

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

Riddles that contain syntactic ambiguity appear because of the arrangement of sentence. The arrangement of the sentence makes people who read the sentence would have different interpretation. It can be happen because of the placing of conjunction namely coordinate attachment, the placing of preposition like data 9, namely prepositional attachment. In data 9, the riddle becomes ambiguous because of the placing of preposition with. In this data, the statement take a picture of an elf with a red shirt produces two interpretations because of the placing preposition with. It means that the picture that will be taken is a picture of an elf that wears a red shirt. The other meaning of the statement is that you, as the person who takes a picture, use a red shirt to take a picture of an elf. I conclude that changing the preposition with another word can make the riddle not be ambiguous anymore. In addition, the riddles are ambiguous because of the placing conjunction or preposition are including in structural ambiguity. Usually, riddles that contain prepositional and co-ordinate attachment can be explained by using tree diagram, to make the ambiguity clear. However, it is difficult to find riddles that contain co-ordinate attachment.

Syntactic ambiguity is a kind of ambiguity that happens because there is an omission of a word, namely ellipsis. For example, in data 6, there is an omission of the word can at the end of the question of the riddle. Consequently, it makes the meaning of the question in the riddle ambiguous. The other kind of syntactic ambiguity is categorial ambiguity. This kind of ambiguity is similar with lexical ambiguity in semantic ambiguity. Categorial ambiguity appears because a word has more than one meaning but the word has a different part of speech. The example of categorial ambiguity is data 5. The word flies has more than one meaning but this word has different parts of speech: one is Noun and the other is Verb. Because of this reason, this kind of ambiguity is included in syntactic ambiguity. As a conclusion, this kind of ambiguity can be accepted if these meanings can be understood logically. But it is difficult to find syntactic ambiguity.

Riddles are included into semantic ambiguity if there is a word that has more than one meaning. The words make riddle unclear, make people have to think and decide which meaning that is meant and appropriate in the riddle. The words, which are included in semantic ambiguity, are the words that have more than one possible meaning according the dictionary, and the words should have the same part of speech.

As my research, riddles which contain semantic ambiguity can be delivered in spoken and written forms, because the ambiguous words have the same pronunciation and spelling. The examples of semantic ambiguity in this paper are data 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. It is easy to find riddles which

contain semantic ambiguity. In data 1, the word that has more than one meaning and makes the riddle ambiguous is organs. According to the dictionary, organs has more than one meaning and the word has the same part of speech, pronunciation and spelling. Moreover, that reason happens to Pluto, letter, keys, honey, feet, bill, fan and cool. To know which meaning of the word that is appropriate to the riddles, we have to know the relationship of the word with the other word. Therefore, we can know the meaning of that riddles.

In this thesis, the riddles that most often appear are riddles that contain lexical ambiguity. This kind of riddles deals with semantic ambiguity. This kind of riddles often appears because it is simple and interesting. Because of a word that has more than one meaning, it can be produce different interpretations. Usually in lexical ambiguity, there is a relation between the words or a clue that is used to analyze the riddle, so that people can understand which meaning that is appropriate in the riddle. In guessing riddles that contain referential ambiguity, people should have knowledge around the riddle itself. Data 2 is about Mickey Mouse and Pluto. Mickey Mouse is a character in Disney. People who do not know about Disney story would not know the explanation why the answer to find Pluto is. Pluto also is a character in Disney Story, it is Mickey's dog. Maybe people already knew about Mickey Mouse, but it is possible that people cannot answer this riddle because they do not know Pluto. This kind of riddle cannot interest people who do not know the background of the riddle.

Riddle contains question and answer. The ambiguities in riddles have some roles. The ambiguous question is used to mislead people and to make people

puzzled in guessing riddles. As my research, the ambiguity often appears in the question. They are data 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12. Usually, for lexical ambiguity, exactly a clue word makes the answer like that. In data 3, there is statement only has one letter makes the answer envelope because envelope consists of 8 letters. Even though at the question there is the statement only has one letter, so logically, the letter in this data will not mean a written or printed sign representing a sound used in speech. In data 10, the word three is not a random number. Three here is about the size of a yard. And if three is replaced by another number, the answer would not be a yard. The statement legs or arms is put in order to mislead people to think that the answer is about a creature, because a creature has feet, legs and arms.

In guessing riddles, people usually use the ambiguous answer. It shows that ambiguity is one of the elements that is creative, because the answer is unpredictable but it can be accepted logically. In this thesis, five data contain ambiguity in the answer. They are data 1, 2, 8, 11 and 12. In data 8, honey has more than one meaning. The statement Hi Honey! I am home is often said by husband to wife when he comes home. It could also happen to bees which come home to their hive. According to the dictionary, honey can be meant a sweet sticky yellow substance or a way of addressing somebody that you like or love.

In data 12, there are two lexical ambiguities. They are cool and fan. Those words have more than one meaning, but they can be connected. The baseball stadium is cool because there is a fan in every seat. It means that the baseball stadium is fairly cold because there is a machine with blades that go around to

create a current of air. Or it can be meant that the baseball stadium is attractive because there is someone who enjoys watching the game in every seat. For further research, it is suspected that my analysis of ambiguity can be wider in terms of not only riddles but also jokes or debate etc.

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