

Chapter 1: Introduction

In this chapter the researcher presents some points related to this research. Those include background of the study, formulation of the research question, aim of research, and research significances.

Basic Consideration

Understanding the meaning of a language usually makes people confused. The speakers or the writers sometimes use sentences or phrases which contain an implicit meaning. As a matter of fact transferring idea will increase the hearer or the reader's curiosity to know the implicit meaning. That is why, the hearer or the reader needs to interpret the meaning properly for gaining the message clearly in order to prevent misunderstanding. Lyons (1981, p.136) states "Meaning is idea or concept which can be transferred from the speaker to the mind of hearer to embodying them as it was in the forms of one language or another".

Dealing with the statement, the meaning and context are related one to another and cannot be separated. Palmer (1981, p.7) states "Meaning do not seem to be stable but depend upon speaker and context."

Nowadays, the utterance plays the role as something that spreads a positive value wrapped into quotes and mostly used as the media to get self-motivation. Farnsworth (as cited in Moran, 2015, p.3) states that "people have an appetite for well-expressed wisdom, motivational or otherwise". Quotes share a power to represent message, whether it is moral value, humanity, social, religion, or culture. Fader added (as cited in Moran, 2015, p.2) "people who tend to feel inspired by motivational quotes are going to find them more resonant than those who don't find simple phrases and sayings to be particularly meaningful, it is supported by three important aspects, those are: the coaching factor, the power of

language, and the primal aspect.” Therefore, it is proved that quotes are not only someone’s statement or thoughts but also have more value in order to gain self motivation.

According to Hauser (20016, p.3) Muhammad Ali / Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr is a legendary person that is known as the greatest of professional boxer from United States of America. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky on 17 January, 1942. Ali lived in racism era, the real discrimination that black people got from white people in America at that time. In his life Ali become the one who talked the most about, Ali produced some utterances that correlate with his life inside and outside the ring to his rival and audience. He thought that his utterance is useful and the others’ are not. Some people agreed with what he expressedd and some of them did not. Ali’s utterance had an implicit meaning that must be interpreted for gaining the message.

Generally, there are varieties of meaning in language. Regarding on Leech (1981, p.23) meaning are divided into seven types, those are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning. Through those types, it will specifically place Ali’s quotes which contained an implicit meaning. This case becomes the interesting part to analyze from the perspective of meaning. On the early data collection, it is found:

Ali comes up with a simple case that always makes people brave enough to create a dream but end up with the little things that should not be concerned in, called “problem”. Ali produce a quote that was utilized in asatrical fashion in Bryan Bureau’s November, 2003 article; Tossing Off Pebble Costs the Cardinals-Mountain of Bucks, in the St, Louis Post Dispatch..

*“It isn’t the mountains ahead to climb that wear you out; it’s the **pebble in your shoe.**”*

From the phrase above, it can be seen from the meaning of the dictionary which “pebble” means a small round stone, especially one found on a beach or in a river. While “shoe” means one of a pair of coverings for your feet, usually made of a strong material such as leather, with a thick leather or plastic sole (=base) and usually a heel. (Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary). *The pebble in your shoe* is a phrase that present the connotative meaning “prejudice”. Regarding on Leech, that “Connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content.” *The pebble in your shoe* refers to Ali’s prejudice. Which this phrase describes how people put down Ali as the slave that can’t achieve better things in his life which means life goals. On the previous statement *it isn’t the mountain ahead to climb that wear you out*, the word “mountains” refers to a dream/ life goals. Mountains is high, it faced many struggles while people climb it. But, the real problems are not how high the mountain is, or how many problem that must be faced. It is about *the pebble in your shoe* (prejudice which come from your mind), when people has a problem with their mind. It is hard to achieve a better result. It gives a stimulus to your mind that you are nothing. So, you cannot face it and can not achieve anything. Overall, Ali cannot hide off the problem that come into his life. Keep focusing on what he was dreamed off is the only way to achieve his goals with the ability that he had. How small the problem is, people must face it. Don’t let them in! Goals is a must, set your dream then catch it up. Up and down is not a big problem and we have to deal with them. It is defined that, this quote has not correlation with the other types except connotative meaning. While Pateda (2001, p.112) states “Connotation is the meaning which appears by association of language used by the speaker or listener about the language which they speak or read”. It is correlate with the speaker meaning that was claimed by Hurford (2007, p.3) which speaker meaning is what speaker means when he/she uses a piece of language. Based on the quotes above, Ali has his own meaning inside the quote that was seen from the

background that was explained before. It is not the conceptual meaning, because it has the secondary meaning. There is no social circumstances from a piece of the language. Not communicated the feeling and attitude and not shares the association with another sense of the same expression. There is no correlation with the environment of another word and it is not include the message is organized in terms of order and emphasis.

Ali's quotes cannot be understood well without doing this study. That is why, through analyzing the meaning people are easier to find the implicit meaning and classified the meaning into the types of meaning for gaining the message properly to get the moral value and building up self motivation. It would be presenting a different research than previous to find out the objective of this research by doing the research with the title "**An Analysis on Meaning in Muhammad Ali's Quotes**".

Research question

Based on the basic consideration, the research question is "What are the types of meaning contained in Muhammad Ali's quotes?"

Research Objective

According to the research question, the objective is "To find out the types of meaning contained in Muhammad Ali's quotes."

Limitation of Research

Talking about limitation, this research only focuses on Muhammad Ali's quotation taken from "Brainy Quotes Website" (2001). The main concern of this research is focused to analyze the types of meaning in "Muhammad Ali's quotes".

Research Significances

Theoretically, the result of this research will be a reference for the readers to have a better understanding about the types of meaning. Practically, this research contributes in semantics field of the learning process in English Department to enrich the source in building up students' willingness in analyzing the meaning delivered quotes. For the department, it is expected to guide the next researcher who will conduct the similar research in semantics field related to study of meaning.