

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Semantics is derived from the Ancient Greek word *smantikós*, which is formed of the noun *smameans* "sign" or "signal" and the verb *smainmeans* "signal." The study of meaning, reference, or truth is known as semantics. Subfields of multiple various disciplines, such as computer science, linguistics, and philosophy, can be related to by the word. According to Bloomfield, studying language entails examining the relationship between sound and meaning. Still, linguistics, in his opinion, consists of two primary observations: the first is phonetics, which studies how sounds are created without regard to their meaning, and the second is semantics, which studies the relationship between sounds and their meaning (Beaugrande, 1997: 65).

The use of language as a medium of communication states that having a clear understanding of a language's vocabulary system will lead to effective verbal communication, preventing the misunderstanding mentioned in the first paragraph. The topic of this undergraduate thesis, *The Semantic Features of English Words Meaning "Good-Looking"*, is chosen because the analysis of the topic can be used to investigate the complete definition of synonymous words. Similar to linguistics, semantics has also many scopes of study and one of them is synonyms. Synonyms are words or expressions that have the same meanings in some or all concepts (O'Grady, 1996: 269). However, "many linguists feel that having two words or sentences whose meanings are completely similar in all circumstances would be wasteful for a language." As a result, full synonyms are uncommon or absent" (O'Grady, 1996: 269). Words that are thought to be equivalent will always have elements in their meaning that distinguish them.

The essential or basis of the undergraduate thesis is to discover the entire definition that will lead to the discovery of the differences or distinctions among synonymous terms. Analyzing the semantic characteristics of English adjectives, let alone a study of English adjectives that signify "good-looking," is still uncommon. As a result, any publications or references that provide a clear and comprehensive explanation of the definition and usage of English adjectives that imply "good-looking" are still restricted.

It is believed that this research will aid in the provision of vital information concerning the inadequate definitions. The goal of this study is to enhance the meanings of English adjectives

that signify "good-looking" in dictionaries.

1.2 Problem of The Study

Some issues are provided in order to get at the analysis' conclusion. The issues can be expressed as follows:

1. What is the meaning of each of the words in the data?
2. What are the semantic differences between the English terms "good-looking"?

1.3 Purpose of The Study

This research aims to the goal of this study is to enhance the meaning of English adjectives that signify "good-looking" in dictionaries , this research has two main objectives which are carried out to answer the research problems which are stated as follows:

1. What is the meaning of each of the words in the data?
2. What are the semantic differences between the English terms "good-looking"?