

Jayaprana, R. A. P. 2015. *An Analysis of Lexical and Syntactic Ambiguity On the Headlines of The Jakarta Post Online Newspaper*. A Thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for Sarjana degree of English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Airlangga Surabaya.

ABSTRACT

An online media can fasten a person to obtain information such as newspaper. However, not all the readers could think in the same way. When a such possible interpretations occur, ambiguity happens. This may create confusion for the readers. Ambiguity, which is so common, is the possibility of something to be understood in many ways. Ambiguity is distinguished into two kinds – lexical and syntactic ambiguity. Lexical ambiguity is defined as multiple meanings of sentences due to words that have multiple meaning; Syntactic ambiguity emerges when a sentence can accommodate distinct phrasal structures. The study aims to discover and analyze the lexical and syntactic ambiguity which appears in some headlines of The Jakarta Post online newspaper from www.thejakartapost.com as one of the well-known nationwide newspaper in the English edition. The data were analyzed qualitatively by using theory of ambiguity in Gillon's (1990) discussion. The structure of the data were shown by using Phrase structure tree by Fromkin et. al. (2009). From the 24 headlines that occurred, there were eight headlines to be analyzed in lexical ambiguity; and 17 headlines to be analyzed in syntactic ambiguity; with one headline contained double lexical and syntactic ambiguity.

Keywords: *Ambiguity, headlines, lexical, Phrase structure rules, syntactic, tree diagram*