

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Sports is one of the aspects that can bring the name of Indonesia in the eyes of the world. One example of a sport that plays a major role in the name of the country of Indonesia is billiards. According to (D. G. Alciatore 2004), billiard is a wide variety of games of skill usually played with a cue stick which is used to strike billiard balls and thereby cause them to move around the billiard table and bounded by elastic bumpers known as a cushion. Billiards are included in the category of concentration sports.

The game is divided into several types, including Carom, Snooker, and Pool and can be played individually or team. Carom billiard is the billiard game that is played on the pocketless table and three cue balls. To earn match points, carom players need to cause the cue ball hit from one object ball to another. Snooker is a billiard game that is played on a bigger six-pocket table with 22 colored balls, each has a value point in each ball and this game is won by the player who scores the most points. The pool is a billiard game which is played on seven-nine feet clothed table with six pockets and won by the player who pocketed the last ball depends on which game did the player play (DiPasquale 2010). The type of Pool that is still divided into the number of 15 balls, eight balls, nine balls, and ten balls.

PMBilliard (2010) stated that the history of billiard in Indonesia first emerged from the low-class society. It means that this society was largely

unemployed. They knew billiard sports from the European countries which colonized the Asian mainland and brought their habits that were playing billiard at the time. The first billiard game known and played by Indonesian people was pool billiard with a seven-foot green-clothed table. Besides, people used to play this game for gambling. Thus, it usually has a negative image for some people. Nowadays, billiard has been well developed in Indonesia. Many billiard fields start to use the international rules of billiard and a 9-foot blue-clothed pool table and a bigger cue ball.

Billiards are identical to the sport that is always played by men only. However many women nowadays are starting to love the billiard sport. Not only popular among men and women but also people from different social backgrounds. For example, the educated people like college students. Universitas Airlangga has just inaugurated billiard as UKM (Student Activity Unit) to make college students take part to develop this sport as a prestigious sport. In the last five years, Indonesia has held several international matches in several capitals including Jakarta, Balikpapan, Jogjakarta, Surabaya, Bali, and Irian Jaya. However, until now some people have had bad perception of billiards. Billiard in Indonesia has bad perception because these billiard venues are usually in identical places like nightclubs, filled with smokers and drinkers, and still being used as gambling by some. Billiard in Indonesia has several times achievement for the country in the national and international tournaments. In this case, billiard can be considered as one kind of popular sport which is popular in Indonesia.

In 2011 a player from Labuhan Ratu (North Sumatra) named Ricky Yang won the gold medal in SEA GAMES Palembang 2011 (Kompasiana 2011). In 2013, Ricky Yang won another gold medal for Indonesia in 9 ball pool single SEA GAMES Myanmar along with Angelina Magdalena who won the gold medal in women 9 ball pool single and a silver medal in women 10 ball pool single. In addition, Indonesia also participates the world's most prestigious billiard competition, World Cup of Pool, 2017. In the World Cup of Pool 2017, Indonesia sent Irsal Afrineza Nasution and Muhammad Bewi Simanjuntak as the delegations in the competition. Unfortunately, they were defeated by Imran Majid and Darryl Peach from England B.

World Cup of Pool is the worldwide yearly single-elimination tournament for a team in nine-ball pool competition. The 2017 World Cup of Pool was held at York Hall, London from June 13-18. The tournament was a gathering for some of the greatest players in the world, and there were a host of genuine contenders for the coveted title, including two sides from the host nation as 32 two-player teams battle it out for a \$250,000 prize fund (Dafabet.com 2017). The final brings USA v AUSTRIA to play in the final match of 2017 World Cup of Pool. Surprisingly, Austria which has not been considered before came to be the winner against the USA, the top opposition inside a York Hall on Sunday afternoon (genipool14 2017). It was Austria's first final in the event's 12-year history. The USA, on the other hand, has reached the final twice, losing to the Philippines in the event's inaugural year 2006 and then winning two years later in Rotterdam with Shane Van Boening and Rodney Morris (genipool14 2017).

The interesting things included in the World Cup of Pool 2017 Final match is the language used by the billiard commentators to report the match. The language used to report the match is considered as register. A register is the variety which tends to be associated with particular groups of people or, sometimes, specific situation of use (Holmes 2013). Holmes mentions that play-by-play commentators focus on the action with the sounds of the action and spectators also heard in the background. She added that when play-by-play commentators describe a sporting event, the language they used is quite clearly which can be distinguished from the language used in another context.

The clearest distinguishing feature is generally the vocabulary, for example, “the USA to break,” “push out,” and “race to ten”. Those are examples of the vocabulary of billiard. The way this vocabulary can be determined from the context. Alciatore (2019) elaborates that “break” means one person is chosen to shoot first, by breaking the rack.. Then “push out” in billiard means after the break, before the second shot of the rack, the player would call a “push out.” A push-out can be called by the breaking player if he pocketed a legal ball on the break, or the other player if there is no ball pocketed on the break. While “race to ten” means the match will end with ten winnings score”. Thus, it is clear that there are terms that belong solely to billiard and mostly unknown to people outside the billiard circle or in other words can be stated as a register.

Furthermore, in the term of vocabulary which is used by certain occupational or social group, the developing process of the vocabulary can be analyzed under the study of morphology . According to McCarthy (2002, p.144)

morphology concerns with the structure of words and the relationship between words which involve the morphemes that construct them. The morpheme are divided into two: free morpheme, morpheme that can stand alone, and bound morpheme, the morpheme which follow the free morpheme (McCarthy 2002). For instance, in billiard vocabulary, the term “breaker”. The term “breaker” in billiard refers to the person who break the triangle-shaped formation of the ball (Billiard and Pool Online Glossary 2019). The term “breaker” is constructed by two morphemes, the root “break” and the suffix “-er”. The term “break” in this case is considered as the free morpheme since the term has its own meaning which refers to first shot of a pool game where the cue ball is hit from behind the head string into the racked balls. The suffix “-er”, in this case, modify the accident into the person who did the “break”.

Moreover, This study focuses on the features of billiard vocabulary and morphology, which is used by billiard commentators in the Final World Cup of Pool 2017. The features include the vocabulary and the morphological pattern which can be identified as a register (Holmes, 2013). The writer uses several theories as guidance such as the register theory which is purposed by Holmes and Wardhaugh as the main theory.

Several previous studies about register analysis of commentators in a match have been conducted. (Yuswara 2014) wrote “The Register of Football Commentators in Champions League Final 2012”. In that research, he described the register of football commentators in Champions League Final 2012 in the play-by-play moment between Bayern Munich and Chelsea on 19th May 2012. In

his study, he found that certain information which was delivered by play-by-play commentators used a particular vocabulary of football to explain the player's action in the football fields. In analyzing the intonation pattern, the play-by-play commentators often used rising and falling intonations.

Another study is from (Rahmawati 2014) about "A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Register Used in Soccer Page of Social Media Facebook". Her research aims to portray the linguistics form and the meaning of register used in the soccer page of facebook. She classified the data as the register, identified the linguistic form of the register, and analyzed the context of the data based on Halliday's theory.

Still another study was conducted by (Humpolík 2014) entitled "Language of Football Commentators: An Analysis of Live English Football Commentary and its Types". His study was conducted with the register of the SAT (Sports announcer's talk), more specifically with the football branch, and its findings were rather diverse. Based on the results, the form of the register appeared to be dependent primarily on the verbalizations of extra-linguistic events under certain time pressure. The higher the time pressure, the more it will be likely to be less syntactically complex for an utterance.

The three previous studies mentioned discussed sport commentator register, specifically football which is an outdoor activity. On the other hand, this study is directed toward billiard which is an indoor game and supposed to have different actions compared to football. Therefore, this study is expected to add

more knowledge regarding sport register by analyzing the features present on billiard commentary of the Final World Cup of Pool 2017.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

1. What are the billiard vocabularies which found in the register used in billiard commentators in the World Cup of Pool 2017 in the play-by-play moment between the USA and Austria?
2. What are the morphological pattern which is found in the billiard vocabularies in the play-by-play moment?
3. How is the register used by billiard commentators in World Cup of Pool 2017 in the play-by-play moment between the USA and Austria?

1.3 Objective of the Study

1. Identify the billiard vocabulary used in the register of billiard commentators in the play-by-play moment.
2. Identify the morphological pattern of the vocabulary used in the register of billiard commentators in the play-by-play moment.
3. Describe the register usage of billiard commentators in the World Cup of Pool Final 2017 in the play-by-play moment between the USA and Austria.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected to give some contributions to the knowledge in the field of sociolinguistics under the domain of register. It is also expected to be a valuable source of reference to related studies. For practical use,

this study provides small glossary on the definition of certain billiard terms to help the readers to understand the message communicated by billiard commentators and to identify the linguistic features of billiard commentators. Moreover, the readers can be inspired for the next research about the billiard terms and commentators' language.

1.5 Scope of Limitation

This study is about the linguistic features in billiard commentators of one match of the World Cup of Pool 2017. The writer used one billiard match, which was 92 minutes (16 racks) long. The data is obtained from the commentators' play-by-play description of the match between USA and Austria downloaded from youtube channel (Genipool 2017). Since this study only focuses on the action which is called play-by-play moment in the commentators' speech the result of analysis on the vocabulary and morphological variations which can be identified as billiard register may not reflect the whole register on the field of sport.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Below are the key terms to give more understanding about the title of this study:

- **Billiard** : A wide variety of games of skill generally played with a cue stick, which is used to strike billiard balls and thereby cause them to move around a cloth-covered billiard table bounded by elastic bumpers known as cushions ("WCBS" 2005).

- **Billiard Commentators:** Persons who deliver a speech to report the billiard matches and whose speech is characterized by the play-by-play description and color commentary. (Holmes 2013, pp. 261)
- **Play-by-play description:** Billiard commentators' speech which focuses on the action and aims at communicating the drama of the moment. (Holmes 2013, pp. 261)
- **Register** : Occupational style or the language variation of a particular group of people with a common interest or the language used in situations associated with such group (Holmes 2013, pp. 262)