CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background to the study, research questions, objectives, significance to knowledge and framework of the theories are presented in this chapter as introduction.

1.1 Background to the Study

Online game is a video game that needs an internet network. There are several types of online games. These are six types of online games. First, Console game, it is a game that uses a console (Nintendo, Playstation, Xbox, etc) to connect into network. Second, first Person-Shooter game, this is the game that the point of view of the player is in the first person, such as Counter Ctrike. Third, Real-time strategy game, this is the type of the game with tactical scenario, such as Red Allert. Fourth, Cross-platform online game, it is a game that can cross the platform, such as cross from Playstation to PC (personal computer). Fifth, Browser game, it is a game that can find in the browser, such as in the Facebook game. Sixth, Massively Multiplayer Online game (MMO), this is a game that there are large numbers of players who play in the same instance or the same place. (Salzman: 2004)

Since the MMO is the game with the large numbers of players, most of the game of MMO is social game or it can be called by MMORPG (Massively Multiple

Online Role-Playing Game). This is one of many games with many communication not like the other types of online games. For example the browser games, there are no specifics terms in that game. The players rarely communicate with other players. On the other hand, the players of MMORPG always communicate with other players. To communicate each other, the players use the specifics terms. There are specifics terms in MMORPG. The terms are only known by the gamers or the people who love game or the player of the game. The terms can be words, emoticons, and abbreviations. Most of the terms are abbreviations. There are many various types of abbreviations in the terms of MMORPG. Moreover, in each abbreviation, it can be phrases or just words. In the phrases, they have various categories.

The example of the terms in playing MMORPG is *GM (Game Master)*. *GM* has an abbreviation that has a type as alphabetism. *GM "Game Master"* is kind of phrase and it is called noun phrase. Izawa stated in the Rei's Random Guide to MMP Gaming Terms Rei's Game Terms Glossary that *GM (Game Master)* has the definition as *"the person who develops a pen-and-paper roleplaying campaign, and who describes scenes, handles combat, and acts the role of various NPCs (Non-Player Characters)."* On the other hand, when the non-gamers or people who do not know about game will think that *game master* is the position as *master* in a game. It can be known that the terms in playing MMORPG are specifics. The terms in playing MMORPG have their own definition. The definition cannot be interpreted as in daily

language. To make the definitions of the terms more clearly, it can be analysed by each word in the phrases.

As the phenomena above, the writer uses the topic of abbreviations in online games especially in MMORPG entitled "English Abbreviations in Massively Multiple Role-Playing Game. The writer analyses the types of abbreviations in online game, the categories of the original construction in abbreviations, and the semantic features in each terms found in the data. In this research, there are several theories that will be used to analyse the data. The grand theory is about abbreviations and the types of abbreviations by Ellisa Mattiello's theory in 2013. According to Mattiello, there are three types of abbreviations those are alphabetism, acronym, and clipping (2013: 67). The supporting theory is syntax by Linda Thomas in 1993 to analyse the original structure of the phrase in data. According to Linda a phrase has head and modifier. The head control the modifier. The semantic theory that will be used in this research is componential analysis by Nida Euguene in 1975, to analyse the semantic features found in the data.

The previous research for this research is titled "The Usage Abbreviations of Tour and Travel Terminology" by Lisna Wati in 2013. It explains about acronym and initialism, in the Tour and Travel. Thus, the differences between this research and previous research is that the writer analyses the types of clipping, the categories of the original construction of abbreviations, and the semantic features found in the data.

1.2 Research Questions

As the explanation in the background to the study above, there are three research questions for this research, as follows:

1. What is the abbreviation type found in the data?
2. What is the word categories of the original construction of abbreviation found in the data?
3. What are the semantic features of original construction found in the data?

1.3 Objectives

As the research questions above, there are three objectives to answer the question, as follow:

1. To identify and analyse the types of abbreviations found in the data.
2. To identify and analyse the category of the original construction of abbreviation found in the data.
3. To identify and analyse the semantic features of the original construction found in the data.

1.4 Significance to Knowledge

The research is expected to give knowledge and understanding about the abbreviations, their types and their categories. The readers get knowledge and understanding about the semantic features that make the definition in each term clearly since to different meaning of them in daily language.

1.5 Framework of the Theories

There are several theories used to analyse the data. The grand theory in this research is about the types of abbreviations process by Ellisa Mattiello (2013) and the supporting theories are Linda Thomas about phrase and phrase structure (1993), Nida Eugene (1975) about componential analysis.

According to Mattiello and Booij, morphology is the study of words, lexemes structure and formed the new word or called by word formation. Furthermore, there are several processes to form the word formation, such as derivation, compounding, and abbreviations. There are three types of abbreviations. The three types of abbreviations are acronym, initialism, and clippings (Mattiello, 2013: 67). Furthermore, according to Mattiello, the acronym has eight types. The eight types of acronym are non-elliptical acronym, elliptical acronym, acronym with vowel addition, extended acronym, recursive acronym, inverted letter acronym, semantically irrelevant acrostic, semantically relevant acrostic acronym. Moreover, the initialism has four types. They are initialism Non-Elliptical initialism, elliptical initialism, initialism with symbol, coordinators, prepositions, or numbers, and semantically irrelevant acrostic initialism (Mattiello, 2013: 94-95). Furthermore, Mattiello stated *"clippings is a process which abbreviates a word to one of its parts, with a consequent loss of a phonetic materials."* (2013: 68). It can be concluded that clipping is shortening the words. According to Mattiello, there are six types of

clippings. The six types of clippings are back-clipping, fore-clipping, edge-clipping, mid-clipping, random clipping, and suffixed clipping (2013: 82).

The clipping does not change the part of speech, it can be concluded that every abbreviations has their own part of speech. Mattiello stated that the categories in the abbreviations do exist, such as: verb, *prep → (prepare)* (2013: 70). Furthermore, the original construction of abbreviations can be noun phrase, verb phrase, prepositional phrase, word, etc. Therefore, in this research, the writer does not only analyse the types of abbreviations, but also covers the issue part of speech of the original word of the abbreviation found in the data.

The writer uses theory about phrase and phrase structure by Linda Thomas (1993) to discover the issue about the part of speech of the original word in abbreviations found in the data. According to Thomas, phrase consists of one or more words. It can be concluded that phrase consists of one or more word and has head.

In this research, the writer does not only analyse the abbreviations and the phrase of the original word in abbreviations, but also analyse the semantic features in each data. The abbreviation and the original word of the abbreviation in the data have the definition. To make clear definition, therefore the writer analyses the semantic features by using componential analysis theory by Eugene (1975). In addition, this research covers three issues, there are morphology, syntactics, and semantics.