Analysis of the Lexical Meaning of Hitting in the Northern Dialect of Malay

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Abstract: The interpretation of lexical meaning especially in the Malay dialect has shown the ambiguity of the lexical meaning. This is because the user becomes confused in understanding the meaning of each lexical item that is spoken so that the user cannot accurately guess the meaning that is spoken. In this study, the researcher has studied the Northern dialect (DU) entries selected in the Kamus Dewan Fourth Edition (KD4) which have the problem of ambiguity in the interpretation of meaning. The focus of this study is to analyze DU entries that have ambiguity of meaning based on the definition of KD4 using the component analysis theory of meaning (1975) as well as to formulate new meanings that either have similarities or functional differences based on DU in KD4. The research methodology involves literature and field studies. The number of respondents was 30 people from the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA) located in Bandar Baru Selayang, Selangor. Interview and audio recording methods were used during the process of collecting research data. The results of the study found that there was a discovery of new meaning obtained from interviews with native speakers of DU. Thus, this study is expected to open space for future researchers that the study of lexical meaning, especially in dialects, still has many gaps to study.

Keywords: Interpretation, Lexical Meaning, North Malay dialect, *Kamus Dewan* Fourth Edition, Meaning Component Analysis Theory

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1. Introduction

Semantics is an important branch of linguistics. Language study will not be complete if it contains suggestions of meaning because each word has its own meaning that has meaning or can take many meanings. For example, in the context of the meaning of words, it seems that they have different meanings that can be explained by means of definitions that have the meaning of analyzing the meaning of words based on their structure that can pay attention to them, intellectually, the true meaning in life. This means that the word being compared gives an association with the meaning in the dictionary. Therefore, the field of semantics is not only a field that studies the meaning of speech, but this field studies how to describe the meaning related to different languages, such as polysemy and homonyms. This is one of the studies on the meaning of words where a word has a written meaning or contains a meaning that is greater than the prescribed meaning, according to the pronunciation interpretation.

Lexical meaning is the definition of a linguistic element (lexeme) as a symbol of things, events, etc. Synonyms are words formed from dictionary words. A lexeme is a word that has a linguistic meaning (Ibrahim Ahmad, 1994). Lexical meaning refers to dictionary meaning, which is correct for pronunciation, correct for attention, or literal meaning (Adrienne Lehrer, 1992). Lexical meaning is a branch of linguistics that aims to study what is shown or what is signified by a word in a language. For this reason, a dictionary is an important reference to a speaker's language. In addition, the speaker is also a mobile dictionary that knows hundreds of spoken language meanings. Knowing what the speaker means allows him to use the words used to express his opinion and understand what is heard. In the meaning lexicon, the meaning of a word can be given by observing the relationship of the elements that make up the meaning of the word.

The meaning of a word is usually associated with a word when it consists of several words rather than a single word. For example, black goat. Black goat does not mean goat and black but has the specific meaning of "blamed person". Therefore, since no known meaning can be seen from the meaning of each word, the name black goat is said to have an idiomatic meaning, or a grammatical meaning (Kushartanti et.al., 2005).

Synonyms are words that have the same meaning, i.e. words that have the same or almost the same meaning. For example, the word "strength" has the same meaning as strength, power, energy, hard to break, etc. All examples of these words are synonyms. In general, the meaning of the same word is called, for example, the words "car" and "motorcar", 'like' and 'like', 'difficult' and 'messy', 'lapse' and 'lapse', 'jump' and ' jump' and so on. Similar words do not have the same meaning. This difference in meaning can be seen in several ways.

Not all words in Malay have the same meaning, for example the words *padi* and stone. However, there are words that have a meaning in the form of a root word, but no meaning in the form of a derived word. For example, the word truth has a literal meaning, but truth is not the same as the word true. There are also words that have no meaning in the original but have meaning in derivative form. For example, the word growth does not go well with the word level, but the word increase in living standards has the same meaning as the word increase in the cost of living.

There are also words that, due to their original meaning, are not compatible with each other, but have the same meaning when used metaphorically. For example, the word white is not the same as the word good in the literal sense of the word, but it makes sense when the word white is used figuratively, because in the pronunciation of the character white equals good behavior. Surely in our daily life we are used to using the meanings around us. For example, in wildlife areas we can see signs that read "Do not disturb, disturb or disturb the animals in this area". In the library there is a sign 'No noise, talk and talk'. The word means almost the same thing. However, none of the words have the same meaning or meaning. In semantics there are different types of meaning such as borrowing, semantics, social rules and conjunctions.

2.   Problem Statement

The difficulty in determining the meaning is the cause of the problem of ambiguous meaning. Hussein Kareem Hasan (2023), argues that the difficulty of defining a word without using other words that also need to be defined, does not solve the problem. Because it is also difficult to interpret the meaning if it is a word that contains a non-physical meaning. Based on this, the interpretation of the meaning will change for a person based on certain circumstances, and doubts arise in the explanation. Lexical meaning is subject to the development of meaning depending on the place and context of its use. Each translation given by a linguist will have a different meaning in the dictionary due to the culture and purpose of different living conditions that change depending on the environment. Veronica Diveica, et. al (2024), there are words that have different meanings when the context of use changes.

Explaining the meaning that is not clear in relation to the meaning of the words described by the speaker creates a circle of meaning and meaning. According to Monaliza Sarbini et. al. (2019), this vicious circle is caused by ambiguity in the interpretation of the input/participants of the sentence. This prevents the user from interpreting the meaning of the dictionary as stated in the dictionary. This requires a method that can help users find relevant information by referring to the correct source for the true meaning, so as not to create conflicting meanings. According to Hui Chin (1999), sources such as dictionaries are the main sources that users use to refer to the broad meaning of words that want to be defined. He added, the meaning expressed must be correct and not confusing to understand the true meaning of the word.

A study by Veronica Diveica et al. al (2024) stated that environmental factors change the meaning of any vocabulary item because the meaning can be related to the social skills of language users. This study opens space for researchers to analyze how the sounds of the Northern language affect the meaning given by the speakers of the Northern language. This point is confirmed by the research done by Yed-Vlasov (2024), which shows that each group of vocabulary depends on the communication of the speakers, including their cultural life. Yed-Vlasova (2024) shows that there is a significant effect on the change of lexical meaning when translating from one language to another. Comprehension problems in defining words based on the semantic structure of northern languages, such as in KD4, will affect the understanding of language users. Although the reader gets the meaning of each word, but that meaning cannot be found in terms of its use (Sapura Dalmi, 2011). This is because each word has its own value and if it fits the meaning can be interchanged. KD4 records things that have different meanings and do not match the original meaning (Noresah, 2009). This flaw makes the user confused and unclear so that they need the original source to know the true meaning of the word. In the era of modern technology and digital experience, the world of dictionaries is also witnessing renewal by including new sources of information about the words used in accordance with the development of social culture.

Therefore, dictionaries require constant updating of definitions and adding new words. If there is no additional information in the dictionary that provides a reference for the language user, the user should look for this reference manually. In this study, the researcher will find the reason why it is a Northern language to find the same DU number concept problem found in KD4. Through this DU statement, the researcher will obtain information about the required DU input and check the data using the protocol. The meaning of this speech is different because each speaker has experienced life changes related to culture, religion, art, and politics of life. The input configuration function will change and may differ from the configuration configured in KD4.

3. Study Objectives

The study has two main objectives namely;

1. Analyze DU entries that have meaning ambiguity based on the definition of KD4 using the theory of component analysis of meaning (1975).
2. Formulate a new meaning that either has similarities or differences in function based on DU in KD4.

4. Literature Review

A Study About Lexical
Through previous research events related to lexical analysis, researchers can conclude that studies related to lexical analysis are still valid and can be implemented by researchers in the future. As far as studying the meaning of words, there is still a lot of room left for previous researchers. Therefore, future researchers will keep in mind the suggestions given to continue to improve new research in this field. In addition, it can be proven by studying the dictionary of researchers from other countries such as Indonesia, England, China, Spain, France and others. Researchers in Indonesia still believe that studies related to lexico-semantics need to continue. For example, Arief Ersyandi et al. al (2024) who studied lexical meaning in poetry. This study proves that the semantic system

can analyze the content of song repetition, both semantic and non-semantic content. Arief Ersyandi et al. al (2024) analyzed the meaning of the lyrics in the song "CEPMEK", it turns out that this study contributes to how the artist uses language to convey the meaning of the lyrics in terms of feelings and so on. Also, research by Joonwoo Kim et. al (2024) who stated that homonyms are unrelated words with many meanings that have the same form and pronunciation. These words provide valuable information on how to obtain denominational representation and selection without text and audio. In addition, this research aims to detect inconsistencies that are not clear and for users. Therefore, this research opens space for researchers to examine the meaning of research related to meaning.

After that, the study conducted by Nataliya N. Zyablova (2024) also confirmed that in the development of modern linguistics, especially in the field of linguistics - vocabulary for example, the formation of new words is equivalent to the development of technology. This is because this study proves that every word used in an area needs to emphasize the meaning written in the dictionary. This is important because these terms will be a reference for users in the field to refer to the definitions of related terms. If the meaning of the word is not written and misinterpreted, it will be a problem for the region. It seems simple, but the field effect is huge.

A Study About Lexicography

Sven Leuckert (2024), began to develop a formal lexicographic system suitable for the digital age. According to Sven Leuckert (2024), the digital era has led to the creation of more online resources. However, there are problems in terms of usage as compatibility with published dictionaries is still important. This shows that society still needs published resources. Therefore, this study proves that the role of the community in the meaning of the dictionary is important despite changes in digital technology, but community involvement is still needed. This study shows that the importance of printing dictionaries is important even in digital format. Time has proven that languages evolve and so do words. Therefore, dictionaries are considered important because they are the main ones that language users talk about the meaning of words.

Alicia Rodriguez Alvarez (2024) states that dictionary loan vocabulary in certain fields is an important issue. This follows the study of Alicia Rodriguez Alvarez (2024), Barret's dictionary is a direct source of information about loanwords used in English to refer to new techniques and strategies in the field of military science at that time. This study emphasizes that the quality of the source language provided by Barret in his dictionary entries with the source language described in modern dictionary works and the Oxford English Dictionary must be the same. This study confirms that the quality of information in the dictionary is very important because it becomes a reference for users, especially researchers in determining the meaning of DU entries.

A Study of Northern Dialects

A study by Mohammad Khairulanwar Abdul Ghani et. al (2024) analyzed the Kedah Baling dialect from a dialectical point of view. In this study, the difference in the phonetic characteristics of the Kedah dialect and other Malay languages will be examined. Therefore, this study opens space for researchers to conduct research on vocabulary items in DU because this study only examines the characteristics of sounds in the Kedah language and is not related to the meaning of words. Therefore, examining the meaning of the Northern dialect has become a challenge for researchers.

Zuliana Zubir and Zaliza Zubir (2024), a dialect is a language variation used by a group of local language speakers. We know that linguistics is the study of language. Meanwhile, the language itself raises some questions. Some hold that the dialect is only a form related to the national language, and of a poor or inferior type. Language is based on status or power, education and the region where the user lives. This research has a broader purpose that focuses on comparing the phonological constructions that comprise the two languages. Therefore, the researcher studied in terms of vowels and variations in formation. This study shows the similarities and differences only in various aspects of the language and not the meaning of a word for the language in question. Therefore, this study opens space for researchers to engage in the study of meaning that includes language.

Fazal Mohamed Mohamed Zultan and Anas Ismail (2023), geolinguistics combines geography and linguistics and uses Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to map and define language boundaries. The languages of the state of Penang which borders the states of Kedah, Perlis and Perak will use this GIS technology to identify the differences in the vocabulary of different languages. This study will investigate the use and distribution of extended forms of the meaning of the word's "airplane", "cake" and "hot", and provide isogloss and choropleth maps of the words in the state of Penang using GIS applications. This study opens up space for researchers to study the expansion of the meaning of words, especially in Northern languages.

A Study About Theory
Dmitry Privoznov (2023), presents an analysis of the situation in Balkar (Karachay-Balkar dialect, Turkey). This study focuses on four meanings and meanings: two affixes (the causative suffix and the suffix -al ('may/may')) and two verbs (*bujur* ('command') and *qoj* ('not allowed'). Logic describes the current situation (primary situation) and measure situations that exist in logical relation to it.

Aigul Bakenova et. al (2023), found the specific meaning of *ana* (Kazakh mother) / *mat'* (Russian mother) / expanded the translation meaning of mother in Kazakh, Russian and English. Part of the dictionary definition analysis method is used to do this. This theory improves dictionary meaning by encouraging participation in the meaning of words, which reflects the knowledge a person acquires through their work and social understanding. This study proves that this theory can explain the meaning of mother's ambiguity according to its field of use.

Zul Hanis Yop Othman et. al (2022) studied a lot of words in conversations related to young people. Polysemy is a form of word or expression that contains more than one meaning. However, these definitions are related to each other. The data will be analyzed using semantic analysis theory to determine whether the meaning of any part is similar or not. Thus, polysemy information will reveal meaning based on the context of the conversation. This study also confirms that the theory of the semantic research department is suitable for use in the analysis of the meaning of words in Northern languages.

In conclusion, the highlights of this study become a source of thought and reference whether internal or external is an important added value to research. This is because through the content of this study the researcher will find references related to research methods in terms of research methods, population and samples, research methods, research equipment, research theory and so on. In addition, the most relevant matters in previous studies also play an important role for the researcher to see the research problems that have been left behind and need to be emphasized by the new researcher. Therefore, many claims from previous researchers are the source of strong claims in this study and will be prioritized in data analysis or research problems. Through previous studies, it was found that the semantic component was not effective, and it was studied, especially in terms of language. Many linguistic studies have been done, but the meaning of the word has not been touched, even cultural studies and so on. Therefore, this study is related to the Analysis of Lexical Meaning in Northern Malay. In addition, the researcher will use Eugene A. Nida's (1975) Meaningful Component Analysis because it is thought appropriate for this study to analyze the meaning of each entry selected in KD4.

4. Methodology

This study involves a field study in which the researcher selects data through a tagging method involving entries, sub-entries and phrases labeled Northern dialect which includes the states of Kedah (Kd), Perlis (Pl), Penang (Pn) and Perak (Pr) in KD4. The literature review also involves researching the differences in the definition of meaning contained in KD4 and all written materials related to the study. This study involved 30 respondents from the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA) in Bandar Baru Selayang, Selangor. Interview and audio recording methods were used during the process of collecting research data. Synonymous entries selected from the corpus data obtained from the Malay Language Corpus Database System by the Language and Library Council (DBP) will be analyzed using the Meaning Component Analysis Theory founded by Eugene A. Nida (1975).

5. Result and Discussion

Research on the Meaning of DU Hitting Entries Which Are Synonymous Based on the Application of Meaning Component Analysis Theory (1975)

Table 6.1: Meaningful Component Analysis Of Hitting Entries

Entry Dining Features	humans	animal	the act of stamping the foot not getting something	throwing things from a distance	intention to hit	slapping with the palm of the hand
Hitting	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rough	+	-	-	-	-	-
Greedy	+	-	-	-	-	-
Hit	+	-	-	-	+	+

Table 6.1 shows that the entry of hitting has the feature of meaning [+ human, -animal, + the act of stamping the foot not getting something, + throwing thing from a distance, + the intention to hit, + slapping with the palm of the hand]. Abusive words rough of features of meaning [+ human, + animal, - the act of stamping the foot not getting something, - throwing something from a distance, - the intention to hit, - slapping with the palm of the hand]. The word greedy also has the feature of meaning [+ human, - animal, - the act of stomping the foot not getting something, - throwing something from a distance, - the intention to hit, - slapping with the palm of the hand]. Next, the word hit consists of features [+ human, + animal, - the act of stomping the foot not getting something, - throwing something from a distance, + intention to hit, + slapping with the palm of the hand].

Based on Table 6.1, the meaning feature of the entry DU hitting is compared to the feature of the synonymous synonyms rude, greedy, and hitting. Analysis of the components of the meaning carried out found that the entry hitting has a difference in meaning with the matching synonyms of the words rude and greedy. While it has an eccentric meaning with the word hitting. The features involved for the word hit are [+ human, + the act of stomping the foot not getting something, + the intention to hit, + slapping using the palm of the hand] while the features for the words rude and greedy are [- the act of stomping the foot not getting something, - throwing thing from a distance]. The difference between the two features that exist between the word hitting and the words rough and greedy shows that the matching of the synonyms is not suitable to replace one with the other. Analysis of meaning components shows that greedy words and rude words can share the same meaning features with each other. In addition, the features of the meaning of hitting and hit have an eccentric meaning that has the same feature of meaning that is [+human, + animal, + the intention to hit, + slapping using the palm of the hand].

In the linguistic context, the constructive feature that exists for the study of the meaning of the DU entry hitting is rough, greedy and rough cannot be used as synonyms for the meaning of hitting because it is not accurate even though hitting and hitting have eccentric meanings but there is still ambiguity in the meaning related to the meaning that is intended to be conveyed to the reader. This is because these three features cannot be replaced by the synonymous meaning of hitting because the word rude is used as an act of disrespect or order in conversation, the appearance of the level like a person's skin looks rough and not smooth, the surface like the furniture produced is messy and rather rough in terms of manufacturing. The word greedy is seen as an act of recklessness and arrogance towards something desired. These two synonyms are not the same as the desired meaning match for the word hitting because they do not indicate the act of hitting. The findings of the study by the researcher found that DU hitting is given a meaning which means the act of stomping the foot, throwing something for the purpose of hitting and slapping with the palm of the hand also aims to hit someone while

greedy and rough do not lead to that meaning. The following is an example of a corpus that shows examples of the use of synonym definitions.

rough

The word ~, limp boy!
He slandered David and spoke in a very ~.
The manufacturing and production of the robot is very ~ and messy.
Hand skin ~ like bark.

<div align="right">(Source: Malay Dictionary)</div>

Based on four examples of usage from corpus sources, the word rude refers to a rough act either in terms of conversation, the production of something and appearance. This situation does not directly describe the meaning that can be synonymous with the word hitting and does not directly carry the meaning of wanting to hit and so on, but rather on the attitude that involves people with people, the production of things that are not detailed and messy. This situation is very different from the word hitting found in the field study by the researcher.

greedy

He's smart, ~, and won't hesitate to kill you one by one a person
Some say he is "~, a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors, and a friend of sinners"
He looked ~ while eating the durian.
The young man's temperament was very ~ and most hated by all the villagers.

<div align="right">(Source: Malay Dictionary)</div>

For the word greedy, all the sources of the corpus show human actions that focus on attitude and behavior. This situation is different from DU hitting which refers to the meaning of stomping with the feet because of anger or vice versa. In addition, the act of throwing something a long distance for the purpose of hitting.

hit

Why are they ~ you?
He ~ with a stick.
There, they ~ a young man died because he refused to give up his jacket.
You need a stick for ~ six balls.
Your prisoner just now ~ I was.
He ~ me and threw me in the swimming pool and then ~ me again.

<div align="right">(Source: Malay Dictionary)</div>

Based on the corpus sources above, it was found that the word hit shows almost the same meaning which is eccentric with the meaning of hitting. There is an explanation of matching meaning that is synonymous with the word DU hitting, which is the act of hitting people or animals. However, because of the findings of the field study by the researcher, there is a meaning that was found to be expanded, which is the act of slapping and stomping the foot for the word hitting. It can be concluded that even though the word hitting and the word hit have the same meaning, there is still a difference when the researcher finds different meaning data for the word at the field level.

New Definition of the Meaning of DU Hitting Entries
Based on the findings from the respondents, DU speakers have defined some new meanings for tapping entries as follows;

Table 6.2: DU Speakers' Definitions of Hitting Entries

DU speaker	New Meaning Definition
Perak Speaker	1. stomping your feet because you can't get something 2. throw something from a distance at someone with the intention of hitting.
Perlis Speaker	1. slap someone on the back with the palm of your hand
Pulau Pinang Speaker	1.hit and slap
Kedah Speaker	not applicable

Based on Table 6.2, it has been shown that the findings of the field study by the researcher for the entry are based on the views of the respective respondents who use the word. First, the speaker of DU Pr has defined the meaning of knocking is the act of stomping the foot because you can't get something you want or vice versa. Next is the act of throwing things from a distance at someone with the intention of hitting them. Secondly, DU Pl speakers define the entry of hitting as slapping with the palm of the hand on someone's back. Thirdly, the speaker DU Pn defined the entry of hitting as hitting and slapping.

This clearly shows that there is a difference in the findings of the meaning from the respondents with the meaning found in KD4. As a clear example that can be seen is that Pr speakers have interpreted hitting with the act of stomping the feet. The act of hitting and stomping is very different because hitting can use either the foot or the hand while stomping is done with the foot not with the hand. However, the interpretation for Kd speakers is the same as KD4 is to hit. In addition, Pl speakers in the findings of the field study by the researcher defined hitting as the act of slapping with the palm of a person's back. In KD4 it has been explained that the meaning of slapping in Pl is rude and greedy but when the researcher interviewed the respondents of the Pl speaker of the state, it was found that there was a new meaning given which is to slap using the palm of the hand. The use of the word is different according to the place and situation of use of the word. Likewise with the speaker Pn, the respondent from that state has given the same meaning as Pl, which is the act of slapping. But the act of slapping is not clearly explained like Pl slapping with the palm of the hand.

In relation to that, the researcher's view is that there needs to be a refinement of the meaning in KD4 for the word hitting after the findings found. This is if there is no renewal, then the meaning of knocking is only explained as such while there is an expansion of other meanings found. As such, the definition of the new meaning of tapping entries is;

Hitting Entries

Kd,Pr,Pl,Pn:
Verb

> Stomping your feet because you don't get something.
> Throwing objects from a distance at someone with the intention of hitting.
> Slap using the palm of the hand on the back.

7.   Conclusion

This study has successfully unraveled the problem related to the ambiguity of the meaning of the Northern dialect entry which has caused a circle of meaning, ambiguity of meaning and overlap of meaning. In addition, the Meaningful Component Analysis Theory (1975) was used during the data analysis process of the Northern dialect entries. This theory is very suitable to be applied in this study because it can curb the problem of matching the synonym meaning of the studied words whether they can be replaced with each other or vice versa. In

addition, the results of the field study have proven that there is a new meaning expansion finding that can be defined in KD4. With this new discovery, users can understand more accurately and deeply the studied words with examples and situations. Therefore, it is hoped that this study can give new researchers a chance to continue more lexical studies in dialects. This is so that the field of semantics and pragmatics is further expanded.

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