

**VAGUENESS AS FOUND ON "METROPOLIS WATCH"
IN JAWA POS NEWSPAPER**

THESIS



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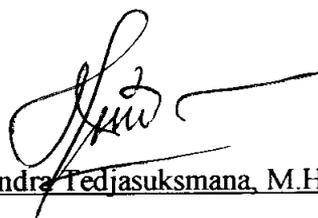
(1)

This thesis entitled *Vagueness as found on "Metropolis Watch" in Jawa Pos Newspaper* which is prepared and submitted by Rahayu Tjandarso has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching Faculty by the following advisors:



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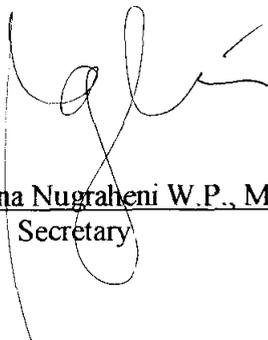
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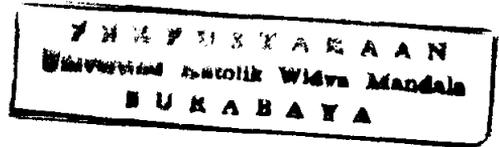
The writer realizes that all of the guidance, cooperation, time and chance given are really useful for her to enlarge her knowledge and enable her to arrange the rapport, as it should be.

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Surabaya, 29 October 2004

The writer

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ABSTRACT

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Key Words: Semantics, Vagueness and Letters Column

One of the important tools to convey one's message is through newspaper. To make the communication successful, the language in a newspaper should be clear and understandable. However, vagueness or lack of specification (Kempson 1977:124) can make the language of a newspaper unclear.

In this regard, the writer took *Jawa Pos* Newspaper, especially on “Metropolis Watch” issued from February 9 to 18, 2004 to be analyzed in her thesis based on the theory of vagueness. First of all, the writer would like to find out whether there is vagueness in some letters on “Metropolis Watch”, what types of vagueness appear in each letter and also what type of vagueness most frequently appears in some letters of “Metropolis Watch”.

In order to answer those three questions above, the writer discussed theories on newspaper, the theory of semantics in general and the theory of vagueness, especially the four types of vagueness. Moreover, she also made use of the theory of good writing.

In this study, the writer applied content analysis. In “Metropolis Watch” issued from February 9 to 18, 2004, there were forty-three letters. Because of the limited time, the writer only selected eleven of them using the systematic random sampling to be analyzed.

The writer found that vagueness appeared in the letters of “Metropolis Watch”. From forty vague words, phrases and a sentence found, twelve vague words, phrases and sentence belonged to the referential vagueness and twenty-eight vague words, phrases and a sentence to the lack of specification vagueness. The type of vagueness that mostly occurs is the third type of vagueness, lack of specification. Besides, the vagueness often appears in words and phrases. There are sixteen vague words, twenty-three vague phrases and one vague sentence.

As a conclusion, the theory of language in a newspaper is sometimes not applied in “Metropolis Watch” so that vagueness occurs. Some of the senders of letters in “Metropolis Watch” gave so narrow meaning that it may be hard to decide whether or not the item can be applied to a certain object. Besides, the meaning of some words and phrases in some letters of “Metropolis Watch” are so broad that they need more specific information.