THE MEANING OF VERB *FALLING* WITHIN BALINESE LANGUAGE SUBTYPE HAPPEN-MOVE: AN APPROACH OF NATURAL SEMANTIC METALANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT

Every language has its characteristic that diffentiates it from others. The Balinese language is one of the many languages in Indonesia that is still is use among the native speakers in Bali. This article primarily aims at analyzing the lexicons of the verb 'happen' which have the representative meaning of 'falling' within Balinese language. The data was collected from Balinese by direct observation through recording and note-taking. The data were analyzed qualitatively by applying the theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage. Natural Semantic Metalanguage was used to analyse the data since it is an invaluable descriptive tool for the analysis and contrastive study of meaning-related phenomena in all languages. The result of this study showed that there are several process verb lexicons 'falling" in Balinese language**:** *mageledag, ngetel, aas,* and *macemplung*. The findings indicate that lexicons 'falling' in the Balinese language has several different lexicons based on the entity and the process within them.

Keyword: Verb falling, Natural Semantic Metalanguage, Balinese language

ABSTRAK

Setiap bahasa memiliki karakteristiknya sendiri yang membuat bahasa tersebut berbeda satu dengan yang lainnya. Bahasa Bali merupakan salah satu dari sekian banyaknya bahasa daerah yang secara aktif masih di gunakan oleh penutur aslinya. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa leksikon-leksikon dengan dasar verba 'terjadi' yang memiliki makna "jatuh" dalam bahasa Bali. Metode pengambilan data dilakukan dengan mewawancarai dan mencatat percakapan dengan penutur asli bahasa Bali. Data dalam penelitian ini dianalisa melalui metode kualitatif dengan menggunakan pendekatan metabahasa semantik alami yang dapat mengurai makna-makna kecil dari setiap leksikon bermakna 'jatuh' dalam bahasa Bali. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan adanya beberapa leksikon yang merujuk pada satu makna 'jatuh' antara lain mageledag, ngetel, aas, *dan* macemplung. *Hasil penelitian menunjukan bahwa leksikon-leksikon 'jatuh' dalam Bahasa Bali memiliki perbedaan leksikon berdasarkan wujud dan proses pemakaian makna tersebut.*

Kata Kunci: *verba 'jatuh', Metabahasa Semantik Alami, Bahasa Bali*

1. INTRODUCTION

The discussion about linguistics is considered incomplete without talking about meaning, because communication through language is an attempt to convey the meanings. In other words, a speech becomes unacceptable if it has no meaning in it. Every speech in a language has a meaning that affirms the thoughts of the speaker to the listener. The lexicon categories that appear in the speech have their respective roles.

The Balinese language for its native speakers is the mother tongue used dominantly in their daily conversation. The verb lexicon has a very important role in every language, including Balinese. In each language, verbs are divided into three types: state verbs, process verbs, and action verbs. Sudipa (2005:6) stated that Balinese verbs like verbs in most languages are one of the main and complex central word classes. This is because Balinese verbs semantically determine the presence of arguments and can determine the role of semantic in every speech.

The verb 'falling' in Balinese language has several forms of lexicons that have distinctive characteristics of different meanings. The verbs have several different lexicon equivalents depending on their distribution in the sentence. The existence of different forms of verbs with the same meaning can also be influenced by the results that occur from the action of the verb. Therefore, the lexicons that may be produced by the verb 'falling' in the Balinese language become the basic reason for how this topic is very interesting. Verbs falling in Balinese have various forms with some distinguishing features.

2. METHODOLOGY

The source of data in this article is in the form of written text derived from observations through Balinese speakers by recording and note-taking. The data were analyzed by using the theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage (MSA) by Anna Wierzbicka (1972) in his book Semantic Primitives. The Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) Theory is recognized as an approach of semantic study that has the ability to produce a meaningful analysis of meaning. This is due to the technique of explication, a technique that the result of meaning analysis in a language has approached the basic assumption of semantic science which states that a single lexicon is able to define the meaning or in other words, one meaning is expressed by a single lexicon. This will prevent us from spinning the meaning of swirling against a lexicon (Sudipa, 2005: 139). The MSA theory is designed to explicate all the meaning of both lexical meaning, illocutionary meaning, as well as grammatical meanings. Theory can be used to explicate the meaning of verbs of the Balinese language especially the verb 'to fall'.

Moreover, MSA theory has a number of important theoretical concepts, which are (a) The Original Meaning, Semantic Primitives, (b) Aloleksi; (c) NSM syntax. In accordance, the original meaning is appropriate to be described in detail related to the verb 'falling' in the Balinese language to get a clear explanation of each lexicon. The original meaning is used to determine the complexity of the semantic structure of the verb 'falling' in the Balinese language with the technique of explication.

3. FINDINGS
3.1 *Mageledag*

Mageledag is one form of the verbs 'falling' in Balinese. The meaning of this lexicon is 'fall backward' or in other words 'falling backward where the head hit the floor/ground'. Seen from the configuration of its meaning, *mageledag*

refs to an animate entity that is a person (human), so it is not possible to say something falls with lexicon *'mageledag'*. Moreover, it is not appropriate to use the word *megeledag* to define the falling of one's animal. The process of this lexicon occurs in undeliberate conditions and situations, by means that the entity of the sentence does not want this activity to happen.

Example:
(3-1) *Nas yang é beseh ulian mageledag busan di natahé*
'My head is swollen because I've fallen backward in the yard'

(3-2)) *Suba orahin uling tuni apang tusing malaib-laiban, nyanan mageledag sirah'é*
'I have been told you for not running around, or you will fall backward with your head fall first then'

Both of the above examples show the entities that experience the action is *tendas (nas)* or *sirah* 'the human head'. The process of falling occurs in both lexicons is started by activity which is the human was moving (walking or running) and then fall with their heads hit the ground/floor. Physical and psychological results obtained in this lexicon are lumps, pain, swollen, or headache.

Explication:
X moves (backwards)
X moves onto something (ground, floor)
At that time, something happened to X
X thinks that:
Something bad happens to X
X felt that it was bad
X didn't want this
X move like this

3.2 *Ngetél*

This lexicon has a semantic field with the concept of falling. The lexicon *Ngetél* has the meaning of 'drip' or '*menetes*' in Indonesian. *Ngetél* is a lexicon that related to unanimated things in the form of liquid. Therefore, the process of falling into this lexicon will relate to something where they come from. The entity may be water that comes from a faucet/tap, tears from eyes, saliva from the mouth, or sweat from human body. The falling liquid is normally slight and lasts for a certain period. For example, tear or water from a leaking tap will fall continuously over a certain time.

Example:
(3-3) *Yéh di kamar mandi né ngetél uling ibi sanja ulian kran né bocor.*
'The water in the bathroom dripped from last night because the faucet was leaking'

Explication
Something happened to X (liquid: water, tears, saliva, sweat)
X moves (downwards)
X moves from something in little amount (faucet, eyes, mouth, body)
X moves for some time
X moves like this

3.3 *Aas*

The lexicon *aas* has an unanimated and light-matter as the entity such as hair, feathers, or fallen leaves from the tree. Besides, most of it occurs in the absence of the deliberate condition. The equivalent of this lexicon in Indonesian will vary according to the entity. The lexicon *aas* has the meaning of '*rontok'* in Indonesian if it is associated with entities such as hair or feathers, the other, the equivalent meaning in Indonesian for the leaf is *'gugur'*. This lexicon comes from a

particular source where its entity is derived before the process occurs. In simple words, the process of falling into this lexicon will relate to something where they come from. For example, the leaves are derived from tree branches, hairs fall from head, and fur that falls from animal parts of the body. The falling process in this lexicon can bring up the natural element due to natural factors.

Example:
(3-4) *Don né aas sawireh dibi ujan*
'The leaves fall due to the rain yesterday'
(3-5) *Bok né aas ulian sing taén mambuh*
'Her hair fall out because she never washes them'
(3-6) *Bulun kuluké aas ulian liu misi kelimpit*
'The dog's fur fall off because there are many lice'

Explication
Something happened on X
Because of this, X moves (down)
    X moves from something (head, body, tree)
X moves like this

3.4 *Macemplung*

Lexicon *macemplung* is a prcess verb that has a subtype of happening and move. The entities within this lexicon can be an animate and unanimated thing. The meaning of *macemplung* is 'falling into the water' or 'splashing'. Moreover, this lexicon leads to something unwanted by the entities since the action is an undeliberate condition. Additionally, the entity will become wet as a physical result of this lexicon.

Example:
(3-7) *Putu macemplung ka sisin telabahé ulian jalan né belig*

'Putu plunged into the river because the road is slippery'
(3-8) *Sabunné macemplung ka bak cuci piringé*
'The soap fell into the basin'

Explication
Something happened to X
    X moves (downwards)
    X moves into something (water)
Because of this, X thinks that:
    Something bad happened to X
    X felt that it was bad
X didn't want this
X moves like this

4. CONCLUSION

The use of the Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) approach is succeeded to determine the meaning of each lexicon which has slightly different meanings depends on the direction and process of how the concept of falling occurs. The theoretical approach of Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) is able to provide a clear illustration of the meaning within each lexicon.

The basic assumption of these two polysemic primal meanings makes the verbs 'falling' of Balinese language is categorized as process verbs with subtypes 'happen' and 'move'. The type exponent 'happen' and 'move': something happens on X, X moves (downwards). This lexicon is analyzed based on the component of the entity, the process of the verb activity, the direction as well as the physical result, and the psychological result as an additional component. The physical result of the lexicons can be a wound or bruises on the body and feeling hurt or in pain is the psychological result.

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