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***“Bertengkar” (Quarrel): The Diagnosis of Componential Meaning In Jambi Malay Language***

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**Abstract**

This paper studies the componential meaning of word “*bertengkar*” indicating the meaning “quarrel” in Jambi Malay Language. It aims to identify meaning relation of each word relate to quarrel in Jambi Malay. It is a descriptive qualitative research using interview technique in collecting the data. The result shows that there are 5 (five) type of verbs indicating the meaning “to quarrel” in Jambi Malay Language, namely 1. *Betinju* (to quarrel by hand, man-man) ; 2. *Belago* (to quarrel by hand and foot, man-man, animal-animal); 3. *Begoco* (to quarrel by hand and foot, young man- young man ); 4. *Becekak* (to quarrel by speech/ mouth, man - man) ; 5. *Bekelai* (to quarrel by hand and foot, man-man).

**Keywords:** *bertengkar*, quarrel, componential meaning, Jambi Malay.

**A. Background**

The complexity of meaning in language makes it difficult to analyze it. Meaning is a human product that arises because of the intersection of concepts with referents that exist in life. Because there are so many contexts in life, a concept of a referent develop more and more. Due to so many concepts that interpret referents that the form of meaning relations in language is born. One type of meaning relationship is synonymy.

Synonymy in this case is intended as two lexical forms that have the same meaning and reference (compare Chaer, 2002: 82-83). The similarity of meanings possessed by several forms in a language is due to the interrelationship between the semantic features contained in each of the allegedly synonymous forms.

Based on these problems, experts in this case often classify the forms that are considered the same by analyzing their semantic features. Usually, the analysis of semantic features is carried out on several forms that are in one field of meaning. For example, in Indonesian, there is a field of meaning for eye activity consisting of seeing, looking, glaring, peering, peering, and the like. Experts with the theory of compounding analysis try to find the distinguishing features between these forms.

In line with this, this paper will analyze some words that are suspected to be synonymous by using a compound analysis in Jambi Malay Language. Jambi Malay is used as a variable in this opportunity because the writer is a native speaker and has long used that language as his mother tongue. The field of meaning to explore its semantic characteristics is the field of meaning in contention.

The term fighting in Jambi Jambi consists of several members of the field of meaning such as *betinju*, *belago*, *begoco*, *becekak*, and *bekelai*. These five terms will be covered by the semantic features they contain so that some actual differences can be known. As such, this



paper will specifically discuss the compounding analysis of the members of the battlefield of meaning in the Malay language of Jambi.

## **B. Formulation of Problem**

Based on the explanation in the introduction, the formulation of the problem in this paper is how the distinguishing features of semantics fields the in the verb "*bertengkar*" or quarrel in the Malay language of Jambi.

## **C. Purpose of Research**

Based on the problems that have been formulated, the purpose of writing this paper is to determine the semantic features of distinguishing meanings of the members of the battlefield of meaning in Jambi Malay.

## **D. Review of Literature**

Semantics is part of the structure of language that deals with the meaning of expressions as well as the meaning structure of speech; system and investigation of meaning and meaning in a language in general (Kridalaksana, 2008: 216). In the process of studying or describing the meaning of a word or lexeme the meaning also understands the word or lexeme with regard to the relationship of meaning which makes the word or lexeme different from the others (Lyons, 1977: 204). This discussion of meaning cannot be separated from the relation of meaning as the relationship between lexical units that contain meaning.

According to Wijana and Rohmadi (2008: 88) components of meaning are the elements of meaning that make up a word. While the analysis of meaning components is an attempt to describe the components of meaning that are owned by a word, and compare them with the components of meaning that are owned by other words. Analysis of the components of meaning is based on the assumption that the meaning of words can be broken down into various components. This analysis aims to identify the meaning of a lexeme based on its distinguishing component. In addition, the analysis is also useful to see the difference between one lexeme with another lexeme in a field of meaning. In this connection, the determination of the characteristics of shared meanings in a lexeme is not only seen based on the elements of meaning contained in a lexeme but also must rely on the intuition and experience of the author.

Nida (1975: 228) says that the components of meaning can be distinguished from (a) common components 'common components', (b) diagnostic components 'diagnostic components', (c) supplementary components 'supplement components'. Common components are shared components that are owned by several lexemes. Components of meaning + Human are components of shared meaning for the lexeme father, mother, and child. Whereas, the diagnostic component is a semantic component which is owned by a word or lexeme and functions as a differentiator for other words or lexemes which are still in one field of meaning. Components of meaning + Male are components of diagnostic



meaning for fathers and mothers. It is also different with the components of supplement meaning which are semantic components that are as additional components.

Componential analysis theory used in this paper refers to the analysis model written by Poedjosoedarmo (2001: 119-125) who analyzes the semantic features of a word by first making a classification of features based on word class categories. Poedjosoedarmo (2001) uses a model of features that he calls hard with the reason that the search for semantic features is actually carried out based on the context that actually covers a word in its use. So, all the possible features contained in the word are the features. Not to limit it only to the classification of zoology.

The main foundation for the search for features by Poedjosoedarmo is two things namely how many synonyms there are in the area of word usage with the context that surrounds the word that the feature is being searched for. Because this paper discusses verbs, the Poedjosoedarmo analysis model of verbs is used. There are several features that have been collected as follows.

1. Who: The performer/ doer.
2. How many people: The number of the performer.
3. What type: The gender/ sex.
4. When: The time.
5. How: Process activities.
6. Where: The place occurred
7. How many times: Frequency of activities
8. How activities occur
9. Why: Reasons
10. Purpose, effect, and so on.

Some of these models will be used in the compound analysis of this paper. The use of features is only selected according to data requirements.

## **E. Method**

This study used descriptive method. Gay and Airasian (in Asmareni, 2005) state that descriptive research is one of research methods which determines and reports the way things are. The things are reported in the form of description factually with scientific explanation, in order to answer questions that concerns in the topic of the study. Accordance with this notion, Leedy (in Nunik, 2004) says that descriptive method is works with the intense accuracy at the occurrence and then described precisely what the research sees clearly.

The write also used Qualitative approach. Generally, qualitative research is an attempt to obtain an in depth understanding of the meaning of languages, description of culture and understanding a way of life from the point of view of its informants. It refers to research procedure to acquire the descriptive data.

The key of instrument in this study is the writer it self. It is mainly because the writer is the native speaker of Jambi Malay Language. For additional information, the writer also



gain information from the interview of other native speaker for clarification and affirmation.

#### **F. Finding and Analysis**

Each verb quarreling both with the mouth, hands or feet examined in this paper includes several main features examined in terms of 1) actors, 2) the number of actors, 3) the tools used, 4) gender, 5) age and 6 ) the area where the words are used.

The following is a table of the variants of the verb words fighting in Jambi Malay and their distinguishing features.



| Variant       | Performer/ Doer |        | The number of Doer |             | Tools/ Device |      |      |       | Gender |       | Age      |           | Place   |            |                   |                   |            |           |                 |               |                 |                  |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|------|------|-------|--------|-------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Raut semantic | human           | animal | 2 people           | More than 2 | mouth         | hand | Foot | tools | man    | woman | children | Young man | Old man | Kota Jambi | Kab. Tanjab barat | Kab. Tanjab timur | Kab. Bungo | Kab. Tebo | Kab. Sarolangun | Kab. Merangin | Kab. Batanghari | Kab. Muaro Jambi |
| Betinju       | X               | .      | X                  | .           | .             | X    | .    | .     | X      | X     | X        | X         | X       | X          | X                 | X                 | X          | X         | X               | X             | X               | X                |
| Belago        | X               | X      | X                  | X           | .             | X    | X    | .     | X      | X     | X        | X         | X       | X          | .                 | .                 | X          | .         | .               | .             | .               | .                |
| Begoco        | X               | .      | X                  | .           | .             | X    | X    | .     | X      | X     | X        | X         | .       | .          | X                 | X                 | .          | .         | .               | .             | .               | .                |
| Becekak       | X               | .      | X                  | X           | X             | .    | .    | .     | X      | X     | X        | X         | X       | .          | .                 | .                 | X          | X         | X               | X             | .               | .                |
| Bekelai       | X               | .      | X                  | X           | .             | X    | X    | .     | X      | X     | X        | X         | X       | .          | .                 | .                 | X          | X         | X               | X             | .               | .                |





Based on the finding results of the analysis of lexeme verbs fighting in Jambi Malay in the table above, it can be described the meaning of each lexeme to find out the different meanings contained therein.

1. “*Betinju*” Verb or ‘boxing’.

*Betinju* is a process of doing activities in the form of a fight with your hands. Based on the analysis of the components of its meaning, the action of boxing in Jambi Malay is carried out by 2 individuals (human) both male and female and cannot be carried out by non-human (animal). Basically this activity is carried out not only by young children, but also by youth and parents. In Jambi province itself, boxing verbs can be found in all cities and districts.

The difference in the meaning of the *betinju* verb can be tested with the following example sentence:

“Bang Ari samo Deni lagi **betinju** di lapangan”

‘Bang Ari and Deni are boxing in the field’.

\* *anjing samo kucing sebelah lagi **betinju** di depan rumah.*

\* neighbor's dogs and cats are boxing in front of the house’.

Based on the example sentences above, it can be seen that the realization of *betinju* verbs cannot be done by animals, but only by humans. Therefore, the second sentence is not accepted in Jambi Malay.

2. “*Belago*” Verbs

The difference between the act of *belago* and the act of *betinju* in the previous verb is that this act of *belago* not only uses hands, but also includes feet. When going against his opponent, the contrarian uses not only hands to hurt but also feet. But it should be underlined as well, that this action is not accompanied by mouth disputes. This is more physical. In the Jambi Malay language, the word *belago* is not only used to express an incident between two or more humans, but also what is done by an animal. There is no age or gender restriction to carry out this action. The difference with the previous *betinju*, the word *belago* is used in the city of Jambi, Bungo, Tebo.

The realization of the verb quarrel through the act of *belago* can be seen in the following sentence:

“Kulup samo Andi lagi **belago** samo Ari di depan rumahnyo.”

‘Kulup and Andi are fighting Ari in front of his house’.

\* *Kucing hitam sikok tu **belago** samo kucing tetangga.*

‘One black cat fought a neighbor cat.’

\* *Kulup samo Andi lagi **belago** samo Ari make parang di depan rumahnyo.*

\* ‘Kulup and Andi are fighting Ari by using a machete in front of their house’



In sentence one it is clear that *belago* can be done by more than 2 people. Whereas the second sentence shows that *belago* done by animals can be accepted in Jambi Malay. But in the third sentence becomes unacceptable when realized using sharp objects. That is, *belago* verbs can only be done with your bare hands without using sharp objects and so on.

### 3. “*Begoco*” Verb

*Begoco* acts are also acts of contention that use the feet and hands in practice. The word *begoco* in the Jambi Malay language can only be applied to express a quarrel between two individuals (no more), and is also only done by young children and not parents. This action cannot be used to assume the contention between animals and animals or animals and humans. The word *begoco* itself is only used in the downstream areas, namely Tanjung Jabung Barat (Tanjung Bar) and Tanjung Jabung Timur (Tanjung Tim) districts.

To see the difference in the meaning of this verb, it can be seen and tested in the following example sentence:

“*Budak kecil beduo tu lagi begoco di sano.*”

‘those two little boy are quarrel with each other there.’

\*“*bapak-bapak beduo tu lagi begoco di sano*”

\* those two old men are quarrel with each other”

\*“*bapak-bapak berdua itu sedang begoco di sana*”

\* ‘Both of the men are quarrel there’

\*“*pakwo Madi lagi begoco samo bang Mail di sano*”.

\* Uncle Madi is quarrel with brother Mail there.

\*“*paman Sudar sedang begoco dengan bang Nazar di sana*”.

\* ‘Uncle Sudar was quarrel with brother Nazar there’.

If you look closely, the second and third sentences are not accepted in Jambi Malay. This is because the perpetrators of these actions are parents. Though *begoco* activities are only associated with physical quarrels carried out by children or youth, not those carried out by parents.

### 4. “*Becekak*” Verbs

Based on the analysis of its component meaning, the *becekak* action is a fight between two or more women who bicker only by mouth alone without involving hands or feet in their activities and also sharp objects. In its activities, *becekak* are only associated with quarrels committed by humans, especially women and not animals. Rarely is this word used for mouth quarreling between men and men. Usually only between women and women or women and men. The word *belago* is used in the district. Bungo, Tebo, Sarolangun and Merangin.



Proof of the difference in the meaning of begoco verbs with the meanings of the previous verbs can be tested with the example sentences below:

"Makwo Diyah lagi **becekak** samo yuk Nita gara-gara masalah sen."

'Aunt Diyah is bickering with Yuk Nita because of money problems'.

"Induk lagi **becekak** samo bapak gara-gara nyo balik malam."

Mother is bickering with father because you came back late at night

\*'nyai **becekak** dengan makwo menggunakan pisau'.

\* Grand mother is rickshaw with the father because he came home late.'

From this sample sentence, it can be seen that the realization of *becekak* verbs is not acceptable in Jambi Malay because it uses sharp objects. Even though it was explained at the beginning that pedicab is only a fight between the mouth without using other physical members and sharp objects.

#### 5. "*bekelai*" Verbs

As for the actions of *bekelai* is almost the same as *belago* activities. But the only difference is that the verbally strokes are only used to express quarrels between 2 or more humans, not applied to animals like the use of the word *belago*. And in addition, *bekelai* is used to declare quarrels in the district. Bungo, Tebo, Sarolangun Bangko.

The difference in the meaning of these verbs can be tested with the following example sentences:

Adin **bekelai** samo Jhon di sekolah.

'Adin fights Jhon at school.'

\*anjing sikok tu **bekelai** dengan kawannyo deweklah.

\* 'That one dog fights his own friend.'

From this example sentence, it can be seen that the realization of the verbally stalking cannot be done by animals. Therefore, the second sentence is not accepted in Jambi Malay.

#### G. Conclusion

Verbs quarrel in this paper are divided into five lexemes, namely: boxing, *belago*, *begoco*, *pedicab*, and *bekelai*. The variants of the verb in the Malay Malay argument form several components with several distinguishing features. Based on the results of the verb component analysis there are six distinguishing features, namely: 1) actors, 2) the number of actors, 3) the tools used, 4) gender, 5) age and 6) the area in which the words are used. Although each lexeme has different features, it still seems that there are similarities between its distinguishing features because the lexemes refer to a field of meaning, namely the *bertengkar* verb in Jambi Malay.

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