

Semantic Interference in the Malay Language of Ambon in the Event of Adolescents OSM Speaking from the Sub-District of Nusaniwe in Ambon City

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the phenomenon of semantic interference in Ambon Malay as used by OSM adolescents in Nusaniwe District, Ambon City. Employing a qualitative descriptive approach, the research focuses on verbal data collected from two adolescents through observation, interviews, and video recordings. Data were analyzed using an interactive model encompassing data reduction, display, and conclusion drawing. The findings reveal that adolescents' daily interactions are strongly influenced by their mother tongue (Ambon Malay), cultural conceptions, and the integration of foreign language elements, while their awareness of using Indonesian remains limited. Among the three theoretical categories of semantic interference—semantic extension, additive semantic interference, and replacive semantic interference—only semantic extension interference was found in the speech of the respondents. This indicates that the meaning of words in Indonesian is often expanded or shifted under the influence of Ambon Malay, resulting in deviations from standard usage. The study highlights the dominant role of Ambon Malay in everyday discourse, particularly among adolescents, and suggests that this linguistic behavior reflects broader sociolinguistic dynamics in Ambon City, where regional languages and cultural practices play a significant role in shaping communication patterns.

Keywords: *Interference, Semantic, Speech, Ambon Malay Language*



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INTRODUCTION

Language is pivotal in societal life; it serves as a medium for communication among individuals and facilitates the transmission of messages between speakers and listeners. If the listener communicates a message to the speaker in a language that the listener does not comprehend, then the communication is devoid of significance. Currently, the Indonesian language appears to be overlooked due to the prevalent usage of regional languages in everyday discourse, often referred to as "market language," as well as the pervasive impact of Western culture, which inadvertently leads language users to occasionally neglect Indonesian. This results in discrepancies in word meaning during speech, referred to as semantic interference. Suwito (1985:39-40) asserts that when a single speaker employs two or more languages interchangeably, it indicates that these languages are in communication. In every instance of language contact, a process of reciprocal influence occurs between languages. Consequently, interference will manifest in both spoken and written forms. Bilingualism arises from knowledge with multiple languages resulting from language contact. In addition to language interaction, Weinrich (in Sukardi 1999:4) identifies limited vocabulary as a cause of interference, particularly in relation to advancement and creativity. Furthermore, there exists the obsolescence of infrequently utilized vocabulary, the necessity for synonyms, and the esteem associated with the source language. The speakers' bilingualism and their limited allegiance to the receiving language also contribute to interference. The role of language in human existence is crucial; nonetheless, its speakers often fail to comprehend this significance, leading to an underappreciation of how language may transform a culture. Semantic interference in verbal communication frequently arises among adolescents due to causes including the impact of regional dialects and the incorporation of other languages. Ambon Malay is the primary language employed in daily discourse by the majority of residents in Ambon city. Ambon Malay is profoundly embedded in its speakers, particularly adolescents, resulting in infrequent usage of second languages (Indonesian) in everyday discourse. A cultural effect exists within the community, resulting in the frequent incorporation of loanwords in talks, however .

The reason the author chose this title for research is because the researcher observed that the use of Ambon Malay is very dominant in daily conversations, and Indonesian is almost never used in conversations, not only by teenagers but by all segments of society. That is why the researcher chose the title above. From the initial observations conducted by the researcher in the OSM area, the main cause of semantic interference in speech events is the influence of using Ambon Malay in daily speech by teenagers in OSM. The observation results obtained by the researcher from two correspondents, namely Febi and Ine Rumfudi, indicate that semantic interference occurs because Ambon Malay is always used in daily conversations.

The researcher seeks to better explore the phenomenon of semantic interference in the Ambon Malay language during the speech events of OSM young. The objective of this research is to elucidate the semantic interference of the Ambon Malay language in the speech events of OSM adolescents in the Nusaniwe District of Ambon City.

METHODS

This research design is grounded in the descriptive research framework established by Moleong. Descriptive research is articulated in words rather than numbers, corresponding with the utilization of qualitative research methodologies. (Moleong, 2006:6). The research design specifies that the researcher serves as the principal instrument, as the researcher is the major data collector in this study. Consequently, the researcher's identity must be explicitly acknowledged by the research subjects to ensure the seamless progression of the study. The investigation was conducted at the OSM military dormitory located in Wainutu Village, Nusaniwe District, Ambon City. The research data comprised verbal accounts from the narratives of adolescents in the Opleiding School Maritim (OSM) military dormitory, with the data sources acquired by the author originating from two adolescents dwelling at OSM, specifically Febi and Ine. The researcher employed data gathering approaches such as observation, interviews, field notes, recordings, and documentation. The research methodologies employed include observation, interviews, field notes, recordings, and documentation. This qualitative research use the interactive data analysis model technique for data analysis.

Miles and Huberman (2003:16-20) assert this analytical paradigm possesses two notable characteristics: analysis conducted during data collection and analysis performed subsequent to data collection. Post-data collection analysis approaches encompass three stages: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. The data findings acquired during the investigation must be assessed for validity. Triangulation is the method employed to assess data veracity, utilizing external sources for comparison or verification against the data (Moleong, 2000:178). Additionally, the data analysis for this research employed source triangulation and theory triangulation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher collected data from two teens who consented to participate as subjects in the study on semantic interference of Ambon Malay during speech events among OSM youths. The researcher gathered data through video recordings and field notes. The video recordings were captured during a casual conversation between the two youngsters. All data was documented by the researcher via video recordings and subsequently examined by the researcher. Each statement made by the two teens can be classified under the categories of semantic interference, which encompass: Semantic expansive interference. This phrase refers to the borrowing of cultural notions and aspects from the source language; (b) Semantic interference through addition (semantic additive interference). This interference transpires when a new form emerges alongside the old form, although the new form deviates from its original meaning; (c) Replacive semantic interference. This interference transpires when a novel conceptual meaning supplants the exis

1. Conversation Transcript

Recording Data 1

Day: Thursday, September 4, 2016 Location: OSM/Living room

Context:

The dialogue occurred post-lunch and involved two participants. Their discussion occurred in advance of the GPM Anniversary and exemplifies semantic hindrance of growth, as they predominantly utilized the Ambon Malay language. The above dialogue illustrates an informal context in which cultural notions are appropriated, highlighting the transformations that arise as individuals perpetually engage and communicate across cultures, resulting in cultural alterations that underpin the assumptions of cultural exchange theory. This data was gathered during a conversation between Ine Rumfudi and Febi regarding yesterday's topic, as they prepared to observe the marching competition celebrating GPM's anniversary. This data exemplifies semantic interference of expansion, as Ambon Malay predominates in the dialogue between Ine and Febi.

Ine: *HUT GPM (gereja protestan Maluku), seng ada pertandingan bola Kaki ka?* (For the anniversary of GPM (Protestant Church of Maluku), is there no soccer match?)

Febi: *Seng ada* (None)

Ine: *Iyo e, beta suka nonton dong main volli e* (I like watching volleyball).

Febi: *Barang se tau maeng volli ka?* (Can you play volleyball?)

Ine: *Beta tau main volli* (I can play volleyball).

Febi: *Bai jua* (I can also play volleyball).

Ine: *Kamareng se pi nonton baris seng?* (Did you go watch the parade yesterday?)

Febi: *Beta pi nonton, se pi kaseng?* (I'm going, are you going?)

Ine: *Beta pi tapi sampe lai su mulai* (I went, but when I got there, the race had already started).

Febi: *Barang kanapa?* (Why are you late?)

Ine: *Gara-gara beta tunggu beta pung kaka, beta sms dia seng balas, beta telpon dia seng angkat, ahirnya beta pi sandiri* (The reason is, I was waiting for my brother, I texted him but he didn't reply, I called him but he didn't answer, so I finally went alone). Febi: *Lalu?* (So?)

Ine: *Beta marah jua, paling binci bagitu e* (Yes, I'm very angry, I don't like that kind of thing).

Febi: *Orang banya ka? Rame?* (Who's watching? Many people? And crowded?)

Ine: *Orang paleng banya, deng paleng rame, paleng*

cape, barangpanas jadi (There were so many people watching, and it was very crowded. I'm so tired because it was too hot).

Febi: *Kamareng se pulang jam barapa?* (What time are you going home?)

Ine: *Beta pulang su malam* (I'm going home late).

Recording Data 2

Day: Thursday, September 8, 2016 Location: OSM/House terrace

Context:

This interaction is taking place while Ine Rumfudi is conversing with Febi about her college issues. This discourse fits under semantic extension interference, as it is extremely obvious in both speakers' utterances that they are more likely to employ Ambon Malay than faultless Indonesian. Because there is borrowing of cultural notions and components from the source language, the discussion above represents an informal environment where Ine and her friend are comfortable, and it is apparent that the function of their mother tongue (Ambon Malay) is significant in their discourse.

Ine: *Kawan ale pung kuliah bagaimana?* (Febi, how's your college going?)

Febi: *Beta pung kuliah lancar sa, kalo ale?* (My studies are going well, how about yours?)

Ine: *Bai jua, beta lai, beta pung kuliah lancar sa, katong kuliah skarang harusbai-baik kasiang katong pung orang tatua to, dong karja stenga mati cuma par katong kuliah* (Alright, my studies are going well too. We're studying seriously now, it's a shame. Our parents work so hard, we have to appreciate their efforts).

Febi: *Itu sudah kawan, kasian katong pung orang tatua karja stengahmati, jadi katong harus hargai dong pung karingat to* (Yes, that's right, friends. Our parents work so hard for us, we should appreciate their efforts).

Ine: *makanya itu kawan, katong musti kuliah bai-bai to, supaya katong pung orang tatua sanang* (That's why, friends, we have to study seriously, so that our parents will be happy).

Febi: *Beta setuju skali kawan* (Absolutely right, friend).

Next, still on the same day, Febi invited Ine to the market.

Ine: *Ine, katong pi pasar, mari!* (Ine, let's go to the market!)

Febi: *Pasar mana?* (Which market are you going to?)

Ine: *Pasar Mardika* (Mardika Market)

Febi: *Pi bikin apa kawan?* (What are we going to the market for, friend?)

Ine: *Pi lia-lia baju* (Let's go look at clothes).

Febi: *Ayo, go* (Let's go)

Ine: *Beta baganti dolo e* (I'll go change my clothes first).

Febi: *Ok kawan, nanti panggil beta e* (Okay friend, call me when you're done).

Ine: *Ya* (Okay)

The discourse above includes semantic extension interference since there is borrowing of cultural notions and also parts of the original language. The chat above illustrates an informal environment when Ine and her buddy are relaxed. The dialog above reveals that the mother tongue (Ambon Malay) plays a major role in their discourse, but there is also the usage of foreign languages in their conversation, which indicates the cultural influence inherent in the language- using group.

Recording Data 3

Day: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 Location: OSM/Living room

Context:

This conversation was taken while Ine was chatting with Febi about the fight that happened in their residential complex. The conversation above includes semantic interference of extension because there is borrowing of cultural concepts

and also elements of the source language. The conversation above describes an informal situation; Ine and her friend are relaxed, and it is evident that their mother tongue (Ambon Malay) plays an important role in their conversation.

Ine: *Febi, kamareng se lia orang bakalai seng?* (Febi, did you see people fighting yesterday?)

Febi: *Dong bakalai di mana?* (Where did the fight happen?)

Ine: *Di pante kawan, paling rame e* (It happened on the beach, it was very crowded).

Febi: *Iyo ka? Sapa yang bakalai kawan?* (Who's fighting, friends?)

Ine: *Beta seng tau lai sapa yang bakali, barang beta pi lia orang yang bakalai suseng ada* (I don't know either, because when I went there, the people who were fighting were already gone).

Febi: *Beta seng tau ada orang bakalai e* (I didn't know there were people fighting.)

Ine: *Kamareng ale pi mana barang?* (Where did you go yesterday?)

Febi: *Kamareng beta pi benteng* (Yesterday I went to the fort).

Ine: *Ale pi deng sapa?* (Who are you going with?)

Febi: *Beta pi sandiri* (I'm going alone).

CONCLUSION

From the results of this study, the researcher acquired data thru interviews, video recordings, and recording notes. All the data gathered by the researcher in the Nusaniwe District OSM was then examined by the researcher. Among the two respondents identified at the research site with two teens (Ine and Febi), it was found that each utterance of the two teenagers could be characterized as semantic interference. Semantic interference in speech events typically arises because teens are already influenced by cultural conceptions, mother tongues, and the usage of foreign languages in daily talks, as well as a lack of understanding among teenagers regarding the use of Indonesian in everyday conversations. Therefore, the researchers found three types of semantic interference, and only one type of semantic interference was used, which was semantic interference via extension, found from the research data.

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