

An Error Analysis of Semantics in Maher Zain Song: “Forgive Me ”

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ABSTRACT

The researcher dedicated to give the title of this research An Error Analysis of Semantics In Maher Zain Song: “Forgive Me ”. The researcher would like to explore and analyze that song. The problem of this study are: (1) What are the lexical meanings in the Song? (2) What are the contextual meaning in the Maher Zain Song?. The researcher took one song from Maher Zain album. That is Forgive Me. This research used a descriptive qualitative method because the researcher would like to analysis and interpreted the object of the research of Maher Zain Song. The step to obtain the data are: (1) Converting the selected lyrics to readable texts, (2) Identifying the words and sentences which belongs to Lexical and Contextual meaning by making them bold, (3). Classifying the Lexical and Contextual meaning into the more spesific categories, i.e. conceptual Lexical and Contextual meaning, mixed and all data will be analyzed based on a theory, (4) Giving explanation about each Lexical and Contextual meaning found in the selected lyrics, (5) Giving some conclusion based on the result of analysis. Moreover, semantic is an important branch of linguistics that is interesting to be studied, especially when it is applied to literary works, such us songs or poetry and poem etc. In this research the significance of the analysis are 44,9 % or the Lexical meaning of the lyric and 55,1 % for the Contextual Meaning from the lyric of Maher Zain. There are 13 lines of Lexical meaning in Forgive Me song, it becomes. Based the result above, Lexical Meaning is the ranks second, it constitutes 44,9 %. Lexical Meaning is applied to describe the based meaning of the sentence to used. So, meaning is same with the basic literally in that song. Based the result above, Contextual Meaning is the most dominant type in the lyric of Forgive Me. In this meaning, there is no only one idea to show. The meaning has some meaning to show. The researcher made conclusion. The terms being discussed would not be immediately, when it was heard for the first time. The listeners would interpret with various kinds of meanings.

Key words: Semantic, Lexical Meaning, Contextual Meaning, Song, Word.

INTRODUCTION

Semantics is the study of the meaning of words and sentences. Semantic is the systematic study of meaning, and linguistic semantic is the study of how language organize and express meanings (Kreidler, n.d.). The researcher expects this study is useful for the other researcher who wish to know about semantics. Moreover, semantics as an important branch of linguistics is interesting to be studies especially when it is applied to literary work such as song, poem and prose.

In this study, the researcher wants to analyze the used of Semantics itself, especially in a song. Song, in modern time is a need, every single time the human needs something to entertain their selves, and one of the answers is song. So the researcher chose Song to be more analyze. And then, we always listened and sometimes sang a song in our time, but mostly we did not know the deeply meaning in that song. It can make some ambiguity in a certain song. So, the researcher interesting to analyze the meaning of a song's lyrics based in Semantics.

Music also is a part of language, the way of human to express and to communicate. Rarely, they used Song to inform others. Concept of Semantic itself is very correlate with a real communication in human being action, semantics also has a rule too, and semantics is a sub discipline of linguistics which focuses on the study of meaning. The researcher chosen "Maher Zain" song because their song is very interesting, more information that their song contained a very great motivation for the listener, they used some Semantic meaning to explain that we must always keep spirit in our life. Motivation and believed of God can led us to the success. Besides that, the researcher has some reasons to be analysis this research.

This song tells about the great motivation in our life, push the way our life to be more confident even though we saw some troubles. The song has same story with the researcher in the daily fact. Because all of us always have trouble and problem. This song is introductioning for the reader and listener that if we wants to make a good life, we must to be know about all of the power, characteristic,

and about believe also imaginary sense. Besides that, this song give a lexical meaning and contextual meaning and than gave a massage for someone who want more enthusiasm until the end of life.

So, the researcher knew and felt really interested to analyze the semantic in a song. The present study analyzes about semantic analysis especially on the lexical meaning and contextual meaning, “AN ERROR ANALYSIS OF SEMANTICS IN MAHER ZAIN SONG: “FORGIVE ME ”, the meaning semantic of the Maher Zain Song is to be interpreted as the meaning of lexemes depending on the meaning of sentences in which they occur.

Theoretical Framework

1. Definition of Semantics

According to (Hurford, R, 2007) : Semantics is a study about language, by investigating and understanding semantics. It may seem to you that meaning is so vague, insubstantial, and elusive that it is impossible to come to any clear, concrete, or tangible conclusions about it. We have to convince that by careful thought about the language you speak and the way it is used, definite conclusions can be arrived at concerning meaning.

Semantics is the study of meaning. Semantics, also called semiotics, semology, or semasiology, the philosophical and scientific study of meaning in natural and artificial languages. The term is one of a group of English words formed from the various derivatives of the Greek verb *sēmainō* (“to mean” or “to signify”). The noun semantics and the adjective semantic are derived from *sēmantikos* (“significant”); *semiotics* (adjective and noun) comes from *sēmeiōtikos* (“pertaining to signs”); *semiology* from *sēma* (“sign”) + *logos* (“account”); and *semasiology* from *sēmasia* (“signification”) + *logos*.

2. Definition of Meaning

Meaning is the information or concepts that a sender intends to convey, or does convey, in communication with a receiver. Meaning seems at once the most obvious feature of language and the most obscure aspect to study. It is obvious

because it is what we use language to communicate with each other, to convey what we mean effectively. But the steps in understanding something said to us in a language in which we are fluent are so rapid, so transparent, that we have little conscious feel for the principles and knowledge which underlie this communicative ability.

3. Kinds of Meaning

3.1 Descriptive Meaning

Quality is the most important dimension of variation within descriptive meaning. Differences of quality can be found at all levels of specificity. This is why different hierarchies of semantic domains or different ontological types can be identified. The highest level of generality are following : thing , quality, quantity, place, time, state, process, event, action, relation, manner.

In addition there are also non descriptive dimensions of meaning such as expressive meaning and evoked meaning.

3.2 Lexical Meaning

Lexical meaning refers to the real meaning, meaning that proper with our sense of observation, or granted meaning. It has been known that a language has amount of lexical system by which the semantic with structure could be based its meaning on paradigmatic and systematical. The researcher said that lexical meaning could be defined as a meaning which has a characteristic of lexicon, lexeme and word. It also has a meaning as it reference, meaning which is result of our observation through our sense, or the reality in our life. Not all lexeme were word-lexeme or lexeme whose forms are words forms. Many of them would be phrasal lexeme whose forms were phrases.

3.3 Contextual Meaning

Contextual meaning is the meaning according to the context. According to (Chaer, 2007), Contextual meaning is the meaning of a lexeme or word inside a context. A contextual definition is also a definition in which the term is used by embedding it in a larger expression containing its explanation. If we regard

language as 'expressive' or 'communicative' we imply that it is an instrument of inner mental states. And as we know so little of inner mental states, even by the most careful introspection the language problem, become more mysterious the more we try to explain it by referring it to inner mental happenings which are not observable. By regarding word as acts, events, habits, we limit our inquiry to what is objective in the group life of our fellows.

3.4 Grammatical Meaning

Grammatical meaning also could be regarded as a structural or functional meaning, or internal meaning. According to (Padeta, 2001) grammatical meaning is the meaning that arises as a result of the functioning of words in a sentence. It mean that, every language has a grammatical system and different language have somewhat different grammatical system.

4. Relation of Meaning

In language, the semantic relationship significance or relation between a word or set of words or other language with the language unit.

4.1 Synonym

Synonym is an instance of mutual entailment and synonym are instance of mutual hyponymy. Synonym is a semantic relation that states the similarity of meaning between the units of speech with other speech units.

4.2 Antonymy

Antonymy is the semantic relationship that exists between two (or more) words that have opposite meanings.

4.3 Hyponymy

Hyponymy or inclusion is the semantic relationship that exists between two (or more) words in such a way that the meaning of one word includes (or contains) the meaning of other words.

4.4 Homonym

Homonymy is the relationship that exists between two (or more) words which belong to the same grammatical category, have the same spelling, may or may not have the same pronunciation, but have different meanings and origins (i.e., they are etymologically and semantically unrelated).

4.5 Polysemy

According to (Hassan Alwi et al, 2003), he said that the polysemy of verb which has meaning of inherent of action, it can be answered of the asking 'what is he doing?'. Polysemy of verb which has meaning of inherent of process usually it can be answered of the asking 'what happen to him?' But then polysemy of verb which has meaning of inherent of condition generally it cannot be answered to both of those types above and not to be used in command or order sentence

Ambiguity

Ambiguity is the property of having two or more distinct meanings or interpretations can be caused by factors such as homonymy, polysemy, lack of sufficient context.

4.6 Metonymy

Metonymy is the semantic relationship that exists between two words (or a word and an expression) in which one of the words is metaphorically used in place of the other word (or expression) in particular contexts to convey the same meaning.

5. Class of Word

5.1 Noun

Noun are class of lexical words marked by their appearance following certain noun-determining function words, such as the, my, some, two,

by their use of two inflections, -es and -s by certain derivational suffixes. A noun is a word which was used to denote a person.

5.2 Adjective

Adjectives are a class of lexical words identified by their ability to fill the position between noun-determiner and noun and the position after a linking verb and a qualifier such as very, rather and quite.

5.3 Verb

A group of words could not be described as a sentence or a clause unless at least one of the words was a verb. In some ways, the researcher could describe it as the most important part of speech because it was the action word that told the listener or reader what was happening in the sentence.

5.4 Adverb

Adverb is a class of lexical word identified by their ability to appear in utterance-final position following a noun or nouns functioning as complement.

METHODOLOGY

This research was descriptive qualitative because it depends very much on narrative description. Qualitative approach was taken because this research was in discussion. The instrument of this research is a recording of Maher Zain's song and the lyrics. Will use to analyze the understanding of the Lexical and Contextual meaning.

The researcher collected data based on the following steps. The researcher collected the data in the following steps. First, the researcher read all the data sources. Second, she selected the appropriate songs in the lyrics "Maher Zain" songs. Next, she chooses the lyrics covered in the song. The last, the data to be arranged systematically in accordance with the research focuses. To arrange the data, firstly,

the researcher defined about the lexical meaning, and the second explained about contextual meaning.

Data analysis and finding, discussion

Lexical Meaning

1. Lyric : I'm about to make another mistake

The word literally means that the human easy to put the mistake and another mistakes too do in their life. So the lyrics tell to us that as the human being, we also can make some mistakes in our life.

2. Lyric : And even though I try to stay away

The word literally means which the human also avoid their sin, we always did it after at all. Because, human always tempted to do that things.

3. Lyric : I can help thinking to my self

The lyrics tell to the listener that if the human made a mistake, sometimes their did not realize that. And when it happened, as a human, we can not help ourself to figure it out by ourselves. We just did it.

4. Lyric : What if my time would end today, today

As the based lyrics has a literally meaning, as a human being we did not know, how long our time in this world. So this lyric drew what if our time is running away in this world while we did the sin. Wem can not explain and think about that.

5. Lyric : Can I guarantee that I will get another chance

The word has a real meaning that we can guarantee or assure that as a human, we still have much time to do anyting. So as the contrary we can not guarantee about our lifetime in the world. No one and n body can get it.

6. Lyric : Before it's too late, too late, too late

The word has a real meaning that we must repent and beg a pardon of our sin before our time end and it is too late to make a pardon to Allah. If we realize what our did in the world that is wrong, so realize that before late.

7. Lyric : Forgive me my heart is so full of regret

The lyric of the song has a meaning who the human felt the wrong of that self, so we must beg and pardon in the deep of our heart to Allah. And Allah will forgiving ourself.

8. Lyric : Am I out of my mind

The sentence literally has a meaning that if we did a sin, we did not realize that because we in devil influence to did and made a wrong side in our life in the world.

9. Lyric : And every time I try to start all over again

The lyric of the song has a meaning that every single time we try to realize of our sin, we got stuck in same place. we did not do anything.

10. Lyric : Before it's too late, too late, too late

The word has a real meaning that we must repent and beg a pardon of our sin before our time end and it is too late to make a pardon to Allah. If we realize what our did in the world that is wrong, so realize that before late.

11. Lyric : Forgive me my heart is so full of regret

The lyric of the song has a meaning who the human felt the wrong of that self, so we must beg and pardon in the deep of our heart to Allah. And Allah will forgiving ourself.

12. Lyric : I know O Allah you're the most forgiving

The lyric literally has a meaning that even the human did the sin but if they realize and make the pardon to Allah with a deep of heart, so Allah will forgive the human because Allah loved the human who realize their mistake.

13. Lyric : Forgive me my heart is so full of regret

The lyric of the song has a meaning who the human felt the wrong of that self, so we must beg and pardon in the deep of our heart to Allah. And Allah will forgiving ourself.

Contextual Meaning

1. Lyric : I'm about to lose the battle and cross the line

In this lyric has a meaning is a way to made his self always did a sin, so the lyric wrote by "battle" it is not the real race, but an explanation of a thinking in his mind of his sin that always he did before.

2. Lyric : Everything around me keeps dragging me in

In this song the word has meaning that because anyone and everybody around as influencing us and push us to the sin everytime.

3. Lyric : Forgive me.... Now is the right time for me to repent, repent, repent...

The word literally means that as the human being always doing to is to realize the mistake of ourselves and beg a pardon of Allah before it is too late to us to do.

4. Lyric : What did I do? Oh I fell so bad

The word literally means that the singer of that song felt his mistake and made him so bad in Allah in his life.

5. Lyric : My shame comes back to haunt me

In this song has a meaning that the lyric has a meaning that he felt so bad, he regret. And he felt that his sin always remembered him.

6. Lyric : I'm trying hard to walk away

The lyric has a meaning that as a human being always try to compare ourself and sometimes made us bad. But we always trying to avoid the sin as well as we can do.

7. Lyric : But temptation is surrounding me, surrounding me

The lyric has a meaning that the sin always made us bad again. And finally we just like around that. But, we must avoid that everytime and avoid the sin from ours.

8. Lyric : I wish that I could find the strength to change my life

The lyric has a meaning that try to pray to Allah, we want some help from him and we beg for his bless.

9. Lyric : Forgive me.... Now is the right time for me to repent, repent, repent...

The word literally means that as the human being always doing to is to realize the mistake of ourselves and beg a pardon of Allah before it is too late to us to do.

10. Lyric : And that you've promised to

The word literally means that Allah said in Al-Qur'an that he always guided us to the right side.

11. Lyric : Always be there when I call upon you

We just have to keep in our mind to believe in Allah. That Allah is the most powerfull in the world. If we remember of Allah we will find him and Allah will help us.

12. Lyric : So now i'm standing here

The word "Stand" has a meaning like a pray. As a human we just can pray to Allah in our weakness.

13. Lyric : Ashamed of all the mistakes i've committed

The word literally means that human always have a time for regret and be repent of our sin. And this lyric has a meaning that human must realize of his sin and to change his life.

14. Lyric : Please don't turn me away

This lyric has a meaning that human begged to Allah to always guided his. Because human always need the help of Allah.

15. Lyric : And hear my prayer when I ask you to

This lyric has a meaning when the human repent of his sin they hope that Allah will answer that and give us the pardon.

16. Lyric : Forgive me.... Now is the right time for me to repent, repent, repent...

The word literally means that as the human being always doing to is to realize the mistake of ourselves and beg a pardon of Allah before it is too late to us to do. After analyzing the lyric of the song which are composed by *Maher Zain* "Forgive Me", the researcher count in that song there are 29 lines of sentences of the lyrics, the meaning of Lexical and Contextual are found which consisted of :

Lexical Meaning

There are 13 lines of Lexical meaning in Forgive Me song, it becomes.

$$\text{Lexical Meaning} = \frac{13 \times 100}{29} = 44,9 \%$$

Based the result above, Lexical Meaning is the ranks second, it constitutes 44,9 %. Lexical Meaning is applied to describe the based menaing of the sentence to used. So, meaning is same with the basic literally in that song.

Contextual Meaning

There are 16 lines of Contextual meaning in Forgive Me song, it becomes.

$$\text{Contextual Meaning} = \frac{16 \times 100}{29} = 55,1 \%$$

29

Based the result above, Contextual Meaning is the most dominant type in the lyric of Forgive Me. In this meaning, there is no only one idea to show. The meaning has some meaning to show.

Conclusion

Semantic is the systematic study of meaning, andlinguistic semantic is the study of how language organize and express meanings. Contextual meaning is the meaning according to the context. Contextual meaning is the meaning of a lexeme or word inside a context.

Lexical meaning refers to the real meaning, meaning that proper with our sense of observation, or granted meaning. It has been known that a language has amount of lexical system by which the semantic with structure could be based its meaning on paradigmatic and systematical.

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