



## **SENSE RELATIONS IN LANGUAGE LEARNING**

**Adinda Nur Afriska**

Department of English Education, STKIP Al Maksum Langkat  
*nurafriska24@gmail.com*

### **ABSTRACT**

*Studying a language is closely related to understanding its meaning because when studying a language, you will also learn the meaning of the language contained in it. The meaning of a language can be seen from the relationship word for word, which means that one word is related to the meaning of another word. There are two main groups of sense relationships in this case. The first group consists of sense relationships based on similarity as synonyms. The second is an antonym in the sense of opposite relations. The research of this article is using qualitative research methods. In doing the research, the researchers use books and journals to find information . Since sense relations are very important in semantics, this paper will discuss both types of sense relations.*

**Keywords:** *sense relations, synonymy, antonymy*

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Learning about language is always interesting to discuss. Learning a language means also studying the meaning contained in it. Charles W.Kreidler (1998,p.13) defines "Linguistic semantics is an attempt to explicate the knowledge of any speaker of a language which allows that speaker to communicate facts, feelings, intentions and products of the imagination to other speakers and to understand what they communicate to him or her". One of the Semantics sub-chapters is Sense Relations. The explanation of a word's meaning based on its relationship with other words in a language is referred to as sense relations.

Hurford et. al. (2007, p. 29) states that the sense of an expression is a semantic relationship of an expression with other expressions in the language. This paper is to discuss the notions of sense relations between words, i.e. sense relations of inclusion and sense relations of exclusion.

### **II. RESEARCH METHODS**

The method used in the research of this article is to use qualitative research methods. The information in this article is based on research from the library. Several concepts and research by experts have been analyzed and compiled in this article.

### **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Charles W.Kreidler (1998,p.303) defines sense relations as "the relations of meaning between words, as expressed in synonymy, hyponymy, and antonymy,etc".So therefore, the resemblance of meaning as in synonymy, the inclusion of meaning as in hyponymy, and the oppositeness of meaning as in antonymy, are all examples of sense relations. Whereas Cruse (2004, p.148) classifies sense relations into two classes, i.e. those that express identity and inclusion between word meanings and those that express opposition and exclusion. The first class discusses the sense relations between words whose meanings are similar or included in other ones. The second class discusses the sense relations between words whose meaning are opposite or excluded from other words.



## A. Sense Relations Of Inclusion And Identity

The discussion in this part includes the notions of synonymy, homonymy, polysemy, and hyponymy.

### 1. SYNONYMY

When talk about synonym, it is about the meaning of the words. Synonym is the other word that has the same meaning. According to Hatch and Brown, synonym is one of the semantics features. They determine the meaning of synonym as the words that share meaning. They assumed that synonym refer to the same entity. If all features are the same, the words should be interchangeable. A look at the following sentences.

1. You are so *pretty/beautiful*
2. Wow, that kid so *smart/brainy*

Each pair of italic terms is synonymous in these cases. In (1), the words *pretty* and *beautiful* can be interchanged, but the sense of the statement stays the same. Similarly, in (2), *smart* and *brainy* can be interchanged without changing the sense of the sentence.

### 2. HOMONYMY AND POLYSEMY

ML Murphy. A Koskela (2006) stated that " In both polysemy and homonymy, a single word form is associated with multiple distinct meanings, but while in polysemy one lexical item has more than one related meaning, homonymy involves distinct lexical items and the meanings are not related".

BR Ayu (2021,p24) "Homonyms are two words that are spelled similar and sound similar but have different meanings. The word "homonym" comes from the prefix "homo-," which implies a similar, and also the suffix "-nym," which implies name. Therefore, a homonym could be a word that has a similar name as another word, meaning that the 2 words look and sound exactly a like".

3. The only mammals that can fly are bats.
- 4.I have two bats to play ping pong

Bats in (3) and (4) are homonyms. They are written in the same way and also pronounced the same, but they have different meanings. The meaning of the word bats in (3) is a nocturnal flying mammal. And the meaning of the word bats in (4) is an implement used to hit a ball.

BR Ayu (2021,p25) define polysemy as "a word or phrase with different, but related senses"

- 5.We had a good time yesterday.
6. Bring me a good banana.

In (5) good means something that Pleasurable, enjoyable, or satisfying. And in (6) good means delicious. The related meaning are that anything that has a good purpose that makes an positive impression.

Sometimes it is a little difficult to distinguish between homonymy and polysemy because the latter also involves a pair of words that are written and spoken the same way. Then what is the difference between the two ? According to Hurford et.al. (2007, p. 130) the distinction between homonymy and polysemy deals with the closeness or relatedness of the senses of between words. Thus, homonymy deals with different meanings, whereas polysemy deals with related meanings.

### 3. HYPONYMY

According to Saeed (2016) " Hyponymy is a relation of inclusion. A hyponymy includes the meaning of a more general word ". For instance, daisy and rose are hyponyms of flower also called a subtype or a subordinate term and its adjective is hyponymic.



Example of hyponymy can be seen from below :

**Subordinate**  
Animal

**Hyponym**  
Dog, Cat, Butterfly

## B. Sense Relations of Exclusions and Oppositen

The sense relations of a word can be seen from the opposite meaning .The discussion includes antonymy, complementaries, reversives, converses, and incompatibility.

### 1. ANTONYMY

Antonyms are words that have the exact opposite meaning. According to Indah Y (2020,p13) There are different ways in which one word is opposed to another word; that is, it is possible to identify different types of relationships under the general label of opposition. Simple antonyms. The positive of one term implies the negative of the other in this relationship. Binary or complementary pairs are terms used to describe these pairs. For example :

- Alive - dead (destiny of a person's alive and death only God knows).
- Pass - fail (maybe in this exam I failed but in the next opportunity I will definitely pass).
- a. Gradable antonyms. In this concept it is explained that the term antonymy refers to a relationship between opposites in which the positive of one term does not always imply the negative of the other. For example :
  - Hard - easy
  - Fast - slow

### 2. COMPLEMENTARIES

Complementary are related words that are absolute opposites. They are also known as direct antonyms or contradictory antonyms. They exist independently of one another and do not require the existence of the other term. "Night and day" and "inhale and exhale" are two examples of complementing antonyms. According Cruse (1995, p. 198-9) he stated that.he points "The essence of a pair of complementaries is that between them exhaustively divide some conceptual domain into two mutually exclusive compartments, so that what does not fail into one of the compartments must necessarily fall into the other." For example :

- off — on.
- night — day.
- entrance — exit.
- exterior — interior.
- true — false.
- dead — alive.
- push — pull.
- pass — fail.

### 3. REVERSIVES

Reversives are two words that have a reverse relationship. Reversives belong to a broader category of directional opposites which include straight forward directions such as :

- Up - Down
- Forward - Backwards
- Into - out of
- North - South



#### 4 CONVERSES

Converses, also known as relational antonyms in linguistics, are terms that refer to a connection from opposite perspectives, such as parent/child or borrow/lend. Because they have a "either/or" relationship, converses are sometimes referred to as complementing antonyms. For example :

- Parent and child
- Teacher and student
- Husband and wife
- Lend and borrow

#### 5. INCOMPATIBILITY

Incompatibility (or co-hyponymy) is the most general type of semantic relation between lexical items, the meaning of which entails exclusion. Such items fall under a superordinate term or concept and denote sets which have no members in common. In the situation of co-hyponyms, incompatibility occurs. Some sub-classes are members of the same superordinate, yet their relationships are incompatible. According to the theoretical approach, lexical units with a specific sense have an incompatibility relationship if they are under the same single superordinate. In a construction-based approach, concepts signified by lexemes or constructions fall into an incompatibility relationship if they come under a hyperonymous concept/notion. As a result, incompatibles are lexical elements that denote classes that do not share any members. They allude to mutual exclusivity within the same superordinate category, as in the three examples below:

##### Superordinate

Bird

Flowers

Fish

##### Incompatible hyponym

Eagle, Owl, Sparrows

Rose, Jasmine, Orchid

Shark, Whale, Dolphins

#### IV. CONCLUSION

A good way to begin thinking about semantic problems is to look at sense relations, how meanings of one expression (e.g. a word, phrase, sentence) relate to the meanings of other expressions. Learning semantics, or the study of language meaning, requires an understanding of sense relations. A word's meaning can be deduced from its similarities to other terms. It can, on the other hand, be studied from its polar opposites in other words.

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