CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This research is provided to the study of Negation. In order to do so, this chapter covers background to study, research questions, objectives, significant to knowledge and framework of theories.

1.1 Background to the study

Negation has been one of the core topics in syntax and semantics studies in which it has been analyzed in many different ways. There is no general and simple discussion about what negation is. Unfortunately, negation covers a variety of negative markers that possibly exist in level of phrases, clauses, and sentences within syntactic and semantic structutures. Negative markers discussed here are restricted to the negative markers *not* and *no*. They can express negative constructions: *not*-negation such as never (not + ever), neither (not + either); *no*-negation like no, nothing, no one, and nowhere.

Naturally, the negative markers *not* and *no* are to construct negative rather than affirmative. However, their distributions to construct negative exist in different place. *Not*-construction, as in, *She did not sleep last night,* is to negate *sleep* as the verb of sentence and it is known as clause negation through which the whole clause is syntactically treated as negative (Quirk, 1985).In another case, the negative marker *no* as in *He has no idea* negates the object of the sentence as

Noun Phrase. *No*-construction is treated as negation of other element (Quirk, 1985).

The two negative markers *not* and *no,* occasionally, group together in one construction on which this research focused, rather than questioning their distributions in one to another constructions separately. In English sentence, the multiple negation markers are set in one construction as in *I had absolutely no fear of not waking up. No*-construction negates the HEAD of Noun Phrase *fear, which* is modified by negative determiner *no.* In other hand, *not*-construction negates the post-modifier of Noun Phrase. *Not* negates phrasal verb *waking up.* Semantically, *not*-construction negates the concept of the *fear* as State Proposition and *not*-construction makes the Event Proposition *waking up* negative. The two propositions are: 1) *I had absolutely no fear* and 2) *I was not waking up.* The second proposition is related to a concept within the first proposition and the relation is signaled by negative markers *not* and *no.* In the semantic structure, the grammatical units relate to semantic units (Larson, 1984).

Thus, that is why it is needed to analyze since this research provides the semantic relation *not* and *no* through syntactic structure in English sentences. In addition to research, the previous research, *'Negative Equivalent Constructions 'no' and 'not' in The Jakarta Post's October 13th,* about Negation that focuses on negative equivalent constructions *not* and *no* was conducted by Ima (2012) UNIKOM. Different from Ima's, this research, focused on the relation of the existences *not* and *no*, is entitled *'NOT' AND 'NO' IN ENGLISH SENTENCES.*

This research aims to analyze *not* and *no* based on their existences syntactically and semantically.

1.2 Research Questions

In this research, there are three questions covering problem limitations. They are addressed as the following:

1. In what sentence types do the negative markers *not* and *no* constructions exist?
2. What functions and categories are applied by *not* and *no* in the sentences?
3. What relations do the negative markers *not* and *no* constructions appear within propositions?

1.3 Objectives

1. To describe sentence types in which the negative markers *not* and *no* constructions exist
2. To describe functions and categories applied by not and no in the sentences
3. To describe relations the negative markers *not* and *no* constructions appeared within propositions

1.4 Significance to Knowledge

Theoretically, this research aims to improve the knowledge about the negative markers *not* and *no* in constructing English sentences. Practically, this

research helps the reader to know the variety of negative constructions constructed by *not* and *no* within their semantic relations.

1.5 Framework of Theory

This research addresses two different sources in linguistic theory. They are covered syntax and semantics. Syntactically, the theory in analyzing negative markers*not* and *no* constructions goes to Quirk (1990: 778). He defines that *not* is verb negation and *no* is negation of some other element. The syntactic analysis of negative markers are covered the lexical, phrasal and sentential level (Celce-Murcia, 1999: 184-199).

The semantic analysis is then focused in analyzing semantic structure especially in concepts and propositions and communication relations based on Larson theory in his book entitled *Meaning Based Translation* (1984: 28-189).