

ANALYSING LEXICAL RELATIONS IN ROGER'S WORLD CLASS READINGS 1: SEMANTIC PERSPECTIVE

¹Apandi, ²Oon Suzana Rahman, ³Herlina
aapandi5@gmail.com
Universitas Swadaya Gunung Jati Cirebon

Abstract

This study deals with semantics analysis of lexical relations of Roger's Wordclass Readings 1 book. The aim of this study is to identify the most lexical relations dominantly involved, and to find out the way the students find out the meanings of words.. The writers applied textual qualitative research methodology from Smith (2017). This is due to the importance of lexical relations as the source of meanings to comprehend the text. Thus, the semantic theory used in this research is from Saeed (2009). The findings are 1) lexical relation that is dominantly used is synonymy; 2).the way the students found the meanings are a. by looking up dictionary; b) finding the similar word based on context; c.finding the explanation or expansion through paraphrasing in the text. The findings are hopefully useful and give contribution both learners and lecturers, and readers in general.

Keywords: *lexical, metaphors, semantics, reading*

Introduction

Semantics plays a very important role in learning English, especially for comprehension both written or spoken form. As Stringer (2019) stated that semantics is the study of how language is used to represent meaning. Furthermore, Rahman (2015) states that the main target of semantics is the construction of a general theory of meaning; for example: the words of a language are constructed into phrases or sentences to convey a meaning to the reader of the written word or the listener of the spoken word. Therefore, to know the meaning of words is really important especially when we learn foreign languages.

In relation to the meaning of words, one element of semantics we learn lexical relations as the subfield of semantics that means the relations among words (Yule, 2010:104). Lexical relations consists of: synonymy that is words or expressions that have the same meaning in some or all contexts; antonyms words or phrases which are opposite meaning with respects to some components of their meaning; polysemy is a term refers to a word that has a set of different meaning which are related by extension and evoked

if the senses are judged to be related; homonymy is the form of meaning refers to two different referent; homophony is a sound refers to the two forms and two different referents; hyponymy is a relation of inclusion; meronymy is a term used to describe a part – whole relationship between lexical items; adult-young relations; similar relation holds between male and female pairs (Saeed, 2009: 65).

In the teaching learning process these lexical relations can be learned under the subject vocabulary. Understanding the reading text is very important. This is one reason why students must learn vocabularies coverings lexical relations mentioned above because it is a must for them to know the meaning of words used in the reading text and it will help them to comprehend the texts. that learners acquire adequate vocabulary to be able to read and comprehend academic text well. Besides, it is also stated that vocabulary knowledge is a vital component to be considered in enhancing reading comprehension.

Following Malik's statements (2018) that lexical relations might be considered an efficient way in understanding the exact meaning of the word and how it is related to other words within the English sentences. Moreover, in communication, lexical relation can also be considered an effective way in explaining the meaning of words in various ways. Thus, a better communication might be achieved.

To get better understanding about lexical relations, the writers provide some previous studies. Firstly, the study that was conducted by Rosmaidar and Purnamasari who conducted the research entitled: "Lexical Relation Used in Jason Mraz' song Lyrics" (2011). The similarity is analysing the lexical. The difference is the object of the study, they analyzed the song lyric of Jason Mraz, but the writers is Roger's World Class Reading's 1, another difference is the writers apply qualitative textual analysis, while Rosmaidar and Purnamasari applied qualitative descriptive research methodology. Secondly, the research conducted by Danglli entitled "*Units of Synonymy and Lexical Relations.*" This research conducted to show that a thorough analysis of synonymy requires the analysis of the interrelationship between lexical relation and the other types. Thus, this research analysed lexical relation that focused on the synonymy as a semantic units of lexical relation. The third previous study is executed by Mukhalad

Malik entitled: “ The The Significance of The use of Lexical Relations in English Language”(2017). The researcher of this study conducted the surveys to find out the most important and the most basic kinds of lexical relations. Based on the previous study previously explored, it can be concluded that the research on lexical relations have become a prospective and interesting field to be conducted with different aims and different fields using suitable research methodology.

Methods

This research applies qualitative textual analysis that is a method to examine message as they appear through a variety of mediums. The data provided for textual analysis originated from documents, films, newspapers, paintings, web pages, and so forth. These type of data regarded as the texts that are analysed and used to asses meanings, values, and messages being sent through them (Smith: 2017). The data of the research are taken from Roger’s World Class Reading one under the section Vocabulary Preview to find out the type of lexical relations that are mostly used in that book, and to know the way the students find the meanings.

Results and discussion

Based on the examples of the data analysis below.

Robots do various jobs today. They are often used in manufacturing. They paint and assemble cars and put together electronic devices.

The above statements are taken from the reading text (unit 1). Then, the students must find the synonym of the word *manufacturing* by choosing the right answer from three options,as the following example:

2. *Manufacturing* means..
- (A) making art
 - (B) moving things
 - (C) making things in factories.

In this case, students must understand the meaning of manufacturing by looking up the dictionary, then they can make a choice. In another case students must find the answer from the above reading text such as follow:

3. Circle the phrase that has the same meaning as *assemble*

Assemble means *put together*.

In this case, it is easier for the students because the answer are already in the text.

4. *Devices* are ...
(A) computer program
(B) tracks and heavy vehicles
(C) small machines

After reading the text provided the students can guess the right answer, that is *small machines*. These are the way the students find the meanings of words, they look up the meaning of words by using dictionaries, or finding from the reading texts in the form a phrase or lexis.

The result of the above analysis is to answer one of two research questions, namely the way the students find out the meanings. The first, the students should look up their dictionary to find out the meaning of words, the they can make a choice of the three options. Second, the students can guess the meaning of words or phrases from the reading texts, they can find the answer in the form of phrases involved in the reading text. The way to find the meaning like this regards to be easier for them. As proposed by Juliana (2017) cited in Buslon and Alieto (2019) that one of the seven ways of inferring meaning is guessing the unfamiliar word meaning from local context (sentence level). The third, the synonyms are provided also in the reading text through negation by not or prefix like un..., e.g. blind means unable to see.

The other finding is to answer the second research question that is the most lexical relations dominantly used. Based on the result of the analysis, the lexical relation that is dominantly used is synonymy. There direct synonymy consisted of 47 and this is equal to 38,09 %; while synonymy by expansion or paraphrasing consisted of 76 that means 60,31%, and 2 antonyms that equals to 1,56 %. Totally it is 99,86 or it can be regarded as 100%.

Conclusion

There are various type of lexical relations which means that the meanings of words can be studied, explained and analysed in terms of their relation with other words. The

notion of synonymy has been largely investigated by several researchers. In general, synonyms are defined as the similarity of meaning which can be identified by the use of substitution. In addition, there are no real synonym. It is also stated by Saeed (2009: 65) that true or exact meanings are very rare. Thus, words having exactly the same meaning, but rather partial and near or closer- synonyms which means expressions that are more or less similar, but not identical (Lyons, 1995:60, Cruse (1986:265) as cited in Malik (2017). Therefore, there is the term synonym by expansion or paraphrasing to find the closest meaning, and direct synonym that is one word has one word synonym, but it does not have exactly the same meaning, sometimes it is defined based on context.

Roger's Word Class Readings 1 is a well-organized book, it means that this book is a well-planned. Synonyms are regarded to be the most dominantly used that consist of more synonym by expansion or paraphrasing. This is due to reach the goal to make the students easy to understand the reading texts.

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