

2009: 102). Indeed, we may think of a language as a set of sentences, in which each of sentence is along with an ideal phonetic form and associated with an intrinsic semantic interpretation. Referring to the idea of Chomsky on the goal of descriptive study of language, it can be legibly understood that the grammar of language is the system of rules that specifies sound meaning correspondence (Postal, 2004: 188).

Furthermore, Bloch and Trager through Darwing's book argue that a language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates (Darwing, 1973: 30). Besides, in Islamic view, Allah says in the holy Quran, "O ye who believe! Fear Allah, and make your utterance straight forward" (Al-Ahzab: 70).

Language is one unit form in which whole of pieces in language are later analyzed one by one, and it is called as language unit. The smallest unit is called as the phoneme. Jones (2016:31) through Ball's book defines phoneme as a family of sounds in a given language which are related in character and are used in such a way that no one member ever occurs in a word in the same phonetic context as any other member. The language unit which is above the phoneme is called as morpheme. Morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in a language (Ottenheimer, 2013: 85). Then, the language unit which is above morpheme is called as word. The language unit which is above word is said as phrase. Phrase is a group of two or more words that express a single idea, but it does not usually form as a complete sentence (Chand, 2008: 19). On the other hand, the language unit which is

above phrase is called as clause. Clause is a grammatical unit which operates at a lower level than a sentence, but higher than a phrase (Chalker and Weiner, 1998: 63). Besides, the language unit which is above clause is called as a sentence. Sentence is a group of words which has a clear meaning (Harrison, Jakeman and Peterson, 2012: 4). Finally, the language unit which is the largest and exists above sentence is called as discourse, in which it is generally associated with a form of language use and a type of social action (Tracy, LLie and Sandel, 2015: 1205).

In the case of language, when expressing or saying something, the user of language is supposed to know how their speech can be received and understood by audience as the listener without any missing message about. Absolutely, we can think that it includes many parts of understanding, such as meaning, ways, and grammatical as well. That is the way the writer of this thesis says that it is absolutely important to refer to that, because it studies about structural ambiguity of sentences in order to get the specific understanding.

According to Hurford's statement in Rayhan's journal as written on a thesis by Sevida entitled *Structural Ambiguity of News Headlines "Yahoo New"* (The Study of X-bar Theory), says that:

"The Analysis of ambiguous structures through the structural ambiguity concepts' defines "any ambiguity resulted from the ambiguity of a word is a lexical ambiguity, and a sentence which is ambiguous because its word relates to each other in different way even though none of the individual word are ambiguous is structurally (grammatically) ambiguous". (p.3)

Furthermore, ambiguity becomes one of fundamental language abilities of speakers, in which it can be particularly and structurally ambiguous phrase or sentence. It includes the criteria for the assessment of grammatical theory. In the study of syntax, the sentence pattern can make a grammatical ambiguity which is caused by having more than one tree diagram. On the other hand, it has two different deep structures although it has the same surface structure for each. Fromkin (2003) emphasizes that the syntactic categories in constituent structure have relationship between the head of its phrase and the others, such as verb phrase, in which the head is verb of verb phrase.

According to Leech (1981: 30), an expression is said to be ambiguous when it is more than one interpretation which can be assigned to it. In the case of ambiguity, ambiguity can happen in a word, phrase, clause and sentence by understanding the structural aspect. Chaer (1990:54) divides ambiguity and polysemy into a difference, that polysemy happens in word, but ambiguity happens in phrase and sentence. Although we usually know which meaning of grammar is intended in a given context, there are obviously potential ambiguities that make all are desirable to avoid using the word in both senses as though when we are trying to be clear and exact. Accordingly, we shall restrict our using of it to contexts where we intend to talk about. When we are talking about the subject matter with which the study deals, we shall use the term structure.

In the case of ambiguity, an ambiguity occurs when a word, a phrase, or a sentence can be understood or interpreted in more than one meaning (Andoline, 2002: 132). It means that an ambiguity occurs because a word, a phrase, or a sentence has an unclear meaning. In addition, Djajasudarma (1999:56) states that a meaning may be unclear because of some reasons, namely: (a) the word or sentence is common (general); for example, the word 'book' has multiple meaning. (b) The word or sentence which is interpreted is not the same as the speaker's and the writer's intention; the interpretation should depend on the context as though the context is unclear. (c) The meaning limit which is connected to language and non-language is not clear; for example, there is no limit to say that someone is clever at something. (d) The use of the word or sentence is not familiar to us. (Bustam, *The Analysis of Ambiguous Structures Through The Structural Ambiguity Concept*).

Besides the reasons above, there are three factors that can cause an ambiguity, and the factors are: lexical factor, structural factor, and phonetic structure factor. Moreover, Hurford, et al. (1983:128) state:

“Any ambiguity resulted from the ambiguity of a word is a lexical ambiguity, and a sentence which is ambiguous because its word relates to each other in different way even though none of the individual word are ambiguous is structurally (or grammatically) ambiguous.”

Furthermore, Ulmann (1972:156) also states that in spoken language, ambiguity can be caused by phonetic structure of sentence. From the quotations above, we can conclude that there are three types of

its meaning. In this study, the writer focuses on jokes book. Because by understanding jokes meaning, the writer is sure that there are some ambiguous sentences, particularly in structural form which will be found in later identification to the object.

As a proof of numerous analysis on ambiguity, some previous studies are proposed in this research. Therefore, there are some previous studies which have already discussed ambiguity. Such as ambiguity and the concept of structural ambiguity which is evidently taken from Yahoo News, newspaper, and Jakarta Post. Those previous studies have been done by applying X-bar as the way of identifying ambiguity.

The research with the title *The Analysis of Ambiguous Structure through the Structural Ambiguity Concept* by Muhammad Rayhan Bustam, asserts that structural ambiguity emerges due to a structure which has two or more different interpretations. The writer then emphasizes that the structural ambiguity often occurs in a written text. Thus, the result of this research shows that the structural ambiguity can emerge in some structures which can be identified as Noun Phrase, Prepositional Phrase, Relative Clause, Noun Clause, and the combination of those with conjunction (coordinating).

The next research comes from Sarah Lizara Sevida, a student of English Letters Department State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta with her thesis entitled *Structural Ambiguity of News Headlines "Yahoo News" (The Study of X-Bar Theory)*. This thesis applies for the X

Bar theory of syntax. The X Bar theory is used, because every phrasal category has a head of its same syntactic structure. The primary of X Bar theory of phrase structure is applied on how to generate the correct constituent of English sentence. The result of this research is the headline of Yahoo News are vulnerable having structural ambiguity that makes the readers have approximately more than one interpretation of meaning in their mind.

Further research is made by two students of State University of Malang, Silvia Randika Puspita and Mirjam Anugerahwati. The research entitled *Structural Ambiguity in the Jakarta Post Newspaper's Headline News* purposes to investigate the structurally ambiguous phrases in The Jakarta Post Newspaper's Headline news. This research intends to apply for qualitative descriptive. The research finds 19 phrases of 16 articles in the Jakarta Post newspaper's headline news which evidently make sentences become potentially ambiguous structure. Besides, the writer discover two types of structurally ambiguous phrases that emerge in the headline news of The Jakarta Post newspaper.

As the media of analysis, tree diagram is the final way of analyzing the data in this research. There are some theories that are used in some previous studies. In a thesis by Sevida entitled *Structural Ambiguity of News Headlines "Yahoo New"* (The Study of X-bar Theory), uses X-Bar theory by analyzing the sentence, and base the analysis on the theory of syntax. Meanwhile, in Susan Kristianty is research entitled *The Structural and*

Lexical Ambiguity found in Cleo Magazine Advertisements, uses the IC or Chines Box and tree diagram for analyzing the structural ambiguity. But, in this research, the writer attempts to focus by using tree diagram as the way or media of analyzing.

Based on the previous researches above, the writer applies a new topic unlike the previous researches above. This study has a focus on data source: Jokes book (Clean Jokes), which the writer claims containing. Thus, the analysis is conducted by applying Tree Diagram for making a detail branch of class word of structure.

According to the research problem that was discussed in the next part of this chapter, by using the syntactic theory in tree diagram, this study will focus on the structural ambiguity in the term of phrase and sentence, and identify the kind of sentence and phrase. The object of this study does not involve newspaper, novel, short story, movie, Jakarta Post, etc. But, the writer takes an interesting jokes book by Jim Kraus entitled *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes*.

The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes is one of the interesting object to analyze the phrase and sentence ambiguity which focuses on the structural form. By reading this book, the writer argues an opinion that readers do not only get a story, but also an enjoyment and an entertainment in reading the story. As the statement has written by Jim Kraus “*whose laughter is the most perfect medicine*” There are so many readers do not assume about the structure, Actually, as a good reader, we do

not only enjoy of the story and content of the book, but also being through of grammatical aspect of the text. In this study, the writer finds some phrase and sentences that have ambiguous structure according to the theory of syntax that will be analyzed by Tree diagram to make easier of the analysis. The writer uses the diagram tree by Noam Chomsky than other diagrams, because this type is more effective to analyze clearly about how sentences are put together as combinations of phrase which in turn are combinations of work.

Thus, by the simple description of ambiguity that is deliberated through the number of different researches, the writer of this research would like to bring the discussion into the discourse of structural ambiguity which is formulated into a title entitled *Structural Ambiguity Found in The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes by Jim Kraus*. The discussion is constructed under the discourse of ambiguity. But, this research focuses only on structural ambiguity. By the help of the theory of Syntax and the application of tree diagram in the analysis towards the object, this research would taste beneficial for further comprehension of ambiguity in both written and or uttered discourse and work.

Furthermore, this study will use Noam Chomsky's Diagram Tree to make the writer easier to analyze the structural ambiguity by identifying class word of the concept of structural ambiguity diagram in *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes* by Jim Kraus. Practically, the writer expects that it will give a new knowledge and understanding about English linguistic especially on structural ambiguity which is found in *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes* by Jim Kraus.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is concerning with the case of structural ambiguity in *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes* by Jim Kraus. The identification of the structural ambiguity is done by applying Noam Chomsky's Diagram Tree. The diagram tree is used to analyze the structural ambiguity. Therefore, the data of this research are extremely and obviously taken from *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes* by Jim Kraus. The limitation of this study is about structural ambiguity which exists in mere ambiguity phrase and sentence in the e-book edition created 2011 *The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes* by Jim Kraus.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misinterpretation, it is necessary to define and give some explanations about some key terms related to language terms based on the title about. The definition of the key terms is stated as follows:

- 1.6.1 **Syntax** is a part of linguistics study. Consisting of the principles and processes by which sentences are constructed in particular languages (Chomsky, 2002:1).
- 1.6.2 **Ambiguity** is a word, phrase, or sentence which has more than one meaning depend on the grammatical structure Chaer (1994:297).
- 1.6.3 **Structural Ambiguity** is the sentence which has more than one interpretation or structure.
- 1.6.4 **Tree Diagram** is a way of analyzing structural ambiguity to identify the word class and structure in a phrase or sentence.
- 1.6.5 **Phrase** is a term used in grammatical analysis to refer to a single element of structure containing more than one word, and lacking the subject-predicate structure typical of clauses. Crystal (1980; 170).
- 1.6.6 **Sentence** is the largest structural unit in terms of which the grammar of a language is organized Crystal (1980: 319).
- 1.6.7 **The Laugh a Day Book of Bloopers Quotes and Good Clean Jokes** is a book that collects jokes for a years, and the writer has pulled together some of his favorites.