VAGUE LANGUAGE USED ON CNN.COM

THESIS

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By:

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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I hereby certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completelyresponsible for the content of this thesis. The notions or findings of othersincludedin this thesis arecited with respect to ethical standard.

Semarang, March 3, 2014

Wahyuningsih

PAGE OF APPROVAL

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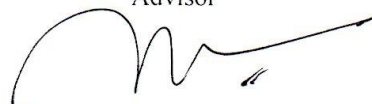
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MOTTO

- Nothing without great effort. *-Paul de Vissage-*

- Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else. *-Judy Garland-*

- Be the best that you can be.

DEDICATION

My thesis is dedicated for:

• My Almighty God (Allah SWT)

• My beloved parents

• My dearest brother

• My dearest boyfriend

• My beloved friends

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Finally, I do realize that due to my limited ability this thesis must have shortcoming. For this, the writer welcomes any suggestions and critiques.

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled *"Vague Language Used on CNN.com"*. This study focuses on analyzing the types of vague language and its functions on CNN.com.Theproblems of this study are (1) what types of vague language are used on CNN.com? (2) What is the function of vague language used on CNN.com?.The purpose of this study is to find out the types of vague language and to explain the function of vague language used on CNN.com.

This research is qualitative study that employs descriptive qualitative method. The data cover the sentences, which contain vague language in news articles on CNN.com.In conducting this research, the researcher read news articles thoroughly, classified the sentences containing vague languge then explains the types of vague language and its function based on the theoretical framework developed by Channell (1994).The finding shows that in news articles there are 52 sentences containing vague language. Through the detailed analysis, three types of vague language. They are 27 of vague additives, realized by 17 approximations and 10 adjectives, 24 vague implicative realized by 3 numbers, 13 quantifiers and 8 exaggerationsand one vague referencerealized by noun.

Moreover, vague language is frequently used in news articles on CNN.com because it makes information about the number more informative when the absolute number is not clear enough. Since this news is about natural disaster, most information is about the number of incidents. Hence vague language is used to supply the number of information when specific number is lacking for the number is too big. In addition, vague language is used to fill gap for the information that the reporter does not exactly know. So that, vague language is used for hedging the reporter's statement when the incident that is reported is not precise.

Keywords:*CNN.com, news articles, information, vague language.*

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. 1 Background of the Study

Human is a social being therefore they need to interact with other in their life. When people communicate to each other, they use language. Hence, language is an instrument in communication. Language has various types depending on numerous texts and contextual aspects. By using language, different people may communicate for any purpose. Communication deals with social activity, which involves more than one person. It usually occurs between the speaker and the hearer.

In communication, it is an important to maintain good relations between the speaker and hearer. McCarthy and Carter (2007:159) propose the term "relational language" to refer the language that serves to "create and maintain a good relationship interaction between the speaker and hearer." In the process of communication in society, news articles regarded as the media for interaction. It means that reporters are the speakers, while the readers are the addressees.

News article is one of the media to get information objectively. The language of news articles refers to any passage in the form of any length. Hence, reporter or writer should create the news clearly, say what the real situation looks like and avoid ambiguity so the readers can understand it easily. However, sometimes reporters use vague language in writing their news articles.

"Vague language is ambiguity and uncertainty of truth, as indeterminacy and imprecision" as in Cutting (2007:22). Vagueness can be a deliberate tool for politeness in some cultures or may used to sound more persuasive (especially when withholding specific information can help an argument) mostly; however, it is used when speaker is uncertain or lacks specific information (Channell, 1994:135).

Moreover, Channell lists vague expressions, such as 'vague additives' such as approximations ('around ten', 'about 15,000 died'), vague implicature such as vague quantifiers ('some', 'more', 'lot'), 'vague placeholders' ('thing' and 'what's name'), and 'tags' ('or something', 'and things' kind of 'and so on').

The study of vague language related to study of meaning or study of pragmatic because there is meaning behind the vagueness. Vagueness is consideration of the meaning and function of a class words or phrases called hedges. In pragmatics, the hedges are the subject of Lakoff's (1973:471) and the issue here is class membership related to notion of 'conversational implicature'.

Grice (1975:176) saw conversational implicature, in which speakers send understandable message is called flout the maxims of the 'cooperative principle' (quality, quantity, manner, relevant) assuming that the hearer understands the implied meaning. Grice (1975) states "conversational implicature is the indirect, unstated meaning of an utterance, additional to what is said on the other hand, depend on features of the conversational situation or context and not just on the conventional meanings of the words used".

The concept "implicature" is advanced by Grice to indicate the inferred meaning. He makes a clear distinction between what is said and what is suggested, implied, meant, etc.

From those statements, it can be said that the use of vague language flouts the maxims. However, it is in line with Grice's conversational implicature if the hearer understands the implied meaning. Therefore, vague language is recommended to use for certain reason, especially in the news reporting. Some people prefer to use vague language for writing reports or news. It may enhance the precision of the original expression.

One of the reasons for using vague language is "sometimes speakers are tired or too much in hurry to find the right word. Sometimes they do not process words properly or as they would wish. It can also be the case that there are emotional reasons for non-processing" (Cutting, 2007:22).

Besides the reason above, vague language has its own function in communication. Koester (2007:44) states that vague language can be used either for transactional or relational purposes:

1. Transactional uses involve serve the task goal, and involve such specific functions as supplying the appropriate amount of information, obtaining information, or communicating effectively when specific information is lacking.
2. Relational uses involve such functions as politeness, self-protection, or showing solidarity (see Channell 1994:165–95).
   The functions of vague language above are generally used in news reporting

for the reporter must be report the news immediately. Therefore, in this study, the researcher chose news articles as data to prove that vague language is used in society and that it has specific functions.

The researcher selected news articles of 'natural disaster' news on CNN.com because there are vague languages are found. As the researcher has seen the different types of vague languages are found through the news articles, that's why this research is conducted to analyze the types of vague language and the functions of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com. In addition, the researcher is interested to choose CNN.com as the data because CNN.com is one of the famous online news website that presents the most up-dated information around the world.

It is expected that the findings will be able to prove that the linguistic choice such as the functions of vague language has an important role to comprehend the news. Based on the reasons above, the researcher chose the title "Vague Language Used on CNN.com" for this study.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

The problems in this study are:

1. What types of vague language are used in news articles on CNN.com?

2. What are the functions of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are stated as follow:

1. To find out the types of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com

2. To explain the functions of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com

1.4   Scope of the Study

The researcher made certain limitations in this study. This study focused on analyzing vague language in news articles of natural disaster on CNN.com. The news articles are published on September 24 and 25, 2013 and October 12, 2013. This study uses theoretical framework proposed by Channell (1994:161-98).

1.5   Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that the result of this study can give the readers the following benefits:

1.   To help the readers understand vague language especially on news.

2.   To be a reference and to give more information for researchers who are interested in improving this study.

3.   To give additional knowledge about vague language in social environment. In addition, to make the readers realize the importance of studying pragmatic function.

1.6   Thesis Organization

The discussion of this thesis is divided into chapters and subchapters:

Chapter 1 is Introduction, which consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, and thesis organization.

Chapter II deals with the review of the related literature. The chapter consists of the definition of language, vague language: the functions of vague language and the reason for using vague language, pragmatics, role of media and CNN.com.

Chapter III presents research method. It contains of research design, unit of analysis, source of data, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV presents data analysis, which covers the findings and data analysis of the problem.

Chapter V presents Conclusion and Suggestion, which consist of conclusion and suggestion.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter consists of related literatures, which support the research. Related literatures are needed to provide the theories from language experts, so that this research can be creditable. The following sections describe about language, vague language, pragmatics, role of media, and CNN news.

2.1 Language

To communicate with each other we need language as a tool. In our daily life, people need to express their thoughts and feelings by using a language. They use a language in order to convey messages in any purpose. Language is the most fundamental means of communication. Hartmann and Stork (1973:19) state that:

> "Communication is the passing of information from one point to another, one of the first basic uses of human language." Communication requires from a source or 'sender' to addressee or 'receiver'. Communication is usually about a particular topic within a physical and social context, and common to the participants in the communicative situation."

From the quotation above, it can say that language is a form of interaction between one to other persons. Therefore, language is a tool to convey the message to each other. For example, when we want go to the Bank and we do not know where it is then we need to ask people. We use a language to ask people how to get there. Therefore, it means that language is always used in communication.

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Language is our tool to interact with other people. Ideas and thoughts can deliberately communicate and expressed through the language. From those explanations, we know that all human to interact with other in society uses language. One feature that is commonly found in social interaction is vague language.

2.2   Vague Language

Vague language is a central feature of daily language, used both spoken and written. Vague language is a common linguistic phenomenon that is an essential characteristic of natural language because natural language frequently states imprecise statement. Cutting (2007:19) says, "Studies of vague language look at language that is inherently and intentionally imprecise, describing lexical and grammatical surface features themselves that may refer either to specific entities or to nothing in particular."

Vague language has been included in major English grammar books such as the *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English* (Biber, Johansson, Leech, Conrad, & Finegan, 1999). Biber (1999:256) explains, "Vague language conveys imprecision that hedges and that in generic reference the noun refers to a whole class rather than to an individual person or thing."

Lakoff (1972:195) defines 'hedges' as the words whose meaning implicitly involves fuzziness – words whose job to make things fuzzier or less fuzzy and the issue here is class membership of vagueness.

Regarding the linguistic realizations of vagueness, Peirce (1902:748) regards vagueness in language. He holds that "a proposition is vague where there

are possible states of things concerning which it is intrinsically uncertain" whether the speaker had contemplated them, he would have regarded them as excluded or allowed by the proposition. In other words, a speaker may produce utterances without deciding whether certain facts are allowed by him.

In the 1990s, researchers came to see vagueness as a central aspect of the communicative competence of the native speaker of English. Vagueness is defined variously as fuzziness, vague language, generality, ambiguity, and even ambivalence. Those are presented in vague language (Channell 1994).

Channell (1994:196-8) affirms that an expression or word is vague if (a) it can be contrasted with another word or expression which appears to render the same proposition, if (b) it is purposely and unabashedly vague or if (c) the meaning arises from intrinsic uncertainty. Channell describes three categories of vagueness:

1. Vague additives to numbers, a word or phrase is added to precise figure to signal a vague reading such as 'approximators'; an approximators are used to refer vaguely to amounts, times, dates and refer vaguely to factual information, such as quantities and times, for example 'around', 'about', 'nearly', and 'so on'.
2. Vageness by choice of vague words or phrases, it can be defined as vague noun or reference used to refer to entities, for example 'and things', 'or something', 'such', 'or anything', 'thing', what is name';
3. Vagueness by scalar implicature is an exact number or a plural number name to have a vague meaning or it can be round number used without strict accuracy. Therefore vague implicature is vague as its meaning is unspecified or underspecified in the context.

A 'scalar implicature' can be defined as ''an additional meaning of the negative of any value higher on the scale than the one uttered'' (Yule, 1996: 134) such as exaggerations (*that feel a hundred times better*) and quantifier (*some, many).*

According to Channell (1994:99), vague quantifying expressions are ''always'' and ''unabashedly'' vague. There are vague quantifying expressions like many, some and few, like numbers, they ''occupy the determiner slot in a noun phrase''. Those expressions only convey information about the proportion of the full set of items, which is intended. Nevertheless, by giving information in relation to a reference point, a vague expression may be more informative than an absolute number would be. For example, it would be more informative to report that ''Most of our students passed an advanced exam'' than to report that ''Twenty-two of our students passed an advanced exam'' when the listener has no idea how many students were eligible to take it.

By 2006, vague language had a section of several pages in the book of *Cambridge Grammar of English* (Carter and McCarthy 2006:202–5). There, it is seen as a separate, though closely related, category from 'approximations'. Vague language is described as:

1. Words or phrases which deliberately refer to people and things in a non-specific, imprecise way such as 'stuff', 'like', 'or anything', 'or whatever', and 'sort of'.
2. Approximations as described as vague expressions used with numbers and quantities, as in 'around six', 'five minutes or so', 'seven-ish', and 'loads and loads'.

The explorations of vague language above look at intentional vagueness, which occurs by choice. Some scholars examine vague expressions referring to people and things, and others focus on those referring to numbers and quantities, but all of them together look under the heading of vague language.

We can find that there are numerous statements concerning the definition of vague language as property of indeterminate language and it can be a tool for expressing politeness when protecting self.

From the explanations above, it can be concluded that the types of vague language can be restricted into three categories, they are:

1. Vague reference is vagueness refer to nouns or things in a non-specific or reference to the words whose meanings is imprecise or uncertain.

2. Vague additives to number is vagueness refer to to amounts, number, times or quantity in impreciseness.

3. Vague implicative is vagueness as its meaning is unspecified in the context, it can be a plural number to have a vague meaning or it such round number used without strict accuracy.

The above discussions define three types of vague language. As one of the purposes of this study is to identify the types of vague language and why do it is used. Moreover, in the following discussions explained the reason for using vague language that generally used in news.

2.2.1 The reasons for using vague language

Vague language is appropriately applied in the news reporting when the incident is in changing condition, which may contribute to inexactitude, inadequacy, and incompleteness of the information. Sometimes reporters or editors could not figure out the exact word or lexicon gap to describe the incident. In that case, vague language would be the best choice to present good service with

the expectation of making a profit in news reporting. Hence, there are several reasons for using vague language.

According to Cutting (2007:22) the reason for using vague expression is "sometimes speakers are tired or in too much of a hurry to find the right word. Sometimes they do not process words properly or as they would wish. It can also be the case that there are emotional reasons for non-processing".

Koester (2007:52-3) points that more frequent occurrence of vague language in genres like procedural discourse; news reporting can be linked to the speakers' focus on conveying information. It seems that discourse, which is more information-oriented, is also likely to contain more vague language. When referring to facts and information, vague items are used for a number of reasons:

1. They have a cohesive function, where the referent is specified in the context.

2. The exact information may not be known.

3. It is not necessary to be more explicit, because implicit reference conveys sufficient information, because of the knowledge shared by the discourse participants as members of the same professional discourse community.

While, Grice (1975:45) offers the reason for vagueness: to say that 'there are cases (actual or possible) in which one just does not know whether to apply the expression or to withhold it and one's not knowing is not due to ignorance of the facts'. It means that vagueness is used because the speaker does not know whether a statement would be true or not, in addition, whether it would be appropriate in the circumstances to make such a statement.

Later, Crystal and Davy (1975:111–12) note that 'the use of lexical vagueness is undoubtedly a main sign of social and personal relaxation'. They give four reasons for vagueness:

1. Memory loss the speakers forgets the correct word;

2. The language has no suitable exact word, or the speaker does not know it;

3. The subject of the conversation is not such that it requires precision, and an approximation will do; and

4. The choice of a vague item is deliberate to maintain the atmosphere.

From those explanations, it can said that the reason for using vague language is that the speakers say something for which they lack adequate evidence or they do not firmly believe that the evidence is accurate. It commonly occurs in news reporting. The reporters prefer to use vague expressions as self-protection device to avoid making false statements, which may be wrong or uncertain.

Besides those reasons above, other reasons are several functions of vague language. Vague language occurs in a variety of contexts and serves variety of functions. In news reporting, it can help the reporter to use language appropriately and tactfully to make the readers understand the language better.

In addition, vague language can function to hedging the statement that the fact still uncertain. Meanwhile, there are several functions of vague language used in news reporting.

2.2.2 The function of vague language

Vague language is used for certain purpose intentionally or not. In communications between participants speakers (or writers) and listeners (or readers), their goals are mainly transactional or task-oriented. Nevertheless, they orient simultaneously to interpersonal concerns, such as relationship building, self-presentation, or issues of power and identity, which will be referred to as 'relational' goals. Koester (2007:44) states vague language can be used either for transactional or relational purposes:

1. Transactional uses serve the task goal, and involve such specific functions as supplying the appropriate amount of information, obtaining information, or communicating effectively when specific information is lacking.

2. Relational uses involve such functions as politeness, self-protection, or showing solidarity (see Channell 1994:165–95).

These two different types of function can be illustrated with the following examples. In many cases, vague reference conveys a sufficient degree of information for the participants involved; therefore, it is not necessary for speakers to be more precise (cited in Cutting 2007:45).

Example 1

Chris: "Did it also include by the way . . . uh those <u>things</u> that we talked about, that I- that I just called you up about,

Mike: "Yeah. the- the monthly <u>thing</u>,"

In the example above, the speakers use only vague referents ('those things' and 'the monthly thing'), but they seem to understand each other perfectly. Vague nouns like 'things' and 'thing', they used to serve a transactional function, as they

communicate the appropriate amount of information required in this situation. However, the use of a vague noun like 'thing' may also have a relational function. Vague language can also be used with a different sort of relational function to project solidarity and familiarity.

Example 2

A: "I would say- I'm not disagreeing at all, I'm just saying that this <u>thing</u> uh it's complicated [laughing] . . . a- because people are complicated not because the <u>thing </u>is complicated."

In the extracts above, the speaker seems to avoid being precise, as the topic discussed is rather sensitive. The speaker uses vague expression as a kind of shield, to avoid committing herself, and possibly saying something inappropriate. In such cases, vague nouns seem to have a relational function of hedging an utterance.

From the discussion above, it can be illustrated that there is a way to look at vague expressions. It can be analyzed as part of utterance meaning using concept from pragmatics analysis. From the pragmatic perspective, vague language is viewed much more in terms of the contextualized interpretation of utterances by social actors rather than as part of propositional content of context free-sentences (Andersen, 2001:297).

The following sections will emphasis on the role of vague language as a part of hedges in the field of pragmatics.

2.3 Pragmatics

Pragmatics can be usefully defined as the study of how utterances have meanings in situations (Leech, 1983). Pragmatics is not only study on the speaker meaning of word of formal aspect and constructions, but it also study the meaning of word on context. Levinson (1983: 21) also says that pragmatics is the study of relations between language and context. Therefore, pragmatics are showing how the meaning conveyed by a word or sentence depend on aspects of the context in which it is used. One example is vagueness.

Vagueness is actually flouting the maxim's of Grice's (1975:145-6) cooperative principle. Briefly, Grice proposed that ordinary conversation is posited on a 'cooperative principle', embodied in four 'maxims' of conversation, which specify what participants need to do in order to converse rationally and cooperatively. The requirements are, essentially:

1. 'Maxim of Quality': let your contribution be truthful: do not say what you believe to be false.

2. 'Maxim of Quantity': let your contribution be as informative as is required (for the current purposes), and not more informative than is required.

3. 'Maxim of Manner': let your contribution be clearly expressed – for example be brief, orderly, and unambiguous.

4. 'Maxim of Relevance': let your contribution be relevant to the matter in hand.

Moreover, Grice proposed that, "While speakers do not always observe the maxims at the surface level, hearers interpret the contributions of other participants in conversation as if they were intended to observe the maxims at some level of meaning other than that contained in the truth-semantic content of the utterance." Grice's 'Conversational implicature' is rather like a hint.

Speakers are either overtly cooperative because they observe the maxims, or else they are covertly cooperative by ostentatiously breaching or, as Grice puts it, 'flouting' the maxims.

However, vagueness may flout the maxims of manner or quantity, or both, and thereby imply some deficiency or lack of precision in the speaker's knowledge. With vagueness as hedges, the speaker indicates that they are not being as clear as they might have hoped. For example;

"A man who says that his wife's dress size is 'around 12 or 14"

The example above is neither sufficiently informative nor adequately unambiguous for someone wanting to buy her a dress for her birthday. On the other hand, it cautions them to ask someone else. Hedges enable the speaker to observe the maxim of quality.

From that example, it should be pointed out that the maxims are not always followed to get a conversational implicature, including the use of 'hedges'. As Lakoff (1973:471) points 'hedges' are based on critical attributes of category membership of vagueness and fuzziness. Vagueness such approximations are frequently used in news reporting. In the news, especially hard news (spot news and breaking news) is dynamic and the situation reported is often changeable.

When journalists cannot get all the facts immediately and feel difficult to get the correct information is due to objective reasons, therefore vague language is used to protect them from making false statements.

Based on the discussions above, it can be concluded that vague language has several functions in communications, including in news reporting. Hence, it can said that the functions of vague language are:

1. Giving the reference more informative.

2. Filling lexical gap of uncertainty.

3. Supplying amount of information's when specific information is lacking.

4. Hedging the statements when the fact that is reported is uncertain.

This study describes and analyze some ways in which this vagueness or uncertainty is coded in written language especially news articles, to show how vague language serves the pragmatic functions.

2.4 Role of Media

Media is a tool used to store and deliver information around the world. In our social lives, we cannot avoid the existence of media. The various forms of media primarily television, newspapers are disseminate information. Getting information will be easier from spreading the media further than it could spread without media coverage.

Media such as news articles play a big role in delivering messages and information's to the readers. News article is shaped in modern information societies. Thus, any media presents news article to deliver information. The informations can get from mass media or broadcast media. Now days, the news is

presented in various media sites on internet such as news articles on CNN.com that presents news around the world.

2.5 CNN News

The **Cable News Network**, (commonly referred to by its initials, **CNN**) is an American basic cable and satellite television channel that is owned by the Turner. Broadcasting System division of Time Warner is the 24-hour cable news channel founded in 1980 by American media proprietor Ted Turner. Since its debut, CNN has expanded its reach to a number of cable and satellite television providers, several websites, and specialized closed-circuit channels. The website presents information such as politics, environment, sport, crime, natural disaster in the form news articles.

The news article of a thousand words and picture are available in CNN.com. It makes benefit to the audience in getting information anytime by read the news article. CNN.com presents the news articles around the world such as natural disaster which occured in some countries Asia. The news articles of natural disaster such as landslide in Philippine, cyclone phailin in India and earthquake in Pakistan.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

Research method is a systematic work plan to make the purpose of the study is achieved easier. The method in this research is chosen by considering of the research object. This research method is arranged based on the problem analyzed and the objectives of the study. The research method in this study consists of research design, unit of analysis, and the source of data, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis.

3.1 Research design

In this study, the researcher used qualitative descriptive method in analyzing the data. "Qualitative method is the strategy of choice in qualitative descriptive study; the analysis is dynamic form to analyze of verbal and visual data that is oriented of describing and summarizing the informational content of the data" (Morgan, 1993). Hence, the researcher analyzed the data by describing the data in the form of word or sentence, not in the form of number.

Based on the consideration above, the data of this research were news articles of natural disaster taken from CNN.com. The data were analyzed by describing the types of vague language and the function of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com.

3.2   Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis in this research is every sentence, which contains vague language in news articles on CNN.com.

3.3   Source of Data

The data source of this research was taken from CNN.com. The data was news articles. The total of news articles is three as sample of natural disaster news. The news articles were daily news published on September 24 and 25, 2013 and October 13, 2013. The news articles were downloaded from the website http://www.cnn.com/news. They are:

1. Landslide which occured in the Philippines, downloaded from: http://edition.cnn.com/2013/09/24/world/asia/philippines-landslides/index.html?iref=allsearch

2. Earthquake which occured in Pakistan, downloaded from: http://edition.cnn.com/2013/09/24/world/asia/pakistan-earthquake/index.html?iref=allsearch.

3. Phailin or Hurricane which occured in India, downloaded from: http://edition.cnn.com/2013/10/12/world/asia/india-cyclone phailin/index.html?iref=allsearch.

    The data above were downloaded by the researcher on 15 October 2013.

3.4   Techniques of Data Collection

The techniques used in gathering the data are:

1. Searching the news article

    The researcher searched the news article at CNN.com on the internet. Then, the researcher saw natural disaster news, there is vague languages found then the researcher decided to chose it for the data in this study.

2. Selecting the news article

   The researcher selected three news articles. The news articles were categorized of natural disaster that occured in some countries in Asia.

3. Downloading the news articles

   The researcher downloaded the selected news articles from the website http://www.cnn.com/news

3.5 Techniques of data analysis

Technique of data analysis is a way to identify the data as processing analysis. Hence, after the data being collected, the data were analyzed by using the following steps:

1. Reading selected news articles.

   After the data has been collected, the researcher reads news articles thoroughly.

2. Classifying news articles in sentence.

   The researcher classifying the news articles in sentence by giving the serial number in each sentence.

3. Identifying the sentence which contains vague language.

   The researcher identify the sentences which contains vague language as data analysis.

4. Analyzing the types of vague language.

   The researcher analyzes the types of vague language on each sentence which contains vague language.

5. Interpreting the functions of vague language.

   The researcher interpreting the functions of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com.

6. Drawing conclusion

   The researcher drawing conclusion to conclude the result of the analysis.

CHAPTER IV

DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter consists of two parts. Those are findings and discussions. In findings, the researcher shows the result of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com. Meanwhile, in discussions, the findings are explained into two parts, first, analysis of the types of vague language and the second analysis of the function of vague language in news articles on CNN.com

4.1 Findings

This chapter covers the result of the study. The study analyzed the types of vague language used in news. The researcher tried to find out the realization of vague expressions in the news articles on CNN.com. As mentioned in the previous chapter, vague language can be words or phrases that intentionally imprecise describing lexical and grammatical surface features that may refer either to specific entities or to nothing in particular. However, it is used in news because it makes information more informative so the readers easily understand .

There are three news articles on CNN.com and the total of sentences of the news is 75 sentences. Based on data analysis, there are 52 (100%) sentences containing vague expressions. Three types of vague expression are found, namely vague additives to number, vague implicative, and vague reference. The first is 27 vague additives (52%), the second is vague implicative, with 24 (46%), and the last is vague reference found only one (2%) sentence.

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The result of the analysis is summed in Table 4.1. The table is formulated to make the readers easy in getting information about the result of the study.

Table 4.1 Frequency of Vague Languages on CNN.com

No	Types	Vague expressions	Quantity	Percentage %
1	Vague reference	Noun	1	2 %
2	Vague additives	Approximation	17	33 %
	to number	Adjective	10	19 %
3	Vague implicative	By number	3	5,7%
		Quantifier	13	25 %
		Exaggeration	8	15,3 %
	Total		52	100 %

The table above shows that there are 27 (52 %) sentences containing vague additives to number realized by 17 approximations and 10 adjectives, then it is followed by vague implicative, there are 24 (46 %) sentences, which is realized by 3 numbers, 15 quantifiers and 6 exaggerations. Whereas vague reference is the most rarely used, there is only one (2 %) sentence. It can be seen that the dominant type of vague languages used in news is vague additives to number. It is because more information in this news articles is about amount or number of the incident. Moreover, the detail of each type of vague language is provided on Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 shows in detail the types of vague languages used in selected news articles on CNN.com below:

1. Pakistan Earthquake news (P-EQ) / 15 sentences total

2. Philippines Landslide news (P-LS) / 19 sentences total

3. India Cyclone Phailin news (I-CP) / 18 sentences total

Table 4.2 Types of Vague Language on CNN.com

No	Types	Vague expressions	Realizations	Quantity	News code/ Sentence no.
1	Vague reference	Noun	Things	1	P-EQ/ 12
	Vague additives	Adjective	More than	10	P-EQ/ 1,13 P-LS/ 10,11, 13, 17 I-CP/ 10,19, 31, 33
		Approximation	At least	4	P-EQ/ 3 P-LS/ 1,5 I-CP/ 1
			Around	2	P-EQ/ 4 I-CP/ 5
			About	7	P-EQ/ 8,8,14 P-LS/ 21,21 I-CP/ 13,28
			Nearly	2	I-CP/ 13, 21
			As much as	2	P-LS/ 9, 20
3	Vague implicative	By number	20 to 30	1	P-EQ/ 5
			12 or younger	1	P-LS/ 5
			Young	1	P-LS/ 7
		Quantifier	More	1	P-EQ/ 4
			Some Some of	4	P-EQ/ 15 I-CP/ 29, 30, 4
			Many	3	P-LS/ 2, 14 I-CP/ 20
			Most of	3	P-LS/ 1,3 I-CP/ 17
			Several	1	P-LS/ 1
			Half of	1	P-LS/ 11
		Exaggeration	Large	4	P-EQ/ 6, 7,11 I-CP/ 24
			Extensive	2	I-CP/ 23, 25
			Hundred of	1	P-EQ/ 18
			Thousand of	1	P-LS/ 15
		Total		52	

From the table above, it can be seen that vague additives to number are dominantly used on CNN.com; it is because most information in this news is about number or amount. Vague "more than" is mostly used, it is because the most information about number or amount is too large and it is difficult to find specific number of the incident so that vague additives "more than" is the best choice to supply the adequate number when the exact number is lacking.

While, vague additives to number "about" is also often used, it is found seven expressions because in this news, the exact number of incident is not exactly precise that reporter does not get information clearly, hence vague approximation like "about" to give the appropriate number or amount of information. Moreover, other vague additives to number such as "at least, around, nearly, as much as" are found almost equal number, it is actually has the same reason with other vague additives, but it just take different on expression.

While, vague implicative is used often in news; it is because the reporter hence not exactly knows some numbers information then quantifier is sometimes used. Moreover, it can present the news more informative. In addition, vague exaggeration consists of six expressions. It is used to exaggerate the incident to present the accurate information.

The least is vague reference, it is rarely used, and there is only one sentence because the references about nouns or places are clear enough to the reporter in getting information. The analysis is shown in the following discussion.

4.2   Discussion of the Findings

This section covers the analysis of the types and the functions of vague languages used in news articles on CNN.com

4.2.1 The types of vague language

There are three types of vague language used in news articles on CNN.com. they are vague reference by noun, vague additives to number realized by adjective and approximation, and vague implicative, releazed by number, quantifier and exaggeration. While, the analysis shown in the following discussion:

4.2.1.1 Vague reference

In the news articles, there is one sentence containing vague reference, it is vague noun "things," it refers to a thing, which is not completely reported such as in excerpt 1 below:

Excerpt 1:

> *Many _things__, such as the tide, could come into play regarding the rise of the island, he said._* (P-EQ /12)

The sentence above contains vague expression "things"; the word "things" is type of noun; it can be categorized as vague reference, which deliberately refers to non- specific reference things or noun, such as the tide. Vague reference "things" is used since the reporter knows not all things in the island because in terrible situation, that reporter cannot get all information there. The reporter knows only the tide, in fact there is still something not being reported.

4.2.1.2 Vague additives to number

There are 27 sentences contain vague additives to number, it realized by 10 expressions adjective "more than" and 17 approximations, it releazed by adverb, they are 2 expressions "around", 7 expressions "about", 2 expressions "nearly" and 2 expressions "as much as". The analysis is explained as representation. It can be seen in the following discussion.

4.2.1.2.1 Vague additives of adjective

Vague additives of adjective in this news articles is realized by "more than." There is 10 sentences vague additive "more than", three examples are explained in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 2

An earthquake in Pakistan, powerful enough to prompt the appearance of a small island off the coast, has killed more than 200 people, Pakistani officials said. (P-EQ /1)

The sentence above contains vague expression "more than." The adjective of "more than" can be categorized as vague additives to number, because it vaguely refer to number of 200 people who have been killed. Vague additives "more than 200 people" here is giving reference that there is not only 200 people who have been killed but there are also still many people who are not counted. It means that the reporter adds vague additives "more than" for he/she reports only 200 people who have been killed, in fact, there is more than that what is reported.

Excerpt: 3

More than 20 medical teams flew to the region. (I-CP/ 34)

The sentence above contains vague expression "more than." The adjective of "more than" can be categorized as vague additives to number, since adjective "more than" here refers to number of 20 medical teams. A vague additive "more than 20" here indicates that there are not only 20 medical teams but it is up to 20, it can be 21, 22, and so forth the medical teams flews to the region. The reporter reports only 20 medical teams because he/she must report it immediately so that not all numbers of medical team were not completely reported.

Excerpt: 4

It was the strongest tropical cyclone recorded in the Bay of Bengal, with winds of 155 mph at landfall, and it caused more than $2 billion in damage. (I-CP/ 31)

The sentence above contains vague expression "more than". The adjective of "more than" can be categorized as vague additives to number since vague additives vaguely refer to amount. Vague additive "more than" here refers to amount of $ 2 billion damage. Vague additives "more than" shows that the reporter reports only $ 2 billion whereas the damage is too big not only $ 2 billion but there is still amount of the damage not being reported.

4.2.1.2.2 Vague additives of approximation

In the news articles, there are 17 vague additives to number of approximation. It realized by adverb "around," "about," "nearly," "at least" and "as much as." The analysis is shown in the following examples:

Excerpt: 5

In addition to the fatalities, <u>around 350</u> people have been injured, he said, and more people are still trapped in rubble. (P-EQ / 4)

The sentence above contains vague expression "around." The adverb of "around" can be categorized as vague additives to number because vague additives vaguely refer to number such approximation such "around." Vague additive "around" here approximates to number of 350 people who have been injured. Vague additives "around 350" shows impreciseness, it can be more or less than 350 people. The reporter uses vague additive to number "around" because the information that the reporter got is imprecise, that's why an approximation is used to avoid the responsibility in giving wrong information.

Excerpt: 6

Power lines and trees were down and cars were overturned near the spot where the center of the storm struck the coast <u>around 9 p.m.</u> (11:30 a.m. ET) Saturday in eastern Odisha state, along the Bay of Bengal. (I-CP/ 5)

The sentence above contains vague expression "around." The adverb of "around" can be categorized as vague additives because vague additive refers to uncertain number or times. Vague additive "around" here refers to uncertain time at 9 p.m (11:30 a.m.ET). It shows that the time of the storm striking the coast can be before 9 p.m or in precise 9 p.m or it can be after 9 p.m. The reporter adds vague additive "around," because the information that the reporter got is imprecise. Since the time always rotates so that the precise time is difficult to report.

Excerprt: 7

> *The island is <u>about 100 feet</u> in diameter and about one mile off the coast, GEO TV reported.* (P-EQ / 8)

The sentence above contains vague expressions "about." The adverb of "about" can be categorized as vague additives to number because vague additives can be vaguely to number such approximation of "about." The adverb "about" here approximates to number of scale 100 feet in diameter. Vague additive of "about 100 feet" here shows that the scale is imprecise. It can be more or less than 100 feet. The reporter adds vague additive "about" because the exact number of scale is difficult to measured that's why approximation "about" is used.

Excerpt: 8

> *The waters later subsided, leaving <u>about 20%</u> of Metro Manila under water, the U.N. office said.* (P-LS / 22)

The sentence above contains vague expressions "about." The adverb of "about" can be categorized as vague additives since vague additives can be approximate to number. While, vague additives "about" here refers to number 20% of area under water. The areas of Metro Manila, which are under water, cannot be measured because the incident is changing condition which may contribute to imprecise, that's why the reporter employs vague additives "about 20%" to estimate the width of the areas, which are under water.

Excerpt: 9

> *Power was out in coastal areas including Kalingapatnam, from where <u>about 80,000</u> people were evacuated to relief camps, CNN-IBN reported.*
>
> (I-CP/ 28)

The sentence above contains vague expressions "about." The adverb of "about" can be categorized as vague additives because vague additives can be approximate to number. The adverb "about" here approximates to number of *80,000* people who were evacuated. Vague additive "about 80,000" shows imprecise number, it can be more or less than 80,000. The reporter uses vague additive "about" because the exact numbers of people who were evacuated cannot be ensure because the incident is complicated.

Excerpt: 10

> *Since Friday, Phailin has brought <u>nearly 8 inches</u> of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar, about 30 miles from the coast.* (I-CP/ 13)

The sentence above contains vague expression "nearly." The adverb of "nearly" can be categorized as vague additives since vague additives refer to uncertain number of scale. The adverb "nearly" here shows imprecise to the number scale of rain "8 inches" to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar. A vague additive "nearly 8 inches" indicates that the scale of rain closer to number 8 inches but not more than 8 inches. The reporter employs vague additive "nearly" because the exact number of rain cannot be measured because of a terrible situation.

Excerpt: 11

>*They are being housed in <u>nearly 250</u> emergency shelters set up in sturdy buildings like schools and government offices.* (I-CP/ 21)

The sentence above contains vague expressions "nearly." The adverb "nearly" can be categorized as vague additives since vague additives vaguely refer to number. It refers to number of 250 emergency shelters. A vague additive "nearly 250" indicates that it is closer to number 250 but not more than that or it can be less than 250 emergency shelters. The reporter employs vague additives "nearly", because the exact number of the emergency shelter not reported for the reporter must report the news immediately.

Excerpt: 12

>*<u>At least</u> 208 people were killed in the district of Awaran and the city of Turbut in Balochistan province, Asad Gilani, the provincial home secretary, said Wednesday.* (P-EQ / 3)

The sentence above contains vague expression "at least." The adverb "at least" can be categorized as vague additives to number, since vague additives of "at least" here refers to the number of 208 people who were killed in the district of Awaran. Vague additives "at least 208" here shows that it is a minimum number of people who were killed, it means that there is more than 208 but the reporter reports only 208 people, it is because he or she could not get the exact number of all people who were killed because of a terrible situation.

Excerpt: 13

> *Heavy monsoon rains have left <u>at least 19</u> people dead, most of them children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.* (P-LS / 1)

The sentence above contains vague expression "at least." The adverb of "at least" can be categorized as vague additives to number since vague additives "at least" here vaguely refer to number of 19 people died. Vague additive at "least 19" indicates that there is not only 19 people died, in fact there are still more people who died uncounted but the reporter reports only 19 people because the reporter in hurried to find the right amount to fulfill the task before deadline. It means that vague additive "at least" here is the minimum number of the people dead; in fact, there are more than that is reported.

Excerpt: 14

> *At one point Tuesday, <u>as much as 60%</u> of the Manila metropolitan region was flooded, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in a report.* (P-LS / 20)

The sentence above contains vague expression "as much as." The adverb of "as much as" can be categorized as vague additives since vague additives can be uncertain to amount such approximation of the adverb "as much as". While adjective "as much as" is approximated to measure the area of Manila metropolitan region which was flooded. Vague additive "as much as 60%" here shows that the area which can be measured or estimated as much 60%.

Excerpt: 15

Two other provinces, Pampanga and Bulacan, are still under <u>as much of four feet (1.2 meters) of water</u>. (P-LS / 9)

The sentence above contains vague expression "as much of." The adverb of "as much of" can be categorized as vague additives since vague additives can be uncertain to number of scale. Vague additive "as much of" here is estimate to the scale of water. It means that "as much of four feet" indicates that the reporter get the information of the water with depth four feet (1.2 meters) in Pampanga and Bulacan.

4.2.1.3 Vague implicative

In the news articles there are 24 sentences consist of vague implicative. Vague implicative is vaguely referred to unspecified number or it can be plural number without strict accuracy amount. It is realized by number, quantifier, and exaggeration. The examples are shown in the following discussion:

4.2.1.3.1 Vague by number

Vague implicative by number is vaguely referred to number or it can be round number without strict accuracy. In this news articles, there are three expressions of vague by number. They are 20 to 30," "12 or younger" and"young." The examples can be seen in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 16

> *The quake was strong enough to cause a mass <u>20 to 30 feet</u> high to emerge from the Arabian Sea like a small mountain island off the coast of Gwadar.* (P-EQ / 5)

The sentence above contains vague expression *"20 to 30."* That number considered as vague expression because it is round number that shows impreciseness. It is neither 20 nor 30. The number "20 to 30" can be categorized as vague implicative because the number "20 to 30 feet high" here indicates the number without certain to what number it referred, it can be number after 20 such as 21, 22...until 30, however it does not show the precise number.

Excerpt: 17

> *The landslides killed 16 people in the town of Subic, the council said. At least 10 of the victims were aged <u>12 or younger</u>.* (P-LS / 5)

The sentence above contains vague expression "12 or younger". The number "12 or younger" can be categorized as vagueness because the meaning is uncertain, it indicates to 12 years old or it can be more or less than 12 years old. Moreover, "12 or younger" types of vague implicative since vague implicative is number without strict accuracy. While it refers to number "aged 12" but "or younger" is not clear enough how young. The reporter adds "12 or younger" because the exact ages were not known, for the reporter not sure about all of their ages.

Excerpt: 18

> *A landslide engulfed a house in San Marcelino, Zambles, on Sunday night
> and four of its inhabitants, including three <u>young children</u>, remain missing,
> authorities said.* (P-LS / 7)

The sentence above contains vague expression "young." The adjective of "young" can be categorized as vagueness because the meaning is uncertain, it shows unclear how young or how old are the children missing. Moreover, the word "young" type of vague implicative since it refers to number without strict accuracy. While, it refers to number of age without clear meaning the exact age of the children. The reporter adds vague implicative "young" because the exact ages not exactly known; however, the reporter knew that they are children.

4.2.1.3.2 Vague quantifier

In the news articles, there are 13 sentences consists of vague quantifier. It realized by seven types of quantifier, they are "more," "some," "some of," "many," "several," and "most of," "half of." Vague quantifier indicates to uncertain plural number; however, it can be as representation of the number. The example can be seen in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 19

> *In addition to the fatalities, around 350 people have been injured, he said,
> and <u>more people</u> are still trapped in rubble.* (P-EQ / 4)

The sentence above contains vague expression "more." A quantifier of "more" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number to have vague meaning such as "more." While, a quantifier of "more" here refers to plural number of people who are still trapped without the proper number. This vague quantifier is used because the reporter does not know

the exact numbers of people who stil trapped in rubble. The reporter knows that there are still many people who are trapped in rubble but it is not sure how many people are there.

Moreover, vague quantifiers "some" and "several" have the same meaning. They indicates to the plural number but the meaning is not much. The example is explained in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 20

> *Some mud-walled homes fell in Awaran, said Latif Kakar, director of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Balochistan.* (P-EQ / 13)

The sentence above contains vague expression "some." A quantifier of "some" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number that its meaning is unspecified such as quantifier "some." While, "some mud-wallet homes" here refers to unspecified number of mud-walled homes which are fell in Awaran. Vague implicative "some" does not show the exact number of mud-walled homes which are fell in Awaran but it shows that there are plural numbers or it can be more than one home. This vague implicative is used in news; because the reporter does not get exact number of mud –walled homes which are fallen however he or she knows more than one but not many.

Excerpt: 21

> *Some fishermen earlier told the broadcaster they had defied the order to leave, anxious to see what happened on the shore.* (I-CP/ 29)

The sentence above contains vague expression "some." A quantifier of "some" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number to have a vague meaning such as quantifier "some." While quantifier "some" here refers to plural number of fisherman. It shows impreciseness how many fishermen, but vague implicative "some" imply that there is more than one fisherman earlier told the broadcaster. The reporter adds vague quantifier "some" because the exact number of fisherman is not known.

Excerpt: 22

> *Some fishermen earlier told the broadcaster they had defied the order to leave, anxious to see what happened on the shore* (I-CP/29). *Some fear a repeat of what happened on October 29, 1999, when Cyclone 05B, also known as the Odisha Cyclone, made landfall in the same area, killing 10,000 people.* (I-CP/ 30)

The sentence above contains vague expression "some." A quantifier of "some" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number to have a vague meaning such as quantifier "some." A quantifier of "some fear" here refers to uncertain number of fishermen who are fear. Vague quantifier "some" here does not show the preciseness of the number but it can be plural or there are more than one people.

Excerpt: 23

> *The water at <u>several</u> other dams in the region is near critical levels, it said.* (P-LS / 16)

The sentence above contains vague expression "several". A quantifier of "several" can be categorized as vague implicative since vague implicative can be plural number with unspecified meaning such as quantifier "several". While "several" here is not clear enough about the number of the dams. However, it indicates that "several" here can be plural or more than one dam in the region. Vague quantifier at "several" used because the reporter know that there is more than one other dams but it is not sure how many.

Then, there is one vague quantifier "some of." Vague quantifier "some of" refers to plural number of the incident. The example can be seen below:

Excerpt: 24

> *Morning light on Sunday revealed <u>some of</u> the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, which made landfall on India's eastern coast as the strongest storm to hit India in 14 years.* (I-CP/ 4)

The sentence above contains vague expression "some of." A quantifier "some of" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural amount that have vague meaning. While, quantifier "some of" here refers to amount of the damage from tropical cyclone phailin. It shows that there is the damage from tropical cyclone phailin but the damage is not much therefore a quantifier "some of" is used to indicate that there is not too big damage from tropical cyclone phailin.

Furthermore, there are two vague quantifiers of "many." Vague quantifier "many" indicates to plural number with the meaning more than one for countable noun. It is explained in the following example:

Excerpt: 25

> *Four other people are still reported to be missing, and <u>many towns</u> are flooded.* (P-LS / 2)

The sentence above contains vague expression "many". A quantifier "many" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number name that its meaning is unspecified. While, a quantifier "many twons" here refers to number of unspecified towns, which are flood. This vague quantifier "many" indicates that there are rather many towns or it can be more than one or two towns. However, it is not showing the exact numbers of towns, which are flooded.

Excerpt: 26

> *The muddy flood waters have swamped roads and buildings, bringing life in <u>many areas</u> to a standstill.* (P-LS / 14)

The sentence above contains vague expression "many". A quantifier "many" can be categorized as vague implicative since vague implicative such as plural number which unspecified meaning such as quantifier "many." While, quantifier "many areas" here is not clear enough to number of areas which is standstill. However, it indicates that "many" is plural number or more than one areas which standstill. The reporter adds vague quantifier "many areas" because the exact number of the areas is not exactly known.

The next sentence is vague quantifier "many of." It indicates to plural number of the incident, such as in the example below:

Excerpt: 27

> *Residents were evacuated to safer places in Odisha and the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh, national disaster-management authority chief Marri Shashidhar Reddy said (I-CP/18). More than 400,000 were moved to safety in Odisha alone, he told CNN (I-CP/19).* <u>*Many of*</u> *those evacuated from low-lying coastal areas of Odisha left on foot or by bicycle, Kamal Lochan Mishra said.* (I-CP / 20)

The sentence above contains vague expression "many of." A quantifier of "many of" can be categorized as vague implicative because vague implicative can be plural number which unspecified meaning such as quantifier "many of." While, quantifier "many of" refers to plural number of evacuated residents with impreciseness. It shows that the number is not clear how many residents who were evacuated but it implies plural number or it can be more than one or two of residents who are evacuated from low-lying coastal areas.

The next is vague quantifier "most of" and "half of." In news articles, there are three sentences contain vague quantifier "most of" and one expression "half of" in the news articles. Vague quantifier of "most of" indicates a higher number than the other references. However, a quantifier "half of" indicates to half of the number or amount of the incident. The example is shown in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 28

> *Heavy monsoon rains have left at least 19 people dead, Most of them are children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.* (P-LS / 1)

The sentence above contains vague expression "most of." A quantifier of "most of" is type of vague implicative since vague implicative can be plural number with unspecified meaning. A quantifier "most of" here refers to plural number of the children without precise number; however it indicates to higher number. Vague implicative "Most of them" here shows that the number of children are dominant than other victims although it is not showing the exact number. However, it implies that "most of" is the highest number.

Excerpt: 29

> *Most of the people were killed by landslides set off by the rain in the province of Zambales on Luzon, the largest island in the archipelagic nation, the government-run Philippines News Agency (PNA) said, citing the regional disaster management council.* (P-LS / 3)

A quantifier of "most of" in the sentence above can be categorized as vague implicative since vague implicative can be plural number with unspecified meaning. While, a quantifier "most of" here refers to plural number of people were killed without accurate number. However, vague implicative "most of" here indicates that there are many people who were killed. Hence, vague implicative "most of" here can be imply that there is the highest number.

Excerpt: 30

> *Multiple states in the region were under weather warnings for excessive rainfall and thunderstorms for <u>most of</u> Sunday and into Monday, Jones said.* (I-CP/17)

The sentence above contains vague expression of quantifier "most of." A quantifier of "most of" is type of vague implicative since vague implicative can be number with unspecified meaning. While, a quantifier "most of" here refers to a big amount of time which refers to Sunday and into Monday. A quantifier "most of Sunday and into Monday" is uncertain how often rainfall and thunderstorms occurred, however it indicates that rainfall and thunderstorms mostly happen during Sunday and Monday.

Excerpt: 31

> *Heavy rain continued to lash the northern Philippines on Wednesday; a day after flooding put more than <u>half of</u> the Manila region under water.* (P-LS / 11)

The sentence above contains vague expression of quantifier "half of". A quantifier "half of" can be categorized as vagueness because the meaning is uncertain, it shows unclear half of how much the area under water. Moreover, a quantifier "half of" types of vague implicative since it can be number with unspecified meaning. While, "half of" here quantifies to the area under water. It indicates to the area under water without clear meaning half of how much the area under water. The reporter adds vague implicative "half of" because the exact number of the area not measured clearly.

4.2.1.3.3 Vague exaggeration

In the news articles, there are four types of vague implicative of exaggerations. They are "a large, hundreds of, thousands of and extensive". Vague exaggerations indicate the value that enlarged the incident.

The first, exaggeration "a large," it can be categorized as vague exaggeration because "a large" shows the higher value, whereas the incident or the number does not mentioned clearly the number or amount. So that, "large" can be exaggerated the information if the fact is not high number. There are four expressions vague exaggerations "a large" in news articles. Three expressions are explained in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 32

A large number of people gathered to view the newly formed island, he said. (P-EQ / 6)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "large." The adjective of "large" is considered of vagueness because "large" refer to uncertain number of people who are gathered. It shows impreciseness of how many people who gathered. Moreover, adjective "large" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since it has a higher value of the number without strict accurate meaning. Adjective "large" refers to the number of people who gathered but it does not mention clearly how many people there. However, it indicates a big number or it shows in exaggerated the numbers of people who gathered. Whereas it is uncertain, how big the number is or how many people are exactly there.

Excerpt: 33

Large quakes can cause significant deformation to the earth's crust, particularly visible along coastlines. (P-EQ / 7)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "large." The adjective "large" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since it has a higher value of the scale of quakes without strict accurate meaning. It shows impreciseness how strong the quakes. However, adjective "large quakes" refers to the magnitude scale but it does not mention clearly how the power of that quakes. However, vague exaggeration "large" here indicates to high scale and it shows in exaggerated the scale of quakes. Whereas it is not mentioned clearly how strong, the power of quakes is.

Excerpt: 34

Power and communication lines are likely to suffer large-scale disruption. (I-CP/24)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "large-scale." The adjective "large-scale" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since it has a higher value of the number without strict accurate meaning. It shows impreciseness of the number of disruption scale. However, vague exaggeration "large-scale" here refers to the magnitude scale of disruption but it does not mention clearly how big the scale. Moreover, vague exaggeration "large-scale" here indicates to high number and it shows exaggerate of the scale disruption. In fact, the scale of disruption is not exactly large.

The second is vague exaggeration of "hundred of," there is one expression in news articles. Vague exaggeration "hundreds of" refers to enlarge the number in hundreds. It can be seen in the example below:

Excerpt: 35

> *People flocked out onto the streets of Quetta, the provincial capital. After shocks, it could be felt in Karachi, <u>hundreds of</u> miles to the southeast.* (P-EQ / 18)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "hundreds of." The adjective "hundreds of" can be classified as vague expression since "hundred of" vaguely refer to scale of distance to the southeast. While, "hundreds of" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggerations since this phrase such additional meaning that has value higher on the number. Vague exaggeration "hundred of" implies exaggerate to the number of distance to the southeast. Whereas, the number of scale not such it reported, it can be only one or two hundreds.

The third is vague exaggeration of "thousands of" there is only one sentence. This vague refers to enlarge number in thousands. The example can be seen below:

Excerpt: 36

> *La Mesa Reservoir, in a densely populated area of the Manila region, is overflowing, the national disaster agency reported, prompting the evacuation of <u>thousands of</u> residents from surrounding neighborhoods.* (P-LS / 15)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "thousands of." The adjective "thousands of" is classified as vague expression since "thousands of" vaguely refer to number. It shows impreciseness to the number of residents

from surrounding neighborhoods. Moreover, "thousand of" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since vague exaggeration can be additional meaning which the value higher in number like "thousands of." While, exaggeration "thousands of" here shows exaggerate to number of the residents, it implies the higher number, in fact the number is not exactly precise such what is reported.

The last is vague exaggeration "extensive." There are two expressions of vague exaggeration "extensive" in news articles. Vague exaggeration "extensive" can be exaggerated to number when the fact is not such what reported. The example can be seen in the following excerpt.

Excerpt: 37

> *The India Meteorological Department warned of <u>extensive</u> damage to kutcha houses, those made of flimsy materials like mud and bamboo, as well as damage to old buildings.* (I-CP/23)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "extensive." The adjective of "extensive" is classified as vague expression since "extensive" vaguely refer to number of the incident. It shows impreciseness to amount of the damage. Moreover, "extensive" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since vague exaggeration can be the word such additional meaning which the value higher such as "extensive." While, "extensive" here is exaggerated the amount of the damage, it implies that there is large amount however, there is not mention clearly how much the damage. In fact, the damage is not very large but the reporter says extensive.

Excerpt: 38

> *Extensive flooding will also disrupt rail and road traffic, and crops are likely to suffer major damage, it said.* (I-CP/25)

The sentence above contains vague expression of adjective "extensive." It shows impreciseness about the number of broad area flooding. Moreover, "extensive" can be categorized as vague implicative of exaggeration since vague exaggeration can be the word which the value higher such as "extensive." While, "extensive" here is exaggerated the flooding, it implies that there is the great flood; however, it is not mention clearly how was the flood. In fact, the flood is not exactly big.

4.2.2 The functions of vague language

Vague language is commonly used in news because there are some functions. The previous chapter has already mentioned that vague language has functions such as;

1. Giving reference more informative.

2. Supplying amount of information, when specific information is lacking.

3. Filling gap of uncertainty.

4. Hedging the statements or self-protection.

Therefore, this section provides an analysis of the functions of vague language in news article on CNN.com. It can be seen on the Table 4.3

Table 4.3 The Functions of Vague Language on CNN.com

No	Functions	Vague expressions	Types	News code / Sentence number
1	Giving more informative reference	Most of	Vague implicative of quantifier	P-LS / 1, 3 I-CP / 17
2	Supplying amount of information, when specific information is lacking	More than	Vague additive of adjective	P-EQ / 1,13 P-LS / 10,11,13, 17 I-CP / 10,19, 31,33
		About	Vague additive of approximation	P-EQ / 8, 8, 14 P-LS/ 19, 21 I-CP/ 13, 28
		Nearly	Vague approximation	I-CP/ 13, 21
		Many	Vague quantifier	P-LS/ 2, 14 I-CP/ 20
		Some	Vague quantifier	P-EQ/ 15 I-CP/ 29, 30
		Some of	Vague quantifier	I-CP/ 4
		As much of	Approximation	P-LS/ 9, 20
		Several	Vague quantifier	P-LS/ 16
		Half of	Vague quantifier	P-LS/ 11
		Hundred of	Exaggeration	P-EQ/ 18
		Thousand of	Exaggeration	P-LS/ 15
3	Filling gap of uncertainty	20 to 30	Vague number	P-EQ/ 5
		Young	Vague number	P-LS/ 7
		12 or younger	Vague number	P-LS/ 5
		More	Vague quantifier	P-EQ/ 4
		Things	Vague reference	P-EQ/ 12
		Large	Exaggeration	P-EQ/ 6, 7,11 I-CP/ 24
		Extensive	Exaggeration	I-CP/ 23, 25
4	Hedging the utterances or self-protection	At least	Vague approximation	P-EQ/ 3 P-LS/ 1,5 I-CP/ 1
		Around	Vague approximation	P-EQ/ 4 I-CP/ 5

4.2.2.1 Giving informative reference

One of the functions of vague language used in the news articles on CNN.com is giving the reference more informative. Vague quantifier "most of" is used to give the information about the number more informative when the absolute number of incident is not clear. In this news articles there are three sentences containing vague quantifier "most of" which functions to give more informative about the number of incident. It can be seen in the following example:

Excerpt: 1

> *Heavy monsoon rains have left at least 19 people dead, <u>Most of them</u> are children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.* (P-LS / 1)

Vague implicative "most of" in the sentence above can function to give informative reference. It can be seen that vague implicative "most of them" here has implicit meaning that the number is more than other. It makes the readers easier understand than the absolute number. It means that, when the reporter says, "Most of them are children" more informative than the reporter says "twenty-two of them are children", in fact there are still people who are not children. From that, the readers easier get the point that "most of" is the highest number. Hence vague implicative "most of" here is giving information about number of children more informative.

4.2.2.2 Supplying amount of information

Vague expressions mostly used to supply amount of information in the news articles. Since this news article, the most information is about big number or amount so the specific number is often lacking. For the reporter feels difficult to get the exact number of the incident. Therefore, to present the accurate news, the reporter often use vague additives and vague implicative such as more than, about, nearly, some and so forth.

Those vague expressions mostly used to present the appropriate number when the specific number is lacking. Moreover, it is explained in the following example:

Excerpt: 2

> *India evacuated <u>more than</u> a half-million people in advance of the storm, hoping to avoid a repetition of what happened 1999, when a cyclone claimed 10,000 lives.* (I-CP/ 10)

Vague additives "more than" above can function to supply amount of information because the specific information is lacking. It can be seen that there is a big number of people in advance of the storm so it is difficult to find the exact number. However, the reporter gets the information only a half-million people, in fact there are still more people who are not counted. So that the reporter adds an approximation "more than" to supply, the appropriate amount of number when the number is too large.

Excerpt: 3

> *More than 500 areas across 78 municipalities and cities on the main island of Luzon have been reported as flooded, the disaster agency said Wednesday.* (P-LS / 17)

Vague additives "more than" here is used to supply the appropriate amount of information when exact information is lacking. It shows that the area flooded not only 500 areas but there are still area not measured because the areas is so extensive that the reporter does not have much time to get the exact number in detail. Therefore vague additive "more than" is giving the appropriate number of area which are flooded.

Excerpt: 4

> *The region, known as Metro Manila, has about 12 million residents.* (P-LS/21)

Vague additive "about" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information. It is supplying the number of the residents; it shows that the number of residents is uncertain it can more or less than 12 million. The reporter lacks adequate of exact number, hence he/she adds approximation "about 12 million" to supply the appropriate number of the residents.

Excerpt: 5

> *They are being housed in nearly 250 emergency shelters set up in study buildings like schools and government offices.* (I-CP/21)

Vague additives "nearly" in the sentence above is used to supply the number of emergency shelter, it shows that "nearly 250" closer to number 250 and it is not more than 250 shelters. The reporter adds vague additives "nearly" to supply the

appropriate number of shelter which he or she estimates that it closer to number 250 for he/she lacks adequate the exact number of the emergency shelters.

Excerpt: 6

> *Since Friday, Phailin has brought <u>nearly 8 inches</u> of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar,* (I-CP / 13)

Vague additives "nearly" in the sentence above used to supply amount of information, because vagueness of "nearly 8 inches" here is supplying the scale of rain, it shows that "nearly" closer to number 8 inches, and it is not more than 8 inches. The reporter adds vague additives "nearly" to supply the appropriate number scale of rain which him or her estimates 8 inches since he/she lacks adequate exact number.

Excerpt: 7

> *At one point Tuesday, <u>as much as 60%</u> of the Manila metropolitan region was flooded, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in a report.* (P-LS / 20)

Vague implicative "as much as" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information's, because vague "as much as 60 %" here is supplying the number of area was flooded, it supplies that there is more or less 60%. The reporter adds vague quantifier "as much as" to supplies the appropriate number of area was flood, which he or she not firmly believe about the precise number of the area in Manila metropolitan. However, he/she estimates 60%.

Excerpt: 8

> *Four other people are still reported to be missing, and <u>many towns</u> are flooded.* (P-LS / 2)

Vague quantifier "many" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information, because vagueness of "many town" here is supplying the number of town which are flooded, it supplies that there is more than one towns which are flooded. The reporter adds vague quantifier "many" to supply the appropriate number of town which he or she lack adequate evidence about the precise number. However, it makes the readers get the point the imply meaning that "many towns" indicates not only one town.

Excerpt: 9

> *CNN) -- Morning light on Sunday revealed <u>some of</u> the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, which made landfall on India's eastern coast as the strongest storm to hit India in 14 years.* (I-CP / 4)

Vague quantifier "some of" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information, because vagueness of "some of" here is supplying the amount of the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, it supplies that there is the damages that reporter does not know the exact amount. Therefore, vague quantifier "some of" here is used to supply the appropriate amount of the damage which he or she lack adequate evidence about the exact amount.

Excerpt: 10

People flocked out onto the streets of Quetta, the provincial capital. After shocks, it could be felt in Karachi, <u>hundreds of</u> miles to the southeast. (P-EQ / 18)

Vague implicative of "hundred of" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information, because vagueness of "hundred of" here is supplying the scale of distance to the southeast. It indicates that the distance measured in quantification hundreds, it can be one, two, three hundred or more than that. Vague exaggeration "hundred of" supplies the appropriate amount for the reporter lacks specific number of the distance to the southeast.

Excerpt: 11

La Mesa Reservoir, in a densely populated area of the Manila region, is overflowing, the national disaster agency reported, prompting the evacuation of <u>thousands of</u> residents from surrounding neighborhoods. (P-LS / 15)

Vague implicative of "thousand of" in the sentence above can function to supply amount of information, because vagueness of "thousand of" here is supplying the number of residents. It indicates that the residents are not only one thousand but it can be more than that. However, reporter adds exaggeration "thousand of" because he/she does not exactly know the specific number because the number of resident from surrounding neighborhoods is very big that he/she got information is one thousand and there is still people are not counted.

4.2.2.3 Filling gap of uncertainty

In news articles on CNN.com, there are vague expressions which can function to fill gap of uncertainty, because this news is broadcasted online, the information must be reported immediately, so that the information that reporter got sometime is not yet certain. Hence, the reporter employs vague language like vague reference and vague implicative such as number, quantifier and exaggerations to fill gap of uncertainty. It can be seen in the following excerpt:

Excerpt: 12

> *The quake was strong enough to cause a mass <u>20 to 30</u> feet high to emerge from the Arabian Sea like a small mountain island off the coast of Gwadar.* (P-EQ / 5)

Vague round number of "20 to 30" in the sentence above can function to fill gap of uncertainty. It shows that "20 to 30" is uncertain number but it fills the scale of the mass between 20 to 30 feet high. The reporter does not measure the exact number scale of the mass for his/her knows more than 20 and less than 30 feet that's why vague implicative "20 to 30"is used to fill her/his statement when the exact number is missing.

Excerpt: 13

> *A landslide engulfed a house in San Marcelino, Zambles, on Sunday night and four of its inhabitants, including three <u>young</u> children, remain missing, authorities said.* (P-LS / 7)

Vague implicative "young" in the sentence above can function to fill gap of uncertainty. Vague implicative "young" is used because the reporter does not know the exact ages. However, vague implicative "young" here fills uncertain ages of the children because the reporter cannot measure their ages. It implies that

"three young children" have on average age that they are childhood. Hence, vague implicative "young" makes the readers easier to get the point the children's age.

Excerpt: 14

> *In addition to the fatalities, around 350 people have been injured, he said, and <u>more</u> people are still trapped in rubble.* (P-EQ / 4)

Vague quantifier "more" in the sentence above can function to fill gap of uncertainty. It fills the number of people who are still trapped. Vague quantifier "more" is uncertain how many people are there but it shows that there are more than one people. Hence, vague quantifier "more" here is used to replace or to fill the exact number of people who are still trapped in rubble.

Excerpt: 15

> *Many <u>things</u>, such as the tide, could come into play regarding the rise of the island, he said.* (P-EQ /12)

Vague reference "things" above is used to fill gap of uncertainty. It means that the reporter knows not all information's. The reporter knows only the tide, perhaps there is still something not being reported. Hence, vague reference "things" here replaces or fills gap of the things which not absolutely known by the reporter because in terrible situation.

Excerpt: 16

> *A <u>large</u> number of people gathered to view the newly formed island, he said.* (P-EQ / 6)

Vague exaggeration "large" in the sentence above can function to fill gap of uncertainty. Since the reporter did not get the precise number of people gathered, that's why the reporter employs vague additive " large" to fill his/her statement

about the people gathered because number of people is too big. However, it makes

the readers get the point that "large number" is a lot of people.

Excerpt: 17

> *The India Meteorogical Departement warned of <u>extensive</u> damage to kutcha*
> *houses, those made of flimsy materials like mud and bamboo, as well as*
> *damage to old buildings.* (I-CP /23)

Vague exaggeration "extensive" in the sentence above can function to fill

gap of uncertainty. It fills the damage, which has uncertain amount, but it shows

that the damage is big. The reporter did not get the precise amount of the damage,

that's why he/she employs vague additives "extensive" to fill his/her report that

there are big damages.

4.2.2.4 Hedging the Statements

The previous chapter has already mentioned that vagueness is a part of

hedges, so that all vague expressions in news articles on Asia news CNN.com can

function as hedges. However, there are some vague expressions that is

appropriately used as hedging to the utterances from uncertainty. They are vague

additives "at least" and "around". Moreover, this vagueness can use as self-

protection from making wrong statement when the fact is uncertain or may be

wrong. This vagueness is used as hedging the statement because in this news

almost all information is about number is imprecise. Moreover, this vagueness

makes the readers not claim when the news is imprecise to the fact. It can be seen

in the following example:

Excerpt: 18

>*At least 208 people were killed in the district of Awaran and the city of Turbut in Balochistan province, Asad Gilani, the provincial home secretary, said Wednesday.* (P-EQ / 3)

Vague additives "at least" in the sentence above can function as hedges. Vague "at least 280" here is hedging the statement of the people who were killed when in fact there are more than 208 people. Vague additive "at least" here is used to protect the reporter statement from making mistake if the number of people is not precise to the fact. It also makes the readers not claim if the fact more than 208 people were killed, hence vague "at least" is used.

Excerpt: 19

>*There have been at least four confirmed deaths from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, Amitabh Thakor, deputy inspector general of Brahmapur, Odisha, told CNN.* (I-CP/1)

Vague additive "at least" in the sentence above can function as hedges. Vague additive "at least" here is hedging the statement when in fact the people who are death is more than four people. A vague additive "at least" here shows the minimum number of people, it indicates that there are still people not being reported. However, it can make the readers not complaints when the fact is more than 4 people death. From that, it can be said that vague additives "at least" here is used as hedges to protect the reporter from making wrong statement when the number of people death not exactly precise to the fact later.

Excerpt: 20

> *In addition to the fatalities, <u>around</u> 350 people have been injured, he said, and more people are still trapped in rubble.* (P-EQ / 4)

Vague additives "around" in the sentence above can function as hedges. It is hedging the statement about the people who have been injured. The number of people is unclear; it can be more or less than 350. Hence, vague additive "around" is used as self-protection if the number about people who have been injured is not precise. It makes the readers not claim if there are more or less than 350 people who have been injured therefore the reportes employs vague"around" to hedging the statement that may be wrong or imprecise later.

Excerpt: 21

> *Power lines and trees were down and cars were overturned near the spot where the center of the storm struck the coast <u>around</u> 9 p.m. (11:30 a.m. ET) Saturday in eastern Odisha state, along the Bay of Bengal.* (I-CP/5)

Vague additives "around" here can function as hedges. It is hedging the statement of the time because the information that the reporter got about the time is imprecise. Since the time always, rotate so that the precise time is difficult to cover. It means that the time can be before 9 p.m. or after 9 p.m. That's why approximation "around" is used to avoid the responsibility in giving wrong information. Hence, it can be said that the function of vague additives "around" here is hedging the statement about the time that is uncertain or changeable.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the data analysis above, there are 52 sentences containing vague expressions in news articles on CNN.com, they are vague reference, it refers to noun with only one (2 %) expression, the second is vague additive with 27 (52%) they are adjectives and approximations. Then, vague implicative with 24 (46 %) expressions realized by number, quantifier and exaggeration.

From that, it shows that vague additives to number are dominantly used in this news because almost the information in the news is about the number or amount of the incident in large number, so the specific number is lacking; hence, approximations are used to supply amounts of information. Moreover, vague additive is used as hedges because this vagueness shows the consideration that what is stated is uncertain, so that the reporter employs vague additive such as "at least" and "around" to avoid in making mistake when the information to be inaccurate later.

While, vague implicative is often used to make the information about number more informative when the detail information is complicated or not exactly known. However, by using this vagueness, it makes the information accurate. While, vague implicative of exaggeration is used; it can be because it is influenced by the culture of American that likes to exaggerate the incident.

In addition, vague exaggeration is used to fill gap of uncertainty for the reporter not exactly sure about the information that is got. Meanwhile, vague reference is rarely used. There is only one expression; it is because almost of the references about nouns or things are already described clearly.

From that, it can be concluded that vague expressions are commonly used in CNN news because CNN is a 24-hours cable news channel online that presents the most up-dated information. Hence, the reporter must report the news immediately. Moreover, the news about natural disaster must be reported as soon as possible to the public. Therefore, the reporter does not wait until the information complete, so almost all information that the reporter got is not exactly precise. Hence, vague language is appropriately used. It functions to help the reporter supply the number of information when specific number is lacking. In addition, vague language can be used to hedging the statement which is uncertain, so that the readers do not claim if the information to be imprecise later.

5.2 Suggestion

This study is expected to give reference for further study. The further study should be conducted more intensively. However, the next study on vague language should not only determine the types of vague language and its functions, but also look at vague language from other point of views, such as to distinguish between the words or phrases whose meaning is vague or non-vague. In addition, such study can use different frame works.

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APPENDICES

1. **Table of Analysis**

No.	Sentences	News code / Sentence no	Types of vagueness	Functions
1	An earthquake in Pakistan, powerful enough to prompt the appearance of a small island off the coast, has killed *more than* 200 people, Pakistani officials said.	P-EQ / 1	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
2	*At least* 208 people were killed in the district of Awaran and the city of Turbut in Balochistan province, Asad Gilani, the provincial home secretary,said Wednesday	P-EQ / 3	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
3	In addition to the fatalities, *around* 350 people have been injured, he said, and more people are still trapped in rubble	P-EQ / 4	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
4	In addition to the fatalities, around 350 people have been injured, he said, and *more* people are still trapped in rubble	P-EQ / 4	Vague implicative of quantifier	Filling gap of uncertainty
5	The quake was strong enough to cause a mass *20 to 30* feet high to emerge from the Arabian Sea like a small mountain island off the coast of Gwadar	P-EQ / 5	Vague Implicative of round number	Filling gap of uncertainty
6	*A large* number of people gathered to view the newly formed island, he said.	P-EQ / 6	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty

7	*Large* quakes can cause significant deformation to the earth's crust, particularly visible along coastlines.	P-EQ / 7	Vague Imlicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty
8	The island is *about* 100 feet in diameter and about one mile off the coast, GEO TV reported	P-EQ / 8	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
9	The island is about 100 feet in diameter and *about* one mile off the coast, GEO TV reported	P-EQ / 8	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
10	But John Bellini, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey, said that generally it would be unlikely for such *a large* island to emerge from a quake like Tuesday's.	P-EQ / 11	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty
11	Many *things*, such as the tide, could come into play regarding the rise of the island, he said.	P-EQ / 12	Vague reference	Filling gap of uncertainty
12	*More than* 1,000 troops will be sent to the area to provide aid, including rescue teams and medical teams, Maj. Gen. Asim Bajwa said.	P-EQ / 13	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
13	With a depth of *about* nine miles (about 15 kilometers), the quake struck 43 miles (69 kilometers) northeast of Awaran	P-EQ / 14	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
14	*Some* mud-walled homes fell in Awaran, said Latif Kakar, director of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Balochistan.	P-EQ / 15	Vague implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
15	After shocks could be felt in Karachi, *hundreds of* miles to the southeast.	P-EQ / 18	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Supplying amount of information

16	Heavy monsoon rains have left *at least* 19 people dead, *Most of* them children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.	P-LS / 1	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
17	Heavy monsoon rains have left at least 19 people dead, *Most of* them children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.	P-LS / 1	Vague implicative of quantifier	Giving more informative reference
18	Four other people are still reported to be missing, and *many* towns are flooded	P-LS / 2	Vague implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
19	*Most of* the people were killed by landslides set off by the rain in the province of Zambales on Luzon,	P-LS / 3	Vague implicative of quantifier	Giving more informative reference
20	*At least* 10 of the victims were aged 12 or younger.	P-LS / 5	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
21	At least 10 of the victims were aged *12 or younger*	P-LS / 5	Vague implicative of round number	Hedging the statement
22	A landslide engulfed a house in San Marcelino, Zambles, on Sunday night and four of its inhabitants,including three *young* children, remain missing, authorities said	P-LS / 7	Vague implicative of round number	Filling gap of uncertainty
23	Two other provinces, Pampanga and Bulacan, are still under *as much of* four feet (1.2 meters) of water	P-LS / 9	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
24	*More than* 11,000 people have been displaced by the effects of the monsoon rains, the national disaster management council said	P-LS / 10	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information

25	Heavy rain continued to lash the northern Philippines on Wednesday; a day after flooding put *more than* half of the Manila region under water	P-LS / 11	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
26	Heavy rain continued to lash the northern Philippines on Wednesday; a day after flooding put more than *half of* the Manila region under water.	P-LS / 11	Vague Implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
27	*More than* 280,000 people have fled from their homes, authorities said.	P-LS / 13	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
28	The muddy flood waters have swamped roads and buildings, bringing life in *many* areas to a standstill.	P-LS / 14	Vague implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
29	The national disaster agency reported, prompting the evacuation of *thousands of* residents from surrounding neighborhoods.	P-LS / 15	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Supplying amount of information
30	The water at *several* other dams in the region is near critical levels,it said	P-LS / 16	Vague implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
31	*More than* 500 areas across 78 municipalities and cities on the main island of Luzon have been reported as flooded	P-LS / 17	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
32	At one point Tuesday, *as much as* 60% of the Manila metropolitan region was flooded,	P-LS / 20	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
33	The region, known as Metro Manila, has *about* 12 million residents.	P-LS / 21	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information

34	The waters later subsided, leaving *about* 20% of Metro Manila under water, the U.N. office said.	P-LS / 22	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
35	There have been *at least* four confirmed deaths from Tropical Cyclone Phailin	I-CP / 1	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
36	Morning light on Sunday revealed *some of* the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin,	I-CP / 4	Vague implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
37	Power lines and trees were down and cars were overturned near the spot where the center of the storm struck the coast *around* 9 p.m. (11:30 a.m. ET)	I-CP / 5	Vague additive of approximation	Hedging the statement
38	India evacuated *more than* a half-million people in advance of the storm, hoping to avoid a repetition of what happened 1999, when a cyclone claimed 10,000 lives.	I-CP / 10	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
39	Since Friday, Phailin has brought *nearly* 8 inches of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar, about 30 miles from the coast	I-CP / 13	Vague additive aproximation	Supplying amount of information
40	Since Friday, Phailin has brought nearly 8 inches of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar, *about* 30 miles from the coast.	I-CP / 13	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
41	Multiple states in the region were under weather warnings for excessive rainfall and thunderstorms for *most of* Sunday and into Monday	I-CP / 17	Vague Implicative of quantifier	Giving more informative reference

42	*More than* 400,000 were moved to safety in Odisha alone, he told CNN.	I-CP / 19	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
43	*Many of* those evacuated from low-lying coastal areas of Odisha left on foot or by bicycle, Kamal Lochan Mishra said	I-CP / 20	Vague Implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
44	They are being housed in *nearly* 250 emergency shelters set up in sturdy buildings like schools and government offices.	I-CP / 21	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
45	The India Meteorogical Departement warned of *extensive* damage to kutcha houses,	I-CP / 23	Vague Implicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty
46	Power and communication lines are likely to suffer *large-scale* disruption.	I-CP / 24	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty
47	*Extensive* flooding will also disrupt rail and road traffic, and crops are likely to suffer major damage, it said.	I-CP / 25	Vague implicative of exaggeration	Filling gap of uncertainty
48	Power was out in coastal areas including Kalingapatnam, from where *about* 80,000 people were evacuated to relief camps.	I-CP / 28	Vague additive of approximation	Supplying amount of information
49	*Some* fishermen earlier told the broadcaster they had defied the order to leave, anxious to see what happened on the shore.	I-CP / 29	Vague Implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information

50	*Some* fear a repeat of what happened on October 29, 1999, when Cyclone 05B, also known as the Odisha Cyclone, made landfall in the same area, killing 10,000 people.	I-CP / 30	Vague Implicative of quantifier	Supplying amount of information
51	It was the strongest tropical cyclone recorded in the Bay of Bengal, with winds of 155 mph at landfall, and it caused *more than* $2 billion in damage.	I-CP / 31	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information
52	*More than* 20 medical teams flew to the region.	I-CP / 33	Vague additive of adjective	Supplying amount of information

2.   Data Classification

1.   Pakistan Earthquake News (P-EQ)

1. An earthquake in Pakistan, powerful enough to prompt the appearance of a small island off the coast, has killed more than 200 people, Pakistani officials said.
2. The 7.7-magnitude quake struck in a remote area of southwestern Pakistan on Tuesday, but it had severe consequences.
3. At least 208 people were killed in the district of Awaran and the city of Turbut in Balochistan province, Asad Gilani, the provincial home secretary, said Wednesday.
4. In addition to the fatalities, around 350 people have been injured, he said, and more people are still trapped in rubble.
5. The quake was strong enough to cause a mass 20 to 30 feet high to emerge from the Arabian Sea like a small mountain island off the coast of Gwadar, local police official Mozzam Jah said.
6. A large number of people gathered to view the newly formed island, he said.
7. Large quakes can cause significant deformation to the earth's crust, particularly visible along coastlines.
8. The island is about 100 feet in diameter and about one mile off the coast, GEO TV reported.
9. Zahid Rafi, principal seismologist for the National Seismic Monitoring Center, confirmed the island had formed.
10. He said it was "not surprising," considering the magnitude of the earthquake.
11. But John Bellini, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey, said that generally it would be unlikely for such a large island to emerge from a quake like Tuesday's.
12. Many things, such as the tide, could come into play regarding the rise of the island, he said.
13. More than 1,000 troops will be sent to the area to provide aid, including rescue teams and medical teams, Maj. Gen. Asim Bajwa said.
14. With a depth of about nine miles (about 15 kilometers), the quake struck 43 miles (69 kilometers) northeast of Awaran and 71 miles (114 kilometers) northwest of Bela, the U.S. Geological Survey said.
15. Some mud-walled homes fell in Awaran, said Latif Kakar, director of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Balochistan.
16. The tremors lasted two minutes.
17. People flocked out onto the streets of Quetta, the provincial capital.
18. After shocks could be felt in Karachi, hundreds of miles to the southeast.

2. Philippines Landslides News (P-LS)

1. Heavy monsoon rains have left at least 19 people dead, most of them children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported.
2. Four other people are still reported to be missing, and many towns are flooded.
3. Most of the people were killed by landslides set off by the rain in the province of Zambales on Luzon, the largest island in the archipelagic nation, the government-run Philippines News Agency (PNA) said, citing the regional disaster management council.
4. The landslides killed 16 people in the town of Subic, the council said.
5. At least 10 of the victims were aged 12 or younger.
6. An 84-year-old man died of hypothermia in nearby Castillejos, PNA reported, and two people drowned in the neighboring province of Bataan.
7. A landslide engulfed a house in San Marcelino, Zambales, on Sunday night and four of its inhabitants, including three young children, remain missing, authorities said.
8. Monsoon rains cause flooding and deaths in the Philippines each year.
9. The disaster management council said that as of Tuesday morning, parts of Zambales, Bataan and two other provinces, Pampanga and Bulacan, are still under as much of four feet (1.2 meters) of water.
10. More than 11,000 people have been displaced by the effects of the monsoon rains, the national disaster management council said.
11. **(CNN)** -- Heavy rain continued to lash the northern Philippines on Wednesday, a day after flooding put more than half of the Manila region under water.
12. The relentless monsoon rains, intensified by a tropical storm at sea, have so far led to eight deaths.
13. More than 280,000 people have fled from their homes, authorities said.
14. The muddy flood waters have swamped roads and buildings, bringing life in many areas to a standstill.
15. La Mesa Reservoir, in a densely populated area of the Manila region, is overflowing, the national disaster agency reported, prompting the evacuation of thousands of residents from surrounding neighborhoods.
16. The water at several other dams in the region is near critical levels, it said.
17. More than 500 areas across 78 municipalities and cities on the main island of Luzon have been reported as flooded, the disaster agency said Wednesday.
18. A state of calamity has been declared in three provinces, three cities and eight municipalities, it said.
19. Brought about by days of fierce rain, floods have disrupted air and land transportation, and caused the closure of schools, businesses and nonemergency government offices.
20. At one point Tuesday, as much as 60% of the Manila metropolitan region was flooded, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in a report.

21. The region, known as Metro Manila, has about 12 million residents.
22. The waters later subsided, leaving about 20% of Metro Manila under water, the U.N. office said.

3. India Cyclone Phailin News (I-CP)

1. There have been at least four confirmed deaths from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, Amitabh Thakor, deputy inspector general of Brahmapur, Odisha, told CNN.
2. Three were killed Saturday; a fourth was confirmed dead Sunday.
3. Local police told CNN's sister network in India, CNN-IBN, that seven people had been killed by falling trees.
4. (CNN) -- Morning light on Sunday revealed some of the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, which made landfall on India's eastern coast as the strongest storm to hit India in 14 years.
5. Power lines and trees were down and cars were overturned near the spot where the center of the storm struck the coast around 9 p.m. (11:30 a.m. ET) Saturday in eastern Odisha state, along the Bay of Bengal.
6. Debris littered wet streets, roofs were torn off houses and windows on buildings were smashed in Brahmapur.
7. Odisha's director-general of police, Prakash Mishra, told CNN that two men and a woman were killed by trees brought down by heavy winds in the state.
8. Local police in Odisha told CNN's sister network in India, CNN-IBN, that seven people had been killed by falling trees.
9. Hurricanes are known as cyclones in the Indian Ocean, and the wind speed at landfall -- 140 mph -- made it equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane.
10. India evacuated more than a half-million people in advance of the storm, hoping to avoid a repetition of what happened 1999, when a cyclone claimed 10,000 lives.
11. "We have taken a zero-casualty approach," said Odisha state disaster manager Kamal Lochan Mishra.
12. "If people do not move, force will be used to evacuate them."
13. Since Friday, Phailin has brought nearly 8 inches of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar, about 30 miles from the coast.
14. The city's average rainfall for October is 6.5 inches.
15. The storm will continue to fall apart as it moves over land, but tropical-storm-force winds are still possible through early Monday, said CNN Meteorologist Judson Jones.
16. Rainfall will also be a problem as Phailin moves up toward the Himalayas in Nepal.
17. Multiple states in the region were under weather warnings for excessive rainfall and thunderstorms for most of Sunday and into Monday, Jones said.
18. Residents were evacuated to safer places in Odisha and the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh, national disaster-management authority chief Marri Shashidhar Reddy said.
19. More than 400,000 were moved to safety in Odisha alone, he told CNN.

20. Many of those evacuated from low-lying coastal areas of Odisha left on foot or by bicycle, Kamal Lochan Mishra said.
21. They are being housed in nearly 250 emergency shelters set up in sturdy buildings like schools and government offices.
22. The Ganjam district of Odisha is expected to be the worst hit, with disaster preparedness efforts concentrated there, CNN-IBN reported.
23. The India Meteorological Department warned of extensive damage to kutcha houses, those made of flimsy materials like mud and bamboo, as well as damage to old buildings.
24. Power and communication lines are likely to suffer large-scale disruption.
25. Extensive flooding will also disrupt rail and road traffic, and crops are likely to suffer major damage, it said.
26. In Gopalpur, a coastal resort town in Ganjam, restaurants were shuttered and streets deserted Saturday afternoon, as rain lashed down.
27. Tourists and local residents were asked to leave the town.
28. Power was out in coastal areas including Kalingapatnam, from where about 80,000 people were evacuated to relief camps, CNN-IBN reported.
29. Some fishermen earlier told the broadcaster they had defied the order to leave, anxious to see what happened on the shore.
30. Some fear a repeat of what happened on October 29, 1999, when Cyclone 05B, also known as the Odisha Cyclone, made landfall in the same area, killing 10,000 people.
31. It was the strongest tropical cyclone recorded in the Bay of Bengal, with winds of 155 mph at landfall, and it caused more than $2 billion in damage.
32. In advance of the storm, military units and National Disaster Response Force personnel were deployed to coastal areas with relief supplies and medical aid, CNN-IBN said.
33. More than 20 medical teams flew to the region.
34. Federal and state government ministers are being briefed on the situation, the cabinet secretary said.
35. All flights to Odisha have been canceled and train services in the state are also disrupted, CNN's sister network reported.

3.   News Articles

Pakistan quake kills more than 200 people; island appears

By **CNN Staff**

September 25, 2013 -- Updated 0640 GMT (1440 HKT)

Islamabad, Pakistan (CNN) -- An earthquake in Pakistan, powerful enough to prompt the appearance of a small island off the coast, has killed more than 200 people, Pakistani officials said.

The 7.7-magnitude quake struck in a remote area of southwestern Pakistan on Tuesday, but it had severe consequences. At least 208 people were killed in the district of Awaran and the city of Turbut in Balochistan province, Asad Gilani, the provincial home secretary, said Wednesday. In addition to the fatalities, around 350 people have been injured, he said, and more people are still trapped in rubble.

The quake was strong enough to cause a mass 20 to 30 feet high to emerge from the Arabian Sea like a small mountain island off the coast of Gwadar, local police official Mozzam Jah said. A large number of people gathered to view the newly formed island, he said. Large quakes can cause significant deformation to the earth's crust, particularly visible along coastlines. The island is about 100 feet in diameter and about one mile off the coast, GEO TV reported.

Zahid Rafi, principal seismologist for the National Seismic Monitoring Center, confirmed the island had formed. He said it was "not surprising," considering the magnitude of the earthquake. But John Bellini, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey, said that generally it would be unlikely for such a large island to emerge from a quake like Tuesday's. Many things, such as the tide, could come into play regarding the rise of the island, he said.

More than 1,000 troops will be sent to the area to provide aid, including rescue teams and medical teams, Maj. Gen. Asim Bajwa said. With a depth of about nine miles (about 15 kilometers), the quake struck 43 miles (69 kilometers) northeast of Awaran and 71 miles (114 kilometers) northwest of Bela, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

Some mud-walled homes fell in Awaran, said Latif Kakar, director of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Balochistan.

The tremors lasted two minutes. People flocked out onto the streets of Quetta, the provincial capital. After shocks could be felt in Karachi, hundreds of miles to the southeast.

http://edition.cnn.com/2013/09/24/world/asia/pakistan-earthquake/index.html?iref=allsearch

Landslides, floods kill at least 19 in northern Philippines

By **CNN Staff**

September 24, 2013 -- Updated 1439 GMT (2239 HKT)

(CNN) -- Heavy monsoon rains have left at least 19 people dead, most of them children, in the northern Philippines, state media reported. Four other people are still reported to be missing, and many towns are flooded. Most of the people were killed by landslides set off by the rain in the province of Zambales on Luzon, the largest island in the archipelagic nation, the government-run Philippines News Agency (PNA) said, citing the regional disaster management council.

The landslides killed 16 people in the town of Subic, the council said. At least 10 of the victims were aged 12 or younger. An 84-year-old man died of hypothermia in nearby Castillejos, PNA reported, and two people drowned in the neighboring province of Bataan.

A landslide engulfed a house in San Marcelino, Zambales, on Sunday night and four of its inhabitants, including three young children, remain missing, authorities said. Monsoon rains cause flooding and deaths in the Philippines each year.

The disaster management council said that as of Tuesday morning, parts of Zambales, Bataan and two other provinces, Pampanga and Bulacan, are still under as much of four feet (1.2 meters) of water. More than 11,000 people have been displaced by the effects of the monsoon rains, the national disaster management council said.

 (CNN) -- Heavy rain continued to lash the northern Philippines on Wednesday, a day after flooding put more than half of the Manila region under water. The relentless monsoon rains, intensified by a tropical storm at sea, have so far led to eight deaths. More than 280,000 people have fled from their homes, authorities said. The muddy flood waters have swamped roads and buildings, bringing life in many areas to a standstill.

La Mesa Reservoir, in a densely populated area of the Manila region, is overflowing, the national disaster agency reported, prompting the evacuation of thousands of residents from surrounding neighborhoods. The water at several other dams in the region is near critical levels, it said. More than 500 areas across 78 municipalities and cities on the main island of Luzon have been reported as flooded, the disaster agency said Wednesday. A state of calamity has been declared in three provinces, three cities and eight municipalities, it said.

Widespread disruption

Brought about by days of fierce rain, floods have disrupted air and land transportation, and caused the closure of schools, businesses and nonemergency government offices. At one point Tuesday, as much as 60% of the Manila metropolitan region was flooded, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in a report. The region, known as Metro Manila, has about 12 million residents. The waters later subsided, leaving about 20% of Metro Manila under water, the U.N. office said.

http://edition.cnn.com/2013/09/24/world/asia/philippines-landslides/index.html?iref=allsearch

At least 4 deaths confirmed after fierce Cyclone Phailin hits India

By **Laura Smith-Spark. Harmeet Shah Singh** and **Lonzo Cook**, CNN
October 13, 2013 -- Updated 0416 GMT (1216 HKT)

There have been at least four confirmed deaths from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, Amitabh Thakor, deputy inspector general of Brahmapur, Odisha, told CNN. Three were killed Saturday; a fourth was confirmed dead Sunday. Local police told CNN's sister network in India, CNN-IBN, that seven people had been killed by falling trees.

In morning light, India assesses damage from Cyclone Phailin

(CNN) -- Morning light on Sunday revealed some of the damage from Tropical Cyclone Phailin, which made landfall on India's eastern coast as the strongest storm to hit India in 14 years. Power lines and trees were down and cars were overturned near the spot where the center of the storm struck the coast around 9 p.m. (11:30 a.m. ET) Saturday in eastern Odisha state, along the Bay of Bengal. Debris littered wet streets, roofs were torn off houses and windows on buildings were smashed in Brahmapur.Odisha's director-general of police, Prakash Mishra, told CNN that two men and a woman were killed by trees brought down by heavy winds in the state. Local police in Odisha told CNN's sister network in India, CNN-IBN, that seven people had been killed by falling trees.

Hurricanes are known as cyclones in the Indian Ocean, and the wind speed at landfall -- 140 mph -- made it equivalent to a Category 4 hurricane. India evacuated more than a half-million people in advance of the storm, hoping to avoid a repetition of what happened 1999, when a cyclone claimed 10,000 lives. "We have taken a zero-casualty approach," said Odisha state disaster manager Kamal Lochan Mishra. "If people do not move, force will be used to evacuate them."

Since Friday, Phailin has brought nearly 8 inches of rain to Odisha's capital of Bhubaneswar, about 30 miles from the coast. The city's average rainfall for October is 6.5 inches. The storm will continue to fall apart as it moves over land, but tropical-storm-force winds are still possible through early Monday, said CNN Meteorologist Judson Jones. Rainfall will also be a problem as Phailin moves up toward the Himalayas in Nepal. Multiple states in the region were under weather warnings for excessive rainfall and thunderstorms for most of Sunday and into Monday, Jones said.

500,000 people evacuated

Residents were evacuated to safer places in Odisha and the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh, national disaster-management authority chief Marri Shashidhar Reddy said. More than 400,000 were moved to safety in Odisha alone, he told CNN. Many of those evacuated from low-lying coastal areas of Odisha left on foot or by bicycle, Kamal Lochan Mishra said. They are being housed in nearly 250 emergency shelters set up in sturdy buildings like schools and government offices. The Ganjam district of Odisha is expected to be the worst hit, with disaster preparedness efforts concentrated there, CNN-IBN reported.

The India Meteorological Department warned of extensive damage to kutcha houses, those made of flimsy materials like mud and bamboo, as well as damage to old buildings. Power and communication lines are likely to suffer large-scale disruption. Extensive flooding will also disrupt rail and road traffic, and crops are likely to suffer major damage, it said. In Gopalpur, a coastal resort town in Ganjam, restaurants were shuttered and streets deserted Saturday afternoon, as rain lashed down. Tourists and local residents were asked to leave the town. Power was out in coastal areas including Kalingapatnam, from where about 80,000 people were evacuated to relief camps, CNN-IBN reported. Some fishermen earlier told the broadcaster they had defied the order to leave, anxious to see what happened on the shore.

Military deployed

Some fear a repeat of what happened on October 29, 1999, when Cyclone 05B, also known as the Odisha Cyclone, made landfall in the same area, killing 10,000 people. It was the strongest tropical cyclone recorded in the Bay of Bengal, with winds of 155 mph at landfall, and it caused more than $2 billion in damage. In advance of the storm, military units and National Disaster Response Force personnel were deployed to coastal areas with relief supplies and medical aid, CNN-IBN said. More than 20 medical teams flew to the region. Federal and state

government ministers are being briefed on the situation, the cabinet secretary said. All flights to Odisha have been canceled and train services in the state are also disrupted, CNN's sister network reported.

http://edition.cnn.com/2013/10/12/world/asia/india-cyclone phailin/index.html?iref=allsearch