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***Ambiguous Requirements***

***DATED: 06 October, 2017***

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**AMBIGIOUS REQUIREMENTS**

Software Project managers have realized that ambiguity in software requirements can create greater harm than ambiguity or defects in any other stage of software development. Yet, unfortunately, most software projects, still fail to understand the importance of validating requirement specifications, thanks to the pressure of releasing products faster to the market. What is overlooked often creates ambiguity and thus has far-flung implications as the development cycle kick starts. The irony is, even when we know the perils of not doing something, we consciously ignore it, hoping everything should go fine.

**Lexical Ambiguity**

[Lexical ambiguity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polysemy) occurs when a word has several possible meanings, resulting in a sentence having multiple possible interpretations. In the sentence:

*I like writing.*

## Syntactic Ambiguity

[Syntactic ambiguity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syntactic_ambiguity) occurs when a sequence of words can be given more than one grammatical structure. For example, consider the sentence:

*The police shot the rioters with guns.*

## Semantic Ambiguity

[Semantic ambiguity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syntactic_ambiguity#Syntactic_and_semantic_ambiguity) occurs when a sentence has more than one way of being interpreted within a context. Consider the sentence:

*Every student thinks she is a genius.*

**Conclusion**

As I will summarize above mentioned examples of ambiguity as follow:

In first lexical ambiguity shows incomplete information like I like writing but writing what?

In second syntactic ambiguity is about grammatical mistake that may confuse the other to understand it in some ways.

Who is she here? A class fellow or teacher or university fellow. This is also an example of incomplete information

**References**

* <https://shane.io/2013/04/22/ambiguity-in-software-specs.html>
* <http://searchsoftwarequality.techtarget.com/tip/Ambiguous-software-requirements-lead-to-confusion-extra-work>
* <http://www.cigniti.com/blog/how-harmful-can-be-ambiguous-software-requirements/>