

# Shades of Meaning on *Mendengar* Group Synonym

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*Abstract--The accuracy of word choice and term is an important factor that determines the effectiveness of a sentence. Mistakes of words in a sentence often occur because speakers or authors do not understand the difference in shade of meaning in synonymous words. Many linguists are studying Indonesian synonyms, but no one has studied the nuances of the synonyms of mendengar (to hear) verbs group to the fullest. The mendengar (to hear) verbs group need to be reviewed because of their high usage frequency. This article was written to (1) explain the synonyms of mendengar/hearing' verbs group, (2) explain the type of synonym of mendengar/hearing verbs group. The data of this research are synonym of mendengar/hearing verbs group. The source of this research data is Indonesian formal and informal variety, both oral and written generated by Indonesian speakers. Based on the findings and discussion in this article, the following conclusions are summarized: (1) The mendengar 'hearing' verb has synonymous with 'menyimak 'listening', menyadap 'tapping', and menguping 'eavesdropping'. The type of synonym of those verbs are incomplete and not absolut. (2) the synonym of mendengar verbs group have meaning nuance in aspects of cognitive meaning and context of usage. Therefore, synonymous verbs mendengar 'to hear' can only be mutually substituted in certain context.*

**Keywords--synonyms, means nuance, verbs, Indonesian language**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia language is one of the latest means for glueing the unity of the Indonesian nation. In the 2013 curriculum, Indonesian serves as the carrier and the advocate of science (Kemendikbud, 2013, p. v-viii). Indonesian language should always be developed with due regard to the wisdom of National-Indonesia cultural values, as well as the development of science, technology, and art in order to fulfill that strategic function. One element of language that is sensitive to the development of socio-cultural values and science and technology is the word. In fact, the word is a coder of socio-cultural values of its user community and science and technology (Ermitati, 2014, p. 86-97). The meaning of the word is dynamic, ie it can change according to socio-cultural development, and science and technology (Manaf, 2015, p. 92-101). To speak effectively, speakers need to master the meaning of words used to act speech. There are no different words, but they are exactly the same even if they are synonymous. One of the most important categories of words in the sentence is the verb because it specifies other categories of words that can fill certain syntactic functions in a sentence (Alwi, 1988, p. 87-117).

The problem in this article is that there is no adequate explanation of the meaning of synonymous verbs in Indonesian. The problem of this research lies under the field of semantic science, the branch of linguistics that addresses the meaning of language (forms of language) without being associated with a nonlinguistic context. Semantic theory is mainly studied in this research is the theory of synonymy, meaning, verbs, and Indonesian.

The term *sininimi* in the Indonesian language is absorbed from the English language, namely synonymy. The word Synonymy in English comes from the Greek word 'onoma' and 'syn' with '. From the origin of the word, synonymous meaning is defined as another name for the same thing (Pateda, 2001, p. 222), (Chaer, 2009, p. 83), and (Manaf, 2010, p. 80). Furthermore, Cruse (1986, p. 265) explains that synonyms are pairs or groups of lexical items that bear a semblance of meaning between one another.

Pateda (2001, p. 222-223) provides the following three definitions or synonyms. First, synonymy is words with the same extra linguistic references, such as the word die and death. Second, words that contain the same meaning, for example the word tells and conveys. Third, the substitutable words in the same context, for example "We are trying to keep the development going. "We are trying to keep the development going." The word seeks synonymous with the word endeavor.

Based on the description of the theory, can be made limitations of synonymy in this study, namely synonymy is the relationship pattern of the meaning of lexical numbers of different shapes, but has the same meaning or similarity of meaning. Based on the description of the theory can also formulated the limitations or definitions of synonyms and synonyms. Synonymy is the name of a different kind of lexical meaning relationship, but the meaning is the same or similar. Synonyms are different lexical shapes, but their meaning is the same or similar. For example, if the word father is associated with the word father, the two words have a synonymous meaning relationship. Furthermore, the word father is a synonym of the word father and the word father also synonym from the word father.

The subject matter of this study is under the field of semantics. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that discusses meaning or meaning (Verhaar, 1996, p. 13). Leech (1983, p. 8-10) defines the semantics of how it works in understanding the meanings of language forms and then defining semantics as branches of the linguistic subsystem that understand the meanings of language forms that are not related to the nonlinguistic context. The unit of language studied a meaning from morpheme level, words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and even text.

Synonymy is one of the objects of semantic study. In the subject of meaning relation, the lexical reciprocal relationship with one another, there are studies of synonym, antonimi, homonimi, homophonic, homographic, hyponimi, hipernimi, meronimi, polysemic, ambiguity and redundancy relationships (Cruse 1986, p. 84-290), (Verhaar, 1996, p. 385-396) (Chaer, 2009, p. 83-110), (Ullmann, 2007, p. 175-247), and (Manaf, 2010, p. 80-99). When a lexical bumps into another lexical, it will form a certain meaning relation. One form of meaning relation is synonymy.

The results of research on synonyms conclude that the forms of the synonymous meanings are not the same in total. Between the synonymous lexical it has a sense of meaning (Ullmann, 2007, p. 175) and (Verhaar, 1996, p. 394-395). The conclusions of the two linguists can be clarified in the example of the Indonesian synonym, which is between dead and dead. Between said death and death have a common element of meaning, namely 'loss of life force', but there is still nuance difference. The dead word in the sentence I'm sorry for the death of your father felt rude. On the contrary, the word died in the sentence I am sorry for the death of your Father felt subtle. In addition, in certain sentence phrases, between the word die and death cannot replace each other. The word dead can be used in the sentences of the mango tree that I planted to death. Although the word died is synonymous with the word dead, but the word dies cannot substitute the word die in the sentence phrase The mango tree I planted died. Synonyms die and die have different nuances on taste value and use koteks.

Ullmann (2007, p. 177) explains that W.E. Collinson attempted to identify the degree of synonymous inter-ethical synonyms based on differences in the meanings of interactions between the following 9 aspects. (1) One word is more general than others: refuse - reject (Compare animals and animals). (2) One word is more intense than the other: repudiate - refuse (compare: observe and view). (3) One word may be more emotive than the other: reject -decline (Compare begs - asks). (4) One word may include moral acceptance or rejection or while others are neutral: thirty - economical (Compare almsgiving, economical-economical). (5) One word is more professional than others: desense - death (Compare research - research) (6) One word is more literary than others: passing - death (compare: mafhum - understand, flower - puspa, mother-thousand). (7) One more colloquial word (everyday) than the other: English turn down - refuse, (Compare: me - me). (8) One word is more local or dialect than the other; English Scots flesher - butcher (Compare lu - cave (Jakarta), you: me). (9) One of the synonyms includes childhood: daddy - father (Compare: mom - mother, mimic - drink.

Some of these classifications include several subsections, for example into (6) literary words that can be subdivided into poetic, proseist, arkhaic. In (7), collegial includes several variations such as familiar, slang, coarse language.

Still according to Ullmann (2007, p. 178), to know the level of synonymous inter-lexical can be done substitution test (recovery, replacement) recommended by Macaulay. This method is one of the fundamental procedures in modern linguistics and in the case of a cynical, this way will answer whether and how far the words that synonymous can be exchanged. Synonymous words can be exchanged in several contexts, but for certain contexts cannot. The concept can be made clear in the Indonesian example, ie the word for being synonymous with the word because in that case and therefore. In the context without cause and without \*, cause and cause \*, because and cause does not substitute each other.

Based on the degree of similarity of the elements of synonymous words, Lyons (p. 1981: 148) classifies synonyms into two types, ie perfectly synonymous words and absolute synonyms. Words are classified synonymous perfectly if they contain the same descriptive, expressive, and social meanings. Rather, words are classified as synonymous in absolute terms if they have the same and perfectly meaningful distribution in their presence in all contexts.

The word in Indonesian is grouped or categorized based on semantic features and syntactic characteristics. Alwi et al (1998, p. 87-117) grouped Indonesian words into 6 categories of words, namely *verbs*, *nouns*, *adjectives*, *adverbs*, *numerals*, and *task words*. Task categories include conjuncers, prepositions, particles, and articles.

The research of synonyms of Indonesian words that have been done and related to this research, among others, research conducted by Manaf (p. 1995 and p. 2015), Darmoyuwono (p. 2011), and (Ermitati, p. 2014)

Manaf (p. 1995) examines the degree of synonymous vocabulary of Indonesian Indonesian word dead groups. The data source of this research is Indonesian oral and written, both formal and non-formal variety performed by Indonesian speakers in Padang City. The research is conducted based on qualitative approach based on semantic theory especially sinonimi. The results of this study are as follows. The word die, died, died, died, died, died, and died is synonymous. The degree of synonym of words is generally synonymous and incomplete, a small synonym of complete, but not absolute.

Darmoyuwono (p. 2011) examines the vocabulary of the culture in the first person singular pronoun I, in Indonesian, Javanese, Batak, Bugis-Makasar, and Chinese. The first person pronoun I am is polysemy if used by people

of different cultural background. Language analysis is done by semantic metabahasa. The analysis of the vocabulary of this cultural realm can show the difference in meaning culturally so as to prevent misunderstanding in communication.

Ermitati (p. 2014) examines Indonesian vocabulary and Indonesian culture. The study shows that Indonesian vocabulary is an Indonesian cultural code. The research data is analyzed by dynamic model theory. From this research, it can be concluded there are three types of language form that encode the Indonesian culture, namely the pronouns of both singular and plural person, leksem euphemism, and idiomatic leksem. Manaf (p. 2015) examines the dynamics of vocabulary use in Indonesian literary works. The research data is the vocabulary used in Indonesian novels. The source of this research data are Indonesian novels that get high appreciation from the readers. In the 1970s and 1980s, the author of Indonesian novels mostly used the words, terms, and local phrases when the word, the term is synonymous in the Indonesian language. The tendency to use such vocabulary in Indonesian novels, suggests that Indonesians are worried about losing their local culture due to the insistence of national culture and foreign cultures. They want to be Indonesian, but not to lose their cultural values.

The research relationship that has been described with the research that will be done is equally examine the vocabulary of Indonesian language. The difference of that research with the research that will be done is the previous research is generally studying the use of vocabulary in communication process in society. This research will study the synonyms of Indonesian vocabulary with focus on the verbs group of *mendengar* 'to hear'.

The purpose of writing this article is as follows: (1) explains the synonyms of *mendengar* „to hear“ verbs group in Indonesian, (2) explains the nuances of meaning in the synonym, (3) explains the degree of synonym of the *mendengar* „to hear“ verb.

## II. METHODS

This study was a qualitative study with descriptive method. The data of this study were a group of verbs heard in Indonesian sentences. The data source of this study was the formal and informal Indonesian text, both oral and written. This study was conducted in 2018 in Padang, West Sumatra.

The object of this study was the synonym of the *mendengar* „to hear“ verb. The data of this study were the results of document studies, introspection of researchers, and survey questions about the *mendengar* „to hear“ verb group and synonyms. The data source of this research is formal or informal texts, both oral and written generated Indonesian speakers in Padang, West Sumatra. The instrument of this research is researcher using recording format, and observation, and survey question.

Data was collected through document study, observation, introspection, and survey question; it was analyzed by using data analysis technique according to Miles and Huberman, i.e. data reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing. In data reduction, the activities of identification of the verbs of the sensory activities of the Indonesian language are synonymous. To define a synonymous verb, a verb having the same general meaning is grouped. Verbs in one group, placed in the same one. Two or more words whose meanings are the same or relatively similar and may mutually replace each other in the same sentence phrase are synonyms. Conversely, two words or more whose meanings are not the same or can not be mutually exciting in a same sentence context are not synonymous. Non-synonymous Verb Groups are excluded from the study data group. At the presentation stage, data are grouped by their respective synonyms, synonyms (1) incomplete and not absolute, complete synonyms, but not absolute, and complete and absolute synonyms. The clustering of the synonym rate is done based on the component analysis of meaning and the mutual recoverability test in the same kotex. At the inference stage, abstraction of research findings and discussion in the form of statements of research results.

## III. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Synonyms and Shade of Meaning of *Mendengar* Verbs Group

Synonyms and Nuance of Meaning of Verb Group of Ear activity Based on the two indicators, namely (1) the similarity of meaning and (2) the ability to replace each other in a similar contexts with the same relative meaning, found the type of synonym and nuance of the meaning of *mendengar* verbs group in Indonesian is the following.

*Mendengar* = *Menyimak*

The element of general meaning and the special meaning elements of *mendengar* “hearing“ and *menyimak* „listening“ can be seen as follow.

Table 1. Elements of Meaning of *Mendengar* and *Menyimak*

Element of Meaning	<i>mendengar</i>	<i>menyimak</i>
• RESPONDING OBJECT WITH EARS	+	+
• DONE WITH OPEN	+	+
• CONDUCTED WITH ADOLESCENT	±	+
• INTENSIVE DONE	-	+

Based on the element of meaning in table 1, *mendengar* and *menyimak* are synonymous because they have the same element of meaning, that is *MERESPON OBJEK DENGAN TELINGA* „RESPONDING OBJECT WITH EARS“ and *DONE WITH OPEN*. Hence, *mendengar* and *menyimak* can be interchangeable in the same context as examples (1) and (2).

- (1) Kami *mendengar* berita pertandingan sepak bola antara Indonesia dan Thailand dari televisi.  
„We are **hearing** the news of football matches between Indonesia and Thailand from television.“
- (2) Kami *menyimak* berita pertandingan sepak bola antara Indonesia dan Thailand dari televisi.  
„We are **listening** to football news between Indonesia and Thailand from television.“

Although *mendengar* and *menyimak* is synonymous, but there are nuances of meaning between the two synonyms, that is, *mendengar* contain elements of meaning *DONE IN COULD OR NOT* and *done NORMAL* while *menyimak* has the element of meaning *DIRECTLY AND INTENTFULLY DONE*. Hence, *mendengar* and *menyimak* are classified as incomplete synonyms.

Nuance of meaning that resulted in listening and listening can only replace in certain contexts only. Examples (3) and (4), in the basic form + text form, *mendengar* and *menyimak* can not be replaced each other.

- (3) Kami sedang *mendengarkan* siaran berita dari Radio Republik Indonesia.  
„We are hearing to news broadcasts from Radio Republik Indonesia.“
- (4) Kami sedang *menyimakkan* siaran berita dari Radio Republik Indonesia!\*

„We are listening news from Radio Republik Indonesia! \*“  
In the context of the basic form + *me-kan*, *mendengarkan* and *menyimakkan* can not be replaced each other. In the context, *mendengarkan* is acceptable, but the *menyimakkan* is unacceptable. Therefore, *mendengar* and *menyimak* is not an absolute synonym.

Based on the criteria of the kind of similarity of meaning and the criteria of ability to replace each other in the same context, *mendengar* and *menyimak* have an equally incomplete element of meaning and can only replace each other in certain contexts only. Therefore, the kind of Synonym of *mendengar* and *menyimak* is classified as incomplete and not absolute synonym.

#### ***Mendengar = Menguping***

The element of general meaning and the special meaning elements of *mendengar* „hearing“ and *menguping* „eavesdropping“ verbs can be seen in table 2.

Table 2. Elements of Meaning of *Mendengar* and *Menguping*

<b>Element of Meaning</b>	<b>Mendengar</b>	<b>Menguping</b>
• <b>RESPONDING OBJECT WITH EARS</b>	+	+
• <b>DONE WITH OPEN</b>	±	+
• <b>CONDUCTED WITH ADOLESCENT</b>	+	-
• <b>INTENSIVE DONE</b>	-	+

- (3) Saya *mendengar* pembicaraan Ayah dan Ibu tentang rencana pernikahan kakak.
- (4) Saya *menguping* pembicaraan Ayah dan Ibu tentang rencana pernikahan kakak.

Based on the meaning element in table 2, *mendengar* and *menguping* are synonymous because they have the same meaning element, that is *RESPONSE OBJEK WITH EARS*. Therefore, *mendengar* and *menguping* can replace each other in the same contexts as examples (5) and (6).

- (5) Saya *mendengar* pembicaraan Ayah dan Ibu tentang rencana pernikahan kakak.  
„I heard my mom and dad talk about my sister's wedding plans.“
- (6) Saya *menguping* pembicaraan Ayah dan Ibu tentang rencana pernikahan kakak.  
„I eavesdropping Father and Mother talk about your sister's wedding plans.“

Although *mendengar* and *menguping* is synonymous, but there is a nuance of meaning between the two synonyms, that is, *mendengar* „hearing“ contains the element of meaning *DONE IN COULD OR NOT*, *DONE WITH OPEN*, and *NORMAL* while *menguping* „eavesdropping“ has the element of meaning *INDIRECTLY*, *CLOSED*, and *INTENSIVE*. Therefore, *mendengar* and *menguping* are incomplete synonyms.

Nuance of meaning that result, *mendengar* and *eavesdropping* can only replace in certain contexts only. Examples (7) and (8), in the basic form + *pe-an*, *mendengar* and *menguping* can not replace each other.

(7) Tolong, suaranya agak dikeraskan karena *pendengaran* saya sedang terganggu!  
 „Please, his voice is a bit hardened because my hearing is terganggu!“

(8) Tolong, suaranya agak dikeraskan karena *pengupingan* saya sedang terganggu!\*  
 „Please, his voice is somewhat hardened because my grownup is terganggu!\*“

In the context of the basic form + *pe-an*, *pendengaran* and *pengupingan* can not replace each other. In that context, *pendengaran* may be acceptable, but *pengupingan* is unacceptable. Therefore, *mendengar* and *peengupingan* is a synonym is not absolute.

Based on the criteria of the degree of similarity of meaning and the criteria of the ability to replace each other in the same cotext *mendengar* and *menguping* have in common the elements of meaning that are incomplete and can only replace each other in certain contexts only. Therefore, the degree of synonym of the word *mendengar* and *menguping* is incomplete and not absolute.

### Menyadap = menguping

The element of general meaning and the special meaning element of the verb *menyadap* „tapping“ and *menguping* „eavesdropping“ can be seen in table 3.

Table 3. Elements of Meaning of *Menyadap* and *Menguping*

Element of Meaning	<i>menyadap</i>	<i>menguping</i>
• RESPONDING OBJECT WITH EARS	+	+
• DONE IN ACCOMMODATION	+	+
• DONE IMPLIED / HIDDEN	+	+
• DILAKUKAN SECARA INTENSIF	+	+
• DONE PROFESSIONALLY	+	-
• VARIOUS FORMAL LANGUAGES	+	-

Based on the elements of meaning in table 3, *menyadap* „tapping“ and *menguping* „eavesdropping“ is synonymous because it has the same element of meaning, that is RESPONSE A OBJEK WITH EARS, DONE HARM/HIDDEN, and INTENSIF. Therefore, *menyadap* and *menguping* can replace each other in the same contexts as examples (9) and (10).

(9) Polisi *menyadap* pembicaraan sekelompok orang yang akan melakukan perampokan.

„Police intercepted the conversation of a group of people who would commit a robbery.“

(10) Polisi *menguping* pembicaraan sekelompok orang yang akan melakukan perampokan.

„The police overheard the conversation of a group of people who will commit a robbery.“

Although *menyadap* and *menguping* are synonymous, but there are nuances of meaning between the two synonyms, ie *menyadap* contains the element of meaning DONE PROFESSIONALLY AND DIFFERENT LANGUAGE FOR FORMAL SITUATION while *menguping* has the element of meaning DONE NOT PROFESSIONAL AND VARIOUS LANGUAGE FOR SITUATION NOT FORMAL. Therefore, *menyadap* and *menguping* are incomplete synonyms.

Nuance of meaning that result, tapping and eavesdropping can only replace in certain koteks only. Examples (11) and (12), in the basic form + **ter**, *tersadap* and *terkuping* can not replace each other.

(11) Pembicaraan tersangka koruptor dengan hakim pemimpin sidang pengadilan *tersadap* oleh KPK.

„Discussion of a corrupt suspect with a court of justice judge intercepted by the KPK.“

(12) Pembicaraan tersangka koruptor dengan hakim pemimpin sidang pengadilan *terkuping* oleh KPK.

„Talks of corrupt suspects with judges of court leaders eavesdropped by KPK.“

In the context of the basic form + *ter-*, *tersadap* and *menguping* can not be replaced each other. In the context, *menyadap* can be grateful, but *terkuping* unacceptable. Therefore, *menyadap* and *menguping* is a synonym is not absolute.

## IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and discussion in this paper, summarized as follows. The Verbs group of *mendengar* „hearing“ are synonyms with *menyimak* „listening“, *menguping* „eavesdropping“, and *menyadap* „tapping“ because they have a common meaning and can be replaced each other in the same context. The verbs group of *mendengar* are synonymous with an incomplete and not absolute type. The nuances of the synonymous meaning of *mendengar* verbs group have the different aspects of cognitive meaning and / or usage context. Nuance of the synonym meaning of the *mendengar* verb make synonyms that can replace each other only in certain koteks.

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