects. The sentence may be structural in a case of word order but it may lead the readers to have more than one interpretation.

One of ambiguous cases in communication is speech. The speaker gives information without respons from the hearers. The hearers do not understand meaning of words or sentences which is intended by speakers. For example in speech of Barack Obama in Cairo: "Their actions are irreconcilable with the rights of human beings, the progress of nations, and with Islam". The first perseption is there are three measure for irreconcilable, these are the rights of human being the progress of nations and Islam. The second perseption is there are two measure, these are the rights of human being and progress in nations and islam.

The data of this research are taken from speech of Barack Obama in Cairo University June 4th 2009. It uses Robert theory about ambiguity based on analogy.

Based on explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting the research related to ambiguity. This research is expected to identify the kinds of ambiguity and interpretation found in the speech of Barack Obama when he gave speech in Cairo University, the first speech in front of public about peace world. Furthermore, this research discusses the interpretations which may arise in the ambiguous words and sentences found in speech of Barack Obama. This research entitled "Ambiguity Analysis and Interpretation of Barack Obama's Speech in Cairo".

1.2 Statements of Problem

Based on the research background of study, the researcher states the problems as follows:

- 1. What kinds of ambiguity are found in the Barack Obama's speech?
- 2. What are the interpretations of the ambiguous words , phrases, or sentences of Barack Obama's speech?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem statements, this purposes of study are:

- 1. To identify the kinds of ambiguity found in the Barack Obama's speech.
- 2. To describe the interpretations which arise in the ambiguous words, phrases, or sentences in the Barack Obama's speech.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The research is focused on the cases of ambiguity found in speech of Barack Obama's President. Besides, it also analyzes to describe the interpretations of the words, phrases, and sentences.

The data are taken from speech of Barack Obama President when speech in Cairo University June 9th, 2009. All ambiguous words, phrases, and sentences in the transcript and speech become the data of this research. The researcher analyzes it by using types of ambiguity. Types of ambiguity are used polysemous meaning, sense versus reference, core versus context,

grammatical versus ungrammatical meaning, primary versus secondary maning, closed versus open meaning, intended versus understood meaning.

1.5 Research Benefits

Benefits of this research are:

- 1. The readers, in order to read the whole transcripts before interpreting the ambiguous words, phrases, and sentences.
- 2. The students who study about semantic, so that they will know about the kinds of ambiguty words, phrases, and sentences.
- 3. The others researcher, can take this research as a reference for further research about ambiguity.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

- a. <u>Semantic</u> is the systematic of meaning, and inguistic semantic is the study of how languages organize and express meanings. (Charles W, 1998: 3)
- b. Ambiguity is the sentence that has two meanings. (Charles W, 1998:
 3) and the ubiquitous in language; it exists at every level of processing (from acoustic/phonetic to semantic to structural, etc.). (David A Swinney, 1988:290).

- c. <u>Sense versus reference</u> is essence (what the word means) may differ from the ostension (what the "word points" to or "stands for"). (Robert, 1989:207).
- d. <u>Core versus context</u> is the meaning of statement as sych differs from the meaning when taken in its full context. (Robert, 1989:207)
- e. <u>Grammatical versus ungrammatical meaning</u> is a strings of words can be syntactically well form and comprehensible, or it may be ill formed and more or less comprehensible. (Robert, 1989:207)
- f. Primary versus secondary meaning is the dominant or most frequent meaning differs from alternative less dominant less frequent meaning.

 (Robert, 1989:207)
- g. <u>Closed versus open meaning</u> is the meaning of message is closed is comprehension reaches an immediate and satisfactory conclusion.

 (Robert, 1989:207)
- h. <u>Intended versus understood meaning</u> is the meaning intended by a speaker or writer is not the meaning that is understood by the listener or reader. (Robert, 1989:207)

1.7 Thesis Organization

The organization of the thesis is as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter will explain about the background of study, statement of problem, objective of the study, research benefits, scope and limitation, definition of key terms, research methode, thesis organization.

Chapter II: Literature Review

This chapter will describe the theory of research.

Chapter III: Research Methodology

This chapter will explain the approach, method and techniques of research. The researcher will describe the steps of the research.

Chaptet IV :Finding and Discussion

This chapter provides explanation as analysis product of the data. The explanation is based on problem statements and theories.

Chapter V: Conclusion

This chapter is answering the question demand in the research. the researcher gives the view about the main of the research explanation.