CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

The reviews below cover the discussion about semantics, lexical meaning, sentential meaning, message, and the previous study.

2.1 Semantics

Semantics is one of the branches of linguistics studying about the meaning and it is considered as a major branch of linguistics divided to study of meaning in language (Crystal, 1991. P. 428). Study of meaning is much needed for those who want to be a good speaker or writer to express their ideas. From this definition, we have to know what is meant by meaning. For thousands, of years, some philosophers have been pondering the meaning of meaning, speakers of language can understand what is said to them and can produce strings of words that are meaningful to other speakers. According to the theory of semantics, meanings are the ideas or concepts that are able to be transferred from the speakers mind to the hearers mind by embodying them, as it were, in the forms of one language or another (Fromkin, 1983.p. 140).

Understanding the meaning is very prominent for the people to make a clear communication with others. To understand meaning is not only in speech language but also in written language such as about the English Translation of Surah Al-Mudatsirs by A.Yusuf Ali. Therefore, studying the meaning of speech language or
written language is very important to know and understand the content of the communication.

Semantics is the study of learning that stands at the very center of the linguistics quest to understand the nature of language and human language abilities. It is caused by the expressing meaning. Expressing meanings are what language all about. So, everything in language – words, grammatical construction, intonations, patterns-conspires to realize this goal in the fullest, richest, subtlest way. In understanding how any particular language works, we need to understand how its individual design works to fulfill its function as an intricate device for communicating meanings.

2.2 Kinds of Meaning

Semantics is concerned with the aspect of meaning in language. Work in semantics deals with the description of word and sentence meaning. There are certain kinds of meaning or certain aspects of meaning in linguistics (Lyon, 1995). The meaning of sentence depends upon the meaning of its sentence of they occur (Lyon, 1984). There are kinds of meaning or aspects of meaning in linguistics.

2.2.1 Lexical Meaning

The study of linguistics meaning or morphemes, words, phrases and sentences is called “semantics”. Semantics deals with the description of word and sentence meaning. There are certain kinds of meaning or certain aspects of meaning in linguistics (Lyon, 1981).
Lexical meaning is the meaning of word in isolation. The term “lexical meaning” is interpreted as the meaning of lexemes that depend upon the meaning of the sentences in which they occur. The technical term that is called dictionary-words is “lexeme”. The noun ‘lexeme’ is related to the words ‘lexical’ and ‘lexicon’. A lexeme is lexical unit or a unit of the lexicon. The lexical structure of a language is the structure of its lexicon or vocabulary and lexical meaning is equivalent to the commonly used, less technical (but ambiguous), term ‘word-meaning’. Identifying lexical meaning is not easy because it does not only deal with the obvious or literal meaning but also with denotation, synonymy, antonymy, ambiguity, polysemy, hyponymy, homonymy, and homophon.

2.2.1.1 Homonym and Polysemy

Homonym is said to be two words with the same form but different in meaning. For example; corn=grain and corn=the foot, bank=side of a river and bank=financial institution.

In addition, a word can be defined as polysemy, if it has more than one meaning or multiple meaning. For example, the noun ‘head’ is treated in standard dictionaries of English as a single lexeme with several distinguishable meaning. For example, ‘head’ a top of body, top a glass of bear, top of company department. Meaning can be descriptive, expressive, and social and many lexemes combine two of these or more than it.
There are several conditions which cause polysemy. First, it is specification in certain science, for instance, in linguistics, architecture and art. The word ‘form’ have so many different meaning. They have their own meaning. Second, it is specification of usage in the variety of social life. For instance, operation is assigning operation, but in medical word, operations have meaning ’to operate a patient. Third, it is the use in figurative language and the last in incorrect writing or utterance.

2.2.1.2 Ambiguity

Fromkin (1988: 171) states that some sentences are ambiguous because they have both literal and non-literal and metaphorical meaning. A word or sentence is ambiguous, if it can be understood or interpreted in more than one interpretation or reading. The different words that have some forms or pronunciations may cause ambiguity among other listeners or readers who do not pay attention to their context carefully. In reality, they are rarely aware of more than one reading which they select immediately. For example, she cannot bear the children. Perhaps understood to mean, she is unable to give birth to children or she cannot tolerate children. The ambiguity is because there are two words of ‘bear’ with two different meaning.

2.2.1.3 Synonymy and Antonymy

Synonym is the expression with the same meaning. Two points should be paid attention about this definition. First, it does not limit the relation of synonymy. To lexemes, it allows for the possibility that lexically simple expression may have the same meaning as lexical complex expressions. Second, it makes identity, not only
similarity of meaning. Kridalaksana in Wijaya (2007: 16) argues that the definition of synonymy is the form of language which has similar or resemble meaning with the other form. It can be in the form of words, phrases or sentences, although generally it is only with one word.

Antonym is the word which in some senses opposite in meaning, such as the words ‘cold and hot’, ‘dead and alive’, ‘above and below’. The relationship that called antonym perhaps can be explained by giving the example like ‘big’ and ‘small’. However, it becomes special because antonym can be graded systematically. Grading here has strong relationship with comparison operation.

The comparison can be in the form of explicit or implicit meaning. Comparative explicit sentence are categorized into two types. They are: 1) two things could be compared based on the feature in which this feature is declared that one has higher grade than the other one. For example, our house is bigger than yours. 2) The same condition of two things could be compared based on the feature or characteristic that is meant. For instance, our house is bigger than it used to be.

Furthermore, Aminuddin in Wijaya (2007: 20) states that antonym can be characterized as positive and negative. For example, good and bad. The categorization of words whether it is included in positive or negative polarity is based on the aspect compared. There are two kinds of contradiction relation. First, it is privative contradictions relation. It is used if one of the objects compared are abstract such as dead and life. Second, it is equivalence contradiction relation. It is used if the objects compared are concrete or can be seen such as male and female.
2.2.1.4 Denotation and Connotation

Denotation is the meaning of word which is primarily refers to the real world. It is the type of meaning which may be described in terms of a set of semantic properties which serves to identify the particular concept associated with the word in question. For instance, “cow” shows a kind of animal, “house” shows a kind of building. Connotation arises as words become related with certain characteristics of items to which they refer, or the association of positive or negative feeling to which they refer, or the association of positive or negative feeling to which they evokes, which may or may not be indicated in a dictionary definition. (Ahmadin, 2005).

Connotation meaning can also happen in a sentence; usually we can know the real meaning of the sentence by looking at the context. Check these two different examples below!

1. Tomorrow will be my father’s birthday; I will give him a white collar shirt.

2. My mother is a teacher and my father is a white collar man.

The first sentence consists of denotation meaning. The words white collar refers to part of a garment that fits round the neck, which has white color. Still, the second sentence has a denotation meaning. In western white collar refers to the people that have a profession in an office. Because in western culture it is assumed that clerks who work within an office always wear a white-collar shirt before wearing their coat.
Connotation has its own function in human daily communication. Fromkin et. Al, (1983) says that: Connotation play an important role in language of advertising, of politics, of literature. Indeed in these various connotations may be so powerful that they totally replace the denotative meanings. Words as democracy, freedom and communism, for example, often occur with emotive connotations of such a highly-charged nature that speakers may be blind to the fact that there is no agreed-upon definition underlying their use. It is their potent affective meanings that makes such words attractive to the propagandist or political fanatic who intend to arouse strong feeling without inviting critical examination of this case.

2.2.1.5 Hyponymy

Hyponym is a word whose meaning contains the entire meaning of other words that is known by super ordinate.

Hyponym ➔ meaning of yellow, black, white, orange etc.

Super ordinate ➔ meaning of color.

However, all of meaning could be changed with human’s thought because human thought always provide with something new in the world. As Oka mentioned in Baroroh (2007: 14) that there is several meanings that usually use by people.

1. There is moving from one word to other word.

2. There are new concepts providing which its need a word as it place.

3. The conditions of psychologies speaker (taboo word)

4. The change of society environment in using a word.
5. The change or different using fields.

6. There is metaphor.

All of them are possibilities when people talk or speak to other one in which used in the utterance.

2.3 Sentential Meaning

Sentential meaning can be defined as a group of words that forms a statement, command, exclamation or question, and usually contains a subject and predicates. And in writing usually begins with capital letter and end of the mark (.,!, ?). In addition, Lyon argues in Isnawati (2005: 18) that the common definition of the sentences as a group of words containing subject and a predicate ‘sets up two of them’. It requires that a sentence can be more than one word and it can be a structure of predication.

According to Chaer in Baroroh (2007: 15) sentence is syntactic unit formed based on the basic constituent which usually in the form of clause and complete with conjunction then followed by intonation. Those final intonations give three characteristic to the sentence. They are declarative intonation, in language symbolized by full stop (.), then, interrogative intonation, symbolized by question mark (?), and the last, exclamation intonation that is symbolized by exclamation mark (!).

Fromkin in Ahmadin (2001: 14) explains that the meaning of phrase or sentence depends on both meaning of its words and how these words are structurally
combined or what is called as idioms. We can truly understand and comprehend sentences especially foreign language because we know the meanings of individual word.

2.3.1 Analytic Sentence and Synthetic Sentence

According to Parker in Baroroh (2007:16) describes analytic sentence as one that is necessarily as a result of the world in it. For instance a bachelor is an unmarried man. From this sentence it is not necessary for us to look at on the outside as prove of the truth. Because based on our knowledge the ‘bachelor’ means unmarried man. It can be defined that analytic sentence is the true condition by definition.

On the contrary is the synthetic sentence. Synthetic sentence is not true condition or sentence. This sentence does not accurately describe some state of affairs in the world. It means that the synthetic sentence needs to check empirically. For example, “my next door neighbor, Thomas, is married”. This sentence is synthetic sentence because we do not know whether true or false before we investigate its truth or falsity.

2.3.2 Entailment

Entailment is a relationship between two sentences in which truth of one sentences implies the truth of the other sentence because the meaning of the words involved. Fromkin (1999: 173) sometimes knowing the truth of one sentence entails or necessary implies the truth of another sentence. The relation of entailment is said
to hold between two sentences. For example, a) Anna is a spinster b) Anna has been unmarried. If sentence (a) is true, sentence (b) must be true.

### 2.3.3 Presupposition

The philosophical uses of this term will be obtained in semantic discussion, a condition which must be satisfied if a particular state of affairs is to gain, or in connection to language what a speaker assumes in saying in a particular sentence, as opposed to what is actually asserted. It is also analyzed as a certain type of logical relationship between statements, contrasting with entailment.

Some linguists have come to use the term in a narrower sense, in two-part analysis of sentences which contrast be information assumed or presupposed by the speaker, and that which is at the center of the speaker’s communicative interest; in this sense, presupposition is opposed to focus.

The contrast between given and new information makes an analogous distinction. For example, on one interpretation of this notion, the sentence where is the salt? Is said to presuppose that the salt is not present to the speaker, and there is someone whom the speaker thinks might know where the salt is, and so on. This total of the study in communicative context that influence the meaning of a sentence has attracted increasing interest from the linguists in recent years, partly in semantics partly under the heading of pragmatics.

Sentential meaning is a way how to analyze the meaning in the form of sentence. The structure of sentence has own characteristic of meaning which include
analytic sentence, synthetic sentence, and entailment. Therefore, analyzing the sentence is more difficult than analyzing the word in lexical meaning.

2.4 Message

In Longman Dictionary (2001: 256) mentioned that message is a piece of information passed from one person to another. Message is a spoken or written communication sent from one person to another. Message is like a note, letter, report, cable, word, news, information and report and message has a function to understand or transmit something to people by signaling.

Actually, message has close relation with communication because it is related to verbal and non-verbal communication. According to Nurgiyantoro in Wijaya (2007: 36) that there are several kinds of message, they are;

2.4.1 Moral Message

Moral message is relating to the principles or considerations of right and or good and bad character. The types of moral message include the unlimited problems. It can include all live and life conflict, the conflict such as human values and status. Therefore, the moral message can be conveyed by idea, advice and suggestion of the author to the readers, speakers to the hearers.

2.4.2 Religious Message
Religious message is relating to particular religious faith or suggestion from the author to the readers or speaker to the hearers about the religion as human conviction or the religion not only as the law in human life.

2.4.3 Social Message

Social message is relating to spoken or written message that related to human society. The form of social life can be more interesting and relevant to be applied in our life moreover in modern life because we are social creation. There are many aspect of social life such as authentic, eternal and universal.

2.5 Surah As-Mudatstsir

Sūrat al-Mudatstsir (Arabic: سورة المدثر, "The Cloaked One, The Man Wearing a Cloak") is the 74th surah of the Qur'an with 56 ayat.

This surah was part of the early Meccan revelations. Many well known author’s chronology places Surat al-Mudatstsir as the second surah revealed to the Prophet Muhammed including Ibn Kathir, citing the hadith: “Jabir ibn Abd Allah told, I heard the Messenger of Allah – and he was narrating about the pause in Revelation – so he said in his narration: “I was walking, when I heard a voice from the heavens. So I raised my head, and there was an angel, the one that had come to me at Hira, sitting upon a chair between the heavens and the earth. I fled from him out of fear, and I returned and said: ‘Wrap me up! Wrap me up! So they covered me.’” Then Allah, Most High revealed: ‘O you who are wrapped up! Arise and warm.’ Up to His saying: ‘And keep away from the Rujz!’ before the Salat was made obligatory.
2.6 Translation

Translation comes from the word ‘translate’. Nida and Taber (see Suryawinata, 1989: 1) argues that translation is the process of transferring language from the source language into the target language. It means that translation is related to convey the meaning through spoken or written language in order the message of the original language can be understood by other people.

As Catford in Baroroh (2007: 21) that translation is a craft consists of the attempts to replace a written message or statement in one language by the same message or statement in another language. While other experts defined that translation as the general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language or source language into the other one (target language), whether the language are in written or oral form; whether the languages have established orthographies or do not have such standardization or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with sign language of the deaf.

There are some types of translation as Savory’s categorization below;

a) Perfect translation.

Perfect translation includes all purely informative statements such as what are encountered by the travelers or used by the advertisers.

b) Adequate translation.

Adequate translation categorized into very lager number of almost characters of translation made for the general reader who may use them without giving a
thought to the fact that what he is reading is not originally written in his own language. For example, English pop novel translated into Indonesian language. The translator may omit words or even entire sentences which he finds the obscure and he can freely paraphrase the original meaning.

c) Composite translation.

This type of translation includes the translation of poetry into poetry, prose into prose, prose into poetry and poetry into prose.

d) Scientific translation.

This translation aims for attaining the clearness and accuracy of the concepts.

2.6.1 The Process of Translation

The process of translation is not simply translating sentence from source language into the target language but we have to find the equivalence of meaning or message in the source language to be transferred into the target language.

According to Suryawinata and Effendi in Baroroh (2007: 23) there are some steps in the process of translation as follow: a) Understanding the meaning and message of the text in the source language. b) Looking for the equivalent meaning or message in the target language. c) Restructuring the equivalent meaning or message in the target language into an accepted form of text in the target language. From the third steps above usually the translator used step number one in translating text that is understand the meaning and message of the text in the source language then transferred in the target language.
2.7 Biography of Yusuf Ali

Hafizd Abdullah Yusuf Ali, CBE, FRSL (14 April 1872 – 10 December 1953) was an Indian Islamic scholar who translated the Qur’an into English. His translation of the Qur’an is one of the most widely known and used in the English speaking world.

Ali was born in Seurat, Gujarat in British India to a wealthy merchant family with a Dawoodi Bohra father. As a child, Ali received a religious education and, eventually, could recite the entire Qur’an from memory. He spoke both Arabic and English fluently. He studied English literature and studied at several European universities, including the University of Leeds. He concentrated his efforts on the Qur’an and studied the Qur’an commentaries beginning with those written in the early days of Islamic history.


Ali was an outspoken supporter of the Indian contribution to the Allied effort in World War I. He was a respected intellectual in India and Sir Muhammad Iqbal recruited him to be the principal of Islamic Collage in Lahore, British India. Later in life, he again went to England where he died in London. He is buried in England at
the Muslim cemetery at Brook wood, Surrey, near Working, not far from the burial place of Pick hall.

2.8 Previous Study

Wijaya, (2007) focused on semantic analysis of the English translation of Surah Luqman. He discussed the kinds of meaning in surah Luqman and the translation method used. He found many sentential meaning and discoursal meaning and the translation method used are two methods. Baroroh, (2007) as the following researcher focused on a semantic analysis of the English translation of surah Al-Fath. She discussed the kinds of the meaning and also message involved in surah Al-Fath. She found the discoursal meaning in this surah and she also found the moral and religious message.

Yulianti (2005) conducted her research about Semantic Analysis on the translation of surah Yasin by Muhammad al-Hilali. In her study, she investigates the kinds of meaning used in each verses of the English translation of surah Yasin. She found that this surah consists of many sentential and discoursal meaning. She also discussed the message involvement that involve in this surah and the common message is the moral message.

Laily (2002), in her study entitled on Semantic Analysis the Lyrics of Bon Jovi’s Songs, investigated the kinds and types of meaning used in each line of the lyrics of Jon Bon Jovi’s Song. She found that Jon Bon Jovi frequently used lexical meaning, sentence and discourse meaning to communicate his ideas, emotion feeling
and thoughts in his songs. The lexemes she used were obtained from the phenomena occurred in his surroundings. Besides using a lexical meaning, Jon’s songs contain social values which describe his own feeling.