

ABSTRACT

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In society, mass media becomes an important tool for communication. One of the media for communication is newspaper. That is why, the language used in mass media should be concerned with clarity as the main role of communication. However, in some cases, some vagueness in meaning is still found, which can cause several interpretations. In this study, the writer takes *Kompas* newspaper for her thesis to be analyzed by using the theory of vagueness. There are three problems in the study; they are: Is there any vagueness in each news report of the *Surabaya Kita* sub section of *Kompas* newspaper?; What types of vagueness are found in *Surabaya Kita* news reports of *Kompas* newspaper?; Which type of vagueness is most frequently found in the news reports of *Surabaya Kita* sub section in *Kompas* newspaper? In order to answer these problems, the writer uses the theory of vagueness, especially the four types of vagueness; referential vagueness, indeterminacy of meaning, lack of specification in the meaning of an item, and disjunction in the specification of the meaning of an item as the parameter. This study uses the qualitative design. It focuses on the understanding the context of the data analyzed in finding the issued of vagueness. The writer seeks to explore the specific issue of vagueness. The writer found that not all news reports contain vagueness. From 18 news reports analyzed, only 16 news reports contain vague words or phrases. The vague words or phrases found are only categorized into 2 types of vagueness: type 2, indeterminacy of meaning, and type 3, lack of specification in the meaning of an item. The type 2 amounts to 18% and the type 3 amounts to 82%. Hence, the vagueness type 3, lack of specification in the meaning of an item, is the most frequently found in *Kompas* newspaper in the sub section of *Surabaya Kita*. The study also shows that vagueness often occurs in *Surabaya Kita* sub section in *Kompas* newspaper even though it has contradiction with clarity and could cause some possible interpretations.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION