

# DISCOVERING SEMANTIC CHANGES IN SELECTED NEWS ARTICLES FROM THE JAKARTA POST

ASA SUKMA RANI

171010600472  
ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify the types and factors of semantic changes in The Jakarta Post articles. The Jakarta Post is the name of the Indonesian English-language national newspaper headquartered in Jakarta. The Jakarta Post newspaper is published by PT Bina Media Tenggara. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method using two theories, namely the theory of Leonard Bloomfield (1933), to find the type of change in meaning and the theory of Stephen Ullman (1983) to dissect the factors causing the change in meaning. The result showed that there are seven types of meaning changes contained in 34 words in the selected articles of The Jakarta Post. The seven types of meaning change include meaning expansion, meaning narrowing, metaphor, litotes, metonymy, hyperbole, and pejorative. Furthermore, some of the factors contained in the selected news articles are the linguistic cause, psychological cause, need for a new name, social cause, existence of polysemy, metaphorical cause, the taboo of propriety, historical cause, structure of vocabulary, and loss of motivation.

Keywords : *factors of semantic changes, semantic changes, the Jakarta Post article, types of semantic changes*

## ASBTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis dan faktor perubahan semantik dalam artikel The Jakarta Post. The Jakarta Post adalah nama surat kabar nasional berbahasa Inggris Indonesia yang berkantor pusat di Jakarta. Koran Jakarta Post diterbitkan oleh PT Bina Media Tenggara. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan menggunakan dua teori, yaitu teori Leonard Bloomfield (1933), untuk menemukan jenis perubahan makna dan teori Stephen Ullman (1983) untuk membedah faktor-faktor penyebab terjadinya perubahan makna. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada tujuh jenis perubahan makna yang terkandung dalam 34 kata dalam artikel terpilih The Jakarta Post. Ketujuh jenis perubahan makna tersebut meliputi perluasan makna, penyempitan makna, metafora, litotes, metonimi, hiperbola, dan makna peyoratif yang terjadi. Dan beberapa faktor yang terkandung di dalamnya adalah faktor linguistik, faktor psikologis, kebutuhan akan nama baru, faktor sosial, adanya polisemi, faktor metaforis, tabu kepatutan, faktor historis, struktur kosa kata, dan hilangnya motivasi.

Kata kunci : *artikel Jakarta Post, faktor perubahan semantik, jenis perubahan semantik, perubahan semantik*

## INTRODUCTION

In today's society, words in the language are not only a means of communication, but it has a scope that can be researched. There are several things that can be used as learning in a language, including the meaning to be conveyed in the language. Meaning is something that is contained in a language that is the purpose of words in that language. The meaning of words in a language is the meaning contained and inferred from a word.

In linguistic studies, discussion of the meaning of words, phrases, or sentences is included in Semantic. Thus, the object of semantic study is all things related to the meaning of expressions and also the structure of meaning. Fromkin (2013, p.140) stated, "the study of the linguistic meaning of morphemes, words, phrases, and sentences is called semantics". In semantic knowledge, it explains that a word, phrase or sentence contains more than one meaning. According to Seed (2016, p.3), semantics is the study of meaning

communicated through language. Semantics discusses the meaning of the study of meaning with the hypothesis that meaning is part of the language itself, so it can be said that semantics is part of linguistics.

In its scope, meaning in semantics has two points of view, namely speaker meaning and word meaning. The speaker meaning means the meaning that the speaker wants to convey, while the word meaning is the original meaning of the word itself. For example, the word meaning of the word 'good people' is used to describe people who are good or someone who deep down inside has a good heart, while the speaker meaning of the word 'good people' in the current phenomenon is used to greet people who are listening to infotainment news.

As explained by Seed (2016, p.16), in this case, semantics is related to the meaning of sentences. This means that semantic analysis focuses more on the meaning of the word or phrase itself than on what the speaker wants to talk about (the meaning of the speaker). The meaning of an expression in a word, phrase or sentence is not always clear, even to native speakers of the language itself. Meanings can be imagined in many ways, or at least require special imagination or knowledge to understand.

Along with the times, the meaning of language has changed a lot. Language or meaning is a temporary thing, meaning that it will change along with the growing and expanding knowledge. Meanings in language evolve over time. There are several things that are experienced in changes in meaning; these changes include generalization, narrowing or even completely changing or shifting. In this case, the change in meaning that usually occurs up to the stage of the modern meaning becomes very different from the original meaning.

The meaning of a word is not determined by how it was used in the past. It is known that the language changes over time and adapts to suit the needs of its users. Some languages disappear when they are no longer used, and others pass them on if they fit into a new environment. We call this term Semantic Change which is a form of language change due to the evolution of word usage.

According to Bloomfield (1993), changes in the meaning of speech forms are solely the result of changes in their use and other semantically related speech forms. The modern meaning of the word differs radically from its original usage—for example, the word "chair". In English history (original meaning) means "a separate seat for one person, typically with a back and four legs", however in this modern era, the meaning of the word "chair" is not only specific to the depiction of four legs but can also mention a separate for more than one person and has less or more than four legs. In addition, the meaning of the word "chair" is not only meant for an object, but this word can also be used to describe "someone who presides over a position", or it can be called "chairman", from here we can know that the meaning is flexible and deviant.

To support this research, the writer uses several journals and research related to the discussion of semantic change as reference material. The first previous research by Rohbiah (2020) discussed the classification and analysis of the types of semantic changes that occurred in the field of English loan tourism in Indonesia and resulted in the discovery of semantic changes such as extension, narrowing degeneration, and regeneration. The second study by Hidayati, Ilham, and Fariani Fani (2016) discussed the analysis of semantic changes by characters in *The King's Speech* film and results in the finding that there are two types of semantic changes, namely generalization and specialization. The last research by Fatra Nugraha (2018) discussed meaning descriptions and finding changes in the meaning of slang in Hart's stand-up comedy shows and results in findings that there are four types of meaning changes in them, namely generalization, specialization, pejoration, and amelioration. However, the current research conducted by the author will discuss the types of semantic changes and their factors that have not been discussed by previous researchers which are of course very important as reference material for further research.

Based on the explanation above, this study then focuses on meaning changes that refer to the scope of semantic changes contained in the news articles of *The Jakarta*

Post. The Jakarta Post is the name of the Indonesian English-language national newspaper headquartered in Jakarta. The Jakarta Post newspaper is published by PT Bina Media Tenggara. The writer chose this topic because nowadays, the use of words, phrases and sentences is found in many forms of written communication, one of which is news articles. News in the form of articles contains several articles, which are factual information about a theme as well as reports, essays, or information about a recent incident or event. Besides that, of course, there are some changes in the meaning of the words or sentences contained in the news articles.

In this study, the author uses several articles from The Jakarta Post news, including : 1. *Indian and ASEAN must enhance their partnership* 2. *Ghosting: Is the phenomenon of shutting people out acceptable?* 3. *Why social media is boosting your stress?* 4. *Love in the time of coronavirus: Virtual blind dates during the pandemic;* 5. *Cover up: Indonesian women pressed to wear Islamic headscarves*

The writer chose some of the titles of these articles because some of the topics of these articles were being discussed by society, which was then the writer was interested in making them the subject of this research. The news content of The Jakarta Post article contains many articles written in foreign languages, which of course, have a change in meaning. It is very important for readers to know what changes in meaning are contained in the news article, to find out the original and new meaning of the word or sentence and to know what the factors that cause meaning changes used in the news article.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study approach used a qualitative methods. This method will be applied by describing the data and then analyzing it according to the problems to be raised and researched. In general, qualitative research is a method that emphasizes aspects of deeper understanding of a problem rather than seeing a problem. Qualitative research is a descriptive research study, which tends to use analysis and shows more of the meaning process. According to Leedy and Ormrod (2015), some qualitative researchers often

formulate only general research problems and ask only general questions about the phenomenon they are studying. Qualitative research is descriptive-analytic research, which focuses more on process and prioritizes meaning. This method is used to gain in-depth understanding, develop theory, describe reality and social complexity.

Qualitative researchers often use multiple forms of data in any single study. They might use observations, interviews, objects, written documents, audiovisual materials, electronic entities (e.g., e-mail messages, Internet websites), and anything else that can help them answer their research question (Leedy&Ormrod, 2015). Therefore, this research method is very suitable to assist the author in examining semantic changes in selected articles. News article is one of the things that people consume for everyday reading. Both article and semantics have a relationship because in the article there are semantic changes or meanings that can be observed, so the qualitative descriptive research method is the most suitable method to be applied in this study.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

### ***4.2. 1 India and ASEAN must enhance their partnership news article***

This article contains a discussion of cooperation between India and Asean which was held at a virtual high-level conference on October 28. In his discussion, there are some words that have changed meaning.

#### **1. Chairman**

The word chairman originally came from a combination of the words "chair" which means something that can be sat on, comes from wood, has 4 legs or more and the word "man" which means a human being (Harper, 2000). But over time, in the 1730s era, the meaning of the word chairman became the highest position of a person in an organization or company. In this case, the word chairman has changed its broad meaning or categorized as a form of change in the meaning of *generalization*. The original meaning only refers to the meaning of nouns, now the meaning has also changed to adjectives.

The cause of this change in meaning is *due to the linguistic causes with association* which has different meanings and there are many in number, but there are still links between these different meanings. The word chairman which originally came from the word "chair" still has a functional relationship of meaning where both mean "a tool to sit or occupy a position". Therefore, this shift in meaning occurs because the word acquires a new meaning, in which the original meaning has not been lost or faded because a change in the meaning of a word due to the similarity or similarity of properties with other words.

## 2. Protagonist

The word protagonist in this article means something or someone who has an important role in a problem in the context of the real world, while the actual meaning of the word protagonist is known to people as a character in a fictional story who has control over the course of a fictional story and becomes a character in a fictional story the character opposed by the antagonist (Harper, 2000). In the sense in this article, India is the protagonist or an important role in the centrality of ASEAN. Being the protagonist in your own life story means that you use the gifts you were born with to take you into the leading role you were born to play and inspire others to embrace their own identities.

The word protagonist in the context here undergoes a *metaphorical change in meaning* or is also known as a metaphorical figure of speech. This change in meaning refers to the parable of two different things. The process of metaphor in this word occurs because the word protagonist in the meaning of this article implicitly states that the state of India as something that has a lot of important roles because it acts as a peacemaker or bridge over conflict resolution. This change in meaning occurs due to *psychological factors*. This psychological factor is the cause of the shift in meaning caused by the speaker's own mind. This change in meaning is seen as an expression of the speaker connected with a character or situation which is symbolized by an idiom or metaphor.

## 3. Green Economies

The third word is the word 'green economies'. The word green economy comes from a combination of the word 'green' which means a green color, and the word 'economy' which means a large set of interrelated production and consumption activities that help determine how scarce resources are allocated (Harper, 2000). Meanwhile, the word green economy here means as an economic idea that aims to improve the welfare and social equality of the community, while reducing the risk of environmental damage significantly. The meaning of the word 'green' in this term refers to the meaning of nature and the environment.

The word green economy here undergoes a *metaphorical change* in meaning caused by the vocabulary structure that produces new elements. A change in the meaning of a metaphor in this context involves understanding or experiencing one type of word or thing in terms of another that is somehow considered similar in some respects road.

And the cause of the change in meaning in the word green infrastructure this time is because the word *requires a new name*. This factor arises because it refers to the need for an object or idea. Then by combining two words and making them into one word, the term goes through a process of metaphor which then gives rise to a new meaning which does not eliminate the original meaning or the two meanings are still interrelated.

## 4. Green Infrastructure

Next is the word 'green infrastructure' which comes from a combination of 2 words 'green' which has the same meaning as the word green in the term green economy which means having a green color, and 'infrastruktur' which means the structure of basic facilities for the public interest, both physically and mentally. and non-physical built by the government and individuals (Harper, 2000). The meaning of green infrastructure here is considered a concept, effort, or approach to maintain a sustainable environment through the arrangement of green open spaces and

maintain natural processes that occur in nature such as the rainwater cycle and soil conditions.

For that, the word green infrastructure has changed its meaning through a process of metaphor or the meaning has a *metaphorical meaning*. The change in meaning describes the use of words or groups of words not with the actual meaning, but as a painting based on similarities or comparisons because of the new meaning in the vocabulary structure. This change in meaning occurs *because of the need for a new name* regarding the new meaning of the combination of the 2 words. The need for a new name is an important thing because the meaning of the previous word has changed, but the change in meaning of the two words is not much different in meaning.

## 5. Anniversary

In the 1200s century, the word anniversary means an event to commemorate the day of the return of someone's death day or holy martyrdom at a certain date (Harper, 2000). But now the word anniversary has expanded its meaning. The word anniversary nowadays has increased its meaning to become an event commemoration that is used to express the annual celebration of both married and unmarried. It can even have the meaning of happy birthday or happy anniversary, but is intended for objects other than humans, such as for companies, schools, objects or existing relationships.

The word anniversary in this sense has changed its *meaning widely*. This expansion of meaning occurs in a word that initially only has one meaning, but because of a certain factor, the word has another new meaning. The change in meaning in the word is still in one line, meaning that the change in meaning is within the scope of polysemy with the meaning that is not far from the previous meaning. The change in meaning factor in this context is due to the *social development* of the use of that meaning in society. A word that initially means A, then its meaning increases to B, and so on.

## 6. Wave

The word wave comes from the middle of the 14th century, which at that time had the meaning of moving forward and backward, derived from the old English "Wafian" (Harper, 2000). And after experiencing a shift in time, the meaning of the word wave also underwent a broad change in meaning. The word wave now also has several new meanings, including wave. During this pandemic, the word wave is widely used in several articles, the word wave currently has the meaning as the arrival of a new pandemic following a previous pandemic. The term wave is also interpreted as a type of disturbance that moves forward uniformly with the parts that are moved undergo multiple oscillations; a pattern similar to a wave.

This word experienced an *expansion of meaning*. As explained in the previous explanation, this expansion of meaning occurs from a specific/narrow meaning to a more general/broad meaning. That is, the word acquires a new meaning or context whose meaning extends/generalizes. Some of the words experienced a shift or change in meaning from the original meaning to another meaning.

There are many factors behind the changes or shifts in meaning widely in words. In the context of the word this time, the word 'wave' has changed its meaning widely due to *the polysemy factor*. The existence factor of polysemy causes meaning to acquire a new meaning as an element in language. However, the change in meaning that refers to the polysemy factor undergoes a change in which this new meaning is still related to the previous meaning of the same word.

### 4.2.1 Ghosting: Is the phenomenon of shutting people out acceptable?

The second article contains a discussion of the ghosting phenomenon which is currently being discussed among the youth. As for the results of this article, there are several words that appear that have changed in meaning, including:

#### 1. Ghosting

In the era before the 900s, the word

ghosting had the meaning of the soul of someone who had died or was used to define a spirit of a deceased person (Harper, 2000). However, recently, the word ghosting has suddenly become a topic of discussion among the public. Ghosting is currently experiencing a change in its metaphorical meaning, which has changed to a term used to define an incident that ends a relationship suddenly and cuts off communication without giving any explanation. This viral term refers to someone who runs away and just disappears, not looking like a ghost..

This change in meaning in the word 'Ghosting' is said to be a change in meaning that undergoes a process of metaphor or is referred to as *a metaphorical meaning*. This change is based on a resemblance to something. The meaning of the word ghosting in the past and today is still interrelated. The word ghost, which previously meant an invisible being, has shifted its meaning due to the metaphorical process, but both still mean the same thing as 'something is missing', because ghosting nowadays means someone who has disappeared without any news or information.

This change in meaning occurs, of course, because of *the metaphorical factor* which is the result of a group's analogy to a term, which is then linked to the meaning of the word because of the similarity of meaning to the present word and the original meaning of the word. This metaphorical process is one of the factors that most often appears in the realm of changing meaning.

## **2. Girlfriend**

The term "girlfriend" originally meant one's female friend in youth (Harper, 2000). This meaning was first used in 1863. But there are also those who say that the term girlfriend refers to a platonic relationship between two women. Then in 1922 until now, this term later changed its meaning to 'lover', or a nickname addressed to a woman who has a romantic relationship with a man. In this modern era, the term girlfriend is no stranger to hearing. Girlfriend is used to refer to women who have special relationships with men, but their status is still just dating, not married.

The word girlfriend in this context has changed its meaning to become narrower. This

change occurs in words that initially have a broad meaning, then after that they become limited, only having one meaning, or from general to specific. The word girlfriend, which previously had a broad meaning, now only focuses on the meaning of "lover". This narrowed meaning change occurs because of social factors on the restriction of meaning. Because language is dynamic and follows social developments, this narrow change can occur and experience different perspectives in society. This dynamic change occurs in many sectors, which will ultimately affect the word narrowing.

## **3. Relationship**

Next is the word "relationship". In the 1640s, the word relationship had the meaning of a related state (Harper, 2000). This meaning only refers to a narrow state of having feelings or something related. However, because of the new elements related to the new era, the meaning of the word relationship has expanded its meaning. Changes in the meaning of the word relationship today have a new meaning, namely referring to a continuous interaction between two or more people that facilitates the process of recognizing one another. In addition, in this modern era, people are more familiar with the word relationship as a romantic love relationship between a woman and a man, both those who are still dating or who are married at the same time.

This type of change in meaning is included in the category of *broad meaning change*. This change in meaning occurs in words that initially have a limited meaning, now the meaning is increased but remains in the related context. This change factor is *caused by elements of social development*. In line with the development of the times, the development of language continues to grow and this cannot be avoided. The meaning of the word relationship is currently expanding, but it still contains an element of "attachment" to the previous meaning

## **4. Waiting Game**

The word waiting game comes from two combinations of words, namely the first is the word "waiting" which means getting ready to attend, and the second is the word "game" which means something that comes from fun

and excitement (Harper, 2000). However, after the two words were combined into one, the meaning of the word waiting game underwent a total change in meaning. This meaning turns into a metaphorical meaning which means a strategy or situation where one has to refrain from taking any action in the hope of having a favorable opportunity for more effective action later.

The word waiting game undergoes a *metaphorical change* in meaning because the meaning functions as a figurative word or a comparative meaning formed due to the formation of a new meaning. The metaphor of this word occurs because of the combination of 2 words in this term, and forms a new word and a new meaning, the result is shaped like an idiom. The factor of changing the meaning of this word occurs because of *the need for a new name* from 2 previously existing words. The need for a new name is an important factor in semantic change because of the presence of a new object or idea whose meaning is the result of combining 2 words

#### **5. Wasn't Accepted**

Next is the word "wasn't accepted". If examined normally, this word means as if there is no difference with words in general. However, in its categorization, this word is included in the litotes type of semantic change. Litotes is a statement that minimizes or weakens something, and states the opposite. The word wasn't accepted is taken from the word not accept, where the word accept here has the meaning of taking what is offered or agreeing to something (Harper, 2000). Then the word wasn't accepted here is an expression to weaken a statement which means it wasn't accepted = rejected.

So, the meaning of the word wasn't accepted is a rejection whose statement is packaged *in litotes*. Changes in the meaning of this word are categorized as changes in the meaning of litotes. The process of litotes occurs to minimize something or weaken, and express the opposite. This style of language is used to express comparisons. For example, to say smart you can use the expression not stupid. And so for the use of the word "wasn't accepted" in this article which is a form of weakening the meaning of the statement 'rejected'. This change in the meaning of litotes

occurs because of *psychological factors*, where the meaning of the word changes from strong to weak. This linguistic factor occurs because of the context that occurs simultaneously.

#### **6. Not getting any feedback**

The next type of semantic change is in the sentence "not getting any feedback". The sentence is taken from the word 'feedback' which consists of 2 words, feed and back, which has a response that someone gives to new information (Harper, 2000). So, the sentence not getting any feedback has the meaning of not getting a response to the desired information. Then the sentence has a type of change that is categorized as a litotes semantic change (a form of simplifying, degrading or lowering the situation from the actual event, through expressions). The sentence not getting any feedback has a hidden expression, which means that an action is ignored. So the meaning of not getting any feedback = ignored.

This change in meaning in the word "not getting any feedback" occurs because of the process as a change in the meaning of *litotes*. The litotes process occurs to minimize something or weaken, and state the opposite. This style of language is used to express comparisons or describe situations that are simpler or lower. And so for the use of the word "not getting any feedback" in this article which is a form of weakening the meaning of the statement 'ignored'. This change in the meaning of litotes occurs because of the *psychological factor* of cause, where the meaning of the word changes from strong to weak. This psychological factor occurs because there is an analogy process from the speaker which aims to make the atmosphere more lively because they want smoothness of words

#### **7. Artist.**

In the 1580s, the word artist had the original meaning as someone who had abilities and developed them in the field of fine arts (Harper, 2000). Originally, the meaning of artist was someone who worked in the field of art such as a painter, playwright, musician, or writer. However, along with the changing times, the meaning of the artist has narrowed its meaning. In this modern era, most people know the term artist is only intended for those

who work on television station screens. What is meant by artists at this time are those who usually play movies or soap operas on tv or other broadcasting tools. Even people who only create sensations without a work of art can be called artists in this day and age. The meaning of artist is currently narrow and some things make the meaning of this artist low in value.

Changes in the meaning of the word 'artist' are currently experiencing a *narrowing of meaning*. In the past, the meaning of the word 'artist' was very broad, but now the meaning only focuses on certain meanings or it can be said that the meaning is limited. This change in meaning is caused because it is associated with the development of the meaning of the word in society or it called a *social factor cause*. People are now more familiar with the word artist as someone whose presence often appears on television. Because the use of language and its meaning is dynamic, it is very possible for a word to change its point of view depending on the progress of the people's thinking.

#### **8. Stranger**

Around the 14th century, the word stranger appeared with the meaning of "a person who comes from a foreign country or also called a foreigner", besides that, the word stranger at that time also meant "alien" (Harper, 2000). Then entering the modern age until now, the word stranger has changed its meaning widely. Now, the word stranger is widely known to the public with the meaning of a person who has not been known or met, whether it is from a foreign country or from one city. Especially since many people use dating applications, the word stranger doesn't seem to sound strange to their ears. The word stranger is used to refer to someone they meet on a dating app who has never met before or doesn't know each other in person.

Changes in the meaning of the word stranger at this time of course experience an *expansion of meaning*. This occurs in the meaning of the word stranger, which previously only focused on the narrow meaning of "A person who comes from a foreign country", has now experienced an expansion of meaning, which now has an increased meaning. This change in meaning is due to the element of polysemy. *Polysemy*

*Existence*. That is, in the development of vocabulary, there are words that have a double meaning, there are new words and there are words that only change their meaning. Both the original meaning and the present meaning have the same meaning as "unknown person". That is, the change in meaning occurs because of the polysemy factor in which the two meanings are still interconnected

#### **9. Radio Silent**

Radio silent originally meant a situation where a radio did not transmit, or essentially when there was no radio broadcast (Harper, 2000). And over time, the word radio silent took on a new meaning. The word radio silence in modern times refers to an act of silent and being away from a partner, or temporarily stopping communication with the aim of making the partner return. This act of radio silent is usually done if both partners experience a breakup, and one of the parties still hopes to get back together. The change in meaning in this word is included in the category of metaphor because the use of the language has an implied meaning.

This category of change in meaning is categorized as a change in meaning resulting from the metaphorical process. Where the meaning is based on the results using a parable of two different things. The use of the word 'radio silent' is not in its true sense, but as a painting based on similarities or comparisons. This change in meaning is of course due to the emergence of metaphor. This factor is also related to language development that occurs in society. The meanings of the two are still related to each other even though in different contexts of use.

#### **10. Sex**

In late medieval England, the meaning of the word "sex" was only used to distinguish between male and female statements, whether for groups of humans or animals (Harper, 2000). Then over time, the word sex is used to describe a reproductive activity of sexual contact carried out in pairs with the opposite sex or same sex. The word undergoes a pejorative change in meaning, or a change in meaning whose meaning becomes lower in value, worse or harsher, and has a more negative connotation than the previous meaning.



Changes in the meaning of the word 'sex' are categorized as types of *pejorative changes*. Where this change occurs in words that previously had ordinary meanings, then along with their use in society, their meanings changed and decreased in value. This change in meaning is due to the psychological element, which is then further incorporated into the *taboo of propriety factor*. The word 'sex' has become a taboo subject to be discussed by the public because it is considered something that violates norms, has low values, and is not socially acceptable.

### **11. Terrible**

The word terrible in the 14th century meant something that was considered terror and contained great fear (Harper, 2000). Then, entering the 15th century, the meaning of the word terrible changed its meaning to something terrible, scary, rude, and very excessive in things that are not good. The word terrible is categorized as a form of "*hyperbole*" type change of meaning because it contains a statement by exaggerating something from what it really is.

This change in meaning is to add a dramatic impression, amplify, and give the impression or influence more. The cause of the change in the meaning of terrible is caused by psychological factors that lead to *emotive factors*. This factor comes from the emotive factor, where the speaker tries to exaggerate its meaning and the new meaning has no significant relationship with the original meaning before.

### **4.2.3 Why social media is boosting your stress?**

This third article contains a discussion of some of the reasons why social media can increase stress levels in humans, of which of course there are some words that undergo semantic changes in them.

#### **1. Cheating**

At first, cheating (cheater) was a designation for a royal officer who served or had the responsibility to guard the king's escheat (a land or inheritance) (Harper, 2000). Then, in the middle of carrying out his duties, he did something inappropriate. He is

dishonest and fools people. Because of that, the king did not believe him. That's where the term "cheat" came from to describe the nature of someone who is dishonest, unfair and someone who acts fraudulently.

The type of change in the word 'cheating' is categorized as a type of *hyperbole*. The reason for this change in meaning is a type of hyperbole because the delivery of its current meaning is dramatic. The meaning of this word gives an exaggerated description of an object. In this figure of speech, an object is shown to have properties or can do something in a dramatic or exaggerated way. And the factor that causes this change in meaning is the result of the *historical cause* factor which refers to ideas. The term 'cheating' which comes from the word cheater, which means the name of a royal guard, now means 'an injustice or dishonesty'. The historical element that becomes the background for the shift, development and change in meaning in this case is related to language learning itself from one generation to the next.

#### **2. Tweeting**

The word tweeting was originally a term for the sound of a chirping bird that reads "twit twit" (Harper, 2000). Then in 2006, an application called Twitter appeared where this application had a bird image logo. In twitter, there is a feature to write an opinion called the 'tweet' feature. This is where the word 'tweeting' came from in social media. The meaning of the word tweeting here is a chirp/voice of people's opinions written on Twitter social media. And for the categorization of the type of change in meaning, the word "tweeting" is categorized as a type of *metonymy*, which is a comparative figure of speech.

This type of change in meaning expresses something by using other related words. The origin of its use comes from the sound of birds chirping, which until now has been associated with the meaning of twitter as 'social media for writing tweets/opinions'. The use of the meaning of metonymy is almost the same as a metaphor. The factors that cause changes in the meaning of the word tweeting are due to the *need for new words*. This of

course comes from the result of the development of a new concept but there is no symbol yet but it needs a new name or word because language is a communication tool.

### **3. Viral.**

In early 1944, the word viral meant a disease or infection caused by a virus (Harper, 2000). This word was later added to its meaning in 1999 which stated that the meaning of viral is a well-known thing that is shared through internet sites, which initially refers to the effects of computer viruses that are spread. The word viral has now been widely discussed by the public, especially for those who use social media. Viral is described as something that spreads very quickly on the internet, especially when it comes to things that create controversy. The word viral in this context changes its meaning *metaphorically*.

The use of this style of language comes from comparing objects with other objects because they have similarities or some kind of analogy that compares two things directly, but in a short form. The word viral which previously meant 'virus', now means the rapid spread of information on the internet, if likened to it, it is equated with the spread of a virus that spreads quickly. The use of this metaphor is because the meanings of these 2 sentences are still close in meaning, namely to imply the word "spread". This change in meaning occurs because of *the need for a new name* due to the development of the process of meaning of a word based on an object or idea. A word needs a new name because it is very important in the context of changing meaning

### **4. Chat**

In the middle of the 15th century, the meaning of the word 'chat' meant a short conversation between two or more people (Harper, 2000). The use of the meaning of this word then undergoes a broad change in meaning. In this modern era, the word chat does not only mean chatting directly, but the term chat can also be used when we chat with someone via internet social media. However, the difference is if we

chat with people on the internet, we have to make sure whether the other person is online or not. Usually chat on social media relies on sending messages through several applications. This change in meaning is included in the category of change in meaning which means *to be broad/general*. This type of change occurs in words that previously only had a certain meaning, then now they have a new meaning, from what was originally narrow then turned into general or widespread.

The word chat which previously only referred to the meaning of chatting with someone offline, now has an increased meaning. This widespread change in meaning is the result of *social factors* associated with the development of the meaning of words in society. Social factors in this change in meaning make a word that previously only had a special meaning, now its meaning becomes more general due to the social development of society, and new ideas.

#### **4.2.4 Love in the time of coronavirus: Virtual blind dates during the pandemic**

The fourth article contains a discussion of the virtual blind date phenomenon that is rampant in the public. This is currently busy among people who are looking for a partner during this pandemic. For this reason, there are several words whose meanings have changed in the writing of the article related to this phenomenon.

##### **1. Blindates**

Blind date is a slang language consisting of 2 words, the first is the word "blind" which means lack of vision, dark, and unclear. And the second is derived from the word "date" which means an arrangement to connect the time that comes from the date (Harper, 2000). Then in the 18th century, a new meaning emerged in the word date which refers to romantic things. From the combination of these 2 words, then a new meaning emerges. Blind date has the meaning of an introduction process as well as a meeting between two people who of course do not know each other

physically or by nature. Blind date is usually done by people who use dating applications.

The meaning of the word blind date is included in the change in the meaning of the type of *metaphor* which is the result of a comparison of 2 word combinations which then produces a new meaning in it. This kind of metaphorical change is only a figurative language, it doesn't mean that people who are dating are 'blind', but the word blind here represents the meaning of 'have not seen and known each other before'. The factors that cause this change in meaning are due to the emergence of a *new vocabulary structure* which then changes its meaning. This process is the result of a grammatical process that gives a change in meaning. Including the composition or merging of words can also cause changes in words and meanings.

## 2. Virtual Dating

The word virtual dating is also a combination of 2 words, namely "virtual" which means effective potential and physical ability, while the word "dating" means to confirm a date (Harper, 2000). When the 2 words are combined, it will produce a new meaning change. Virtual dating has the meaning of a romantic dating activity that is carried out online through online dating applications. Broadly speaking, virtual dating is termed for those who are dating indirectly. Virtual dating has become a trend during this pandemic. Because many people are restricted in their movements, they are looking for a partner through dating apps and end up undergoing virtual dating.

The meaning of this word is included in the change in meaning of the *type of metaphor* which is the result of a comparison of 2 words that are combined which then produces a new meaning in it. The use of the word virtual dating has a figurative meaning which means establishing a relationship with someone through

online media. In stark contrast to the meaning of 'virtual' which previously meant "physical ability".

The factor that causes this change in meaning is due to the emergence of a *new vocabulary structure* which then changes its meaning. This process is the result of a grammatical process that changes meaning. Including the composition or combination of words can also cause changes in words and meanings that causes the emergence of new meanings.

## 3. The One

The one has the meaning of a unit or individual. This word is used to express a number of numbers, items, etc (Harper, 2000). But if you look deeper, the word the one changes its meaning in the context of a relationship. The meaning of the word 'the one' in this article is someone who will be expected to be his lover or love, or if someone refers to his partner as "the one" it means that that person is the best and only one. So, the word 'the one' in this article is categorized as a slang or idiom whose meaning undergoes *a metaphor*.

This change in meaning in the word 'the one' appears because it is part of a type of metaphor. The word means figuratively. that if there is someone who is referred to as 'the one', it means that person is the only 'lover' of the couple This change in meaning is due to *the introduction of polysemy* which allows a word to acquire a new meaning without losing the original meaning of the word. This change in meaning occurs due to the emergence of polysemy, where a word changes that has a double meaning in it. This metaphorical change in meaning occurs because it is based on similarities to something.

## 4. Early Bird.

Early bird is a combination of 2 words, namely "early" which means a time at the beginning, and "bird" which means a feathered animal (Harper,

2000). If the two words are combined, it will produce a new meaning. The word early bird is an idiom that refers to the meaning of someone who is productive in the morning and enthusiastic about his activities at the beginning of the day. And in this article, the word early bird refers to the first person to register for an activity event. The word early bird has changed its meaning *metonymically*. Why is that? Because the meaning of the word uses another word to represent something other than the original meaning of the word based on the close affinity of the two.

The word early bird functions as a figurative language which means as someone who is productive in the morning, this of course comes from the word "bird", where birds usually come out of their cages in the morning, and the word bird as a representation of the meaning of "diligent" . The change in meaning stems from *the structure of the vocabulary* and the similarity of names that make a word has a different meaning, but still has an attachment. The purpose of this change in meaning could be because you want to beautify the meaning or the word.

## 5. Swipe Right

Swipe right is a combination of 2 words. Swipe which means sweeping with broad movements and attacking, while the word right has the meaning of right and fair (Harper, 2000). The two combined words then present a new meaning. Swipe right in today's era is meaningful as a sign on a dating application which means that we are interested in someone and that someone can potentially become a lover. The word swipe right is very common nowadays, considering that many people today use dating apps.

The change in meaning that occurs in this word is included in the type of change in the meaning of *metaphor*. The combination of these 2 words produces a figurative word which then changes its meaning from

its original meaning. This change in meaning is because the *word loses motivation* which causes the word to change its meaning completely

## 6. Unwillingness

Next is the word unwillingness. This word is taken from the core of the word "will" which means to accept a situation (Harper, 2000). So, unwillingness means that a person cannot accept or he is reluctant. The hidden meaning of the word unwillingness is refuse. The word unwillingness has changed its meaning in *litotes*, which means that the meaning of this word contains a statement that minimizes or weakens something, and states the opposite. The word unwillingness originally meant "to refuse", then its meaning was reduced by using *the litotes style* of language.

The change in meaning occurs because of *the psychological cause* that comes from the speaker's analogy. This change in meaning factor is felt to make the expression more unique, another function of figure of speech is to make the atmosphere more lively. The meaning of *litotes*, for example, will make a conversation more flowing and foster an element of intimacy.

## 7. Introvert

The word introvert previously had the meaning of "something that is in or into" (Harper, 2000). In this context, the word introvert refers to the psychological meaning of categorizing a person's character. Introvert in this context means someone who is closed and anti-social. People who are introverted are now connoted as a negative meaning because that person has an arrogant nature (don't want to mingle with other people or socialize). The change in meaning that occurs in the word 'introvert' is a type of change in the meaning of *peyorasi*.

The meaning of this word has undergone a shift in meaning, from what was previously normal, now its meaning has decreased in value and its

meaning can sometimes turn negative. The word introvert, which originally meant 'into', now means it has decreased in value, the word currently means someone who is considered not good at socializing and is sometimes labeled as arrogant because he is too quiet.

The decrease in value in this meaning is caused *by social factors*. This is influenced by differences in responses. Maybe the response of the people of the past with the response of modern society is different-so it happened and an agreement was made to change the meaning of certain words.

## 8. Chilled

In Old English, the word chill meant an unpleasant cold feeling in the atmosphere, environment, or body (Harper, 2000). This meaning has an unpleasant meaning because it refers to the feeling of suffering. Then in the 14th century, the meaning of the word chill changed to a positive meaning, which means 'relaxed'. In this day and age, the word chill is used as slang by young people. The change in meaning that occurs in the word chilled, which is a slang language, experiences a *metaphorical* meaning, which is where the meaning experiences a metaphorical expansion.

The word chilled which previously meant "too cool", is now undergoing a change, namely in the present, the word chill is used as a figurative language which means "relaxed". The factor of this change, of course, occurs because of the *expansion factor of the metaphor* which is the result of the equation of reason. The use of this metaphor is also inseparable from figurative language.

### 4.2.5 Cover up: Indonesian women pressed to wear Islamic headscarves

The last article contains a discussion about the case of bullying which recently shocked the public, related to the issue that women in Indonesia are urged to wear the

hijab. This news article presents several words that have different meanings from their original meanings, including:

#### 1. Teenage

In 1944, the word 'teenage' was used to describe a place filled with young people, at which time the romantic period was beginning (Harper, 2000). The word teenage at that time was used as a marketing. Then along with social and cultural developments, now the word teenage has a narrow meaning. If in the past it could be used to describe young people without being limited by age, but now the mention of their names is only for children aged ten years.

The word teenager experiences a *narrowing of meaning or specialization*, where previously the word had a wider meaning without limits, now that meaning is narrowed and filled with limitations. The word teenager was previously used as a 'place for gathering young people', where the word young people is not categorized by how old they are.

However, at this time the word teenager has narrowed its meaning, where the word is only used to refer to young people who are in their teens. The factor of this change occurs because of the *historical cause* that comes from changes in the object. The historical factors that become the background for the shift, development and change in meaning in this case are related to language learning itself from one generation to the next.

#### 2. Daughter

In medieval England, the word daughter meant a woman who was bound by a relationship with her parents (Harper, 2000). This meaning only refers to one relationship. However, in this modern age, the word daughter has expanded its meaning. As time goes on and things develop in society, the word daughter can mean a woman who is bound by an analogous relationship. The word daughter in this context undergoes a broad change in

meaning or *generalization*, where the specific meaning is turned into a general word which has a broader meaning.

The word daughter which previously only referred to the meaning of "biological daughter", now has a wider meaning and develops into more than one. The current meaning of the word daughter can be used for the sentence "daughter in law". The change in meaning is due to *the polysemy factor* which makes the word have a double meaning, but still does not eliminate its original meaning.

### 3. Bully

The word bully in 1530 means 'lover' (Harper, 2000). This meaning comes from the Netherlands. Then over time, the word bully is now known as a word that has a negative connotation. It means an act that is oppressive and contains elements of violence. Bullying is usually done to children who have more power, to those who are weak and have no protection. The word bully has undergone a *pejorative change* in meaning, in which the meaning of the word has decreased in value and now has a negative connotation.

Initially this word has a positive meaning which means 'beloved', but then the meaning changes to negative which later this includes the type of *peyorasi*. This change in meaning occurs because the *word loses its motivation*. The meaning that is produced now with the original meaning before is very much different, not even related to each other. In this context, the sense produced by new meanings develops and is very far away.

### 4. Tip of the iceberg

Tip of iceberg is a combination of the word 'tip' which means the dangerous top, and the word 'iceberg'. Tip of iceberg means the top of the ice mountain (Harper, 2000). But in this context, the word the tip of iceberg means a condition where the peak of a

problem or the problem is getting bigger than unexpected. The change in meaning in this word undergoes a *process of metaphor* which is the merging of 2 words and produces new words and meanings.

The word 'iceberg' here does not mean the actual iceberg, but is only used as a metaphor to represent the meaning of "a problem" that has occurred. This change in meaning, of course, occurs because of *the expansion of the metaphor* which aims to describe a comparison of meaning based on certain words

### 5. Watchdog

In the 1600s, the word watchdog meant 'watchdog' which was made up of the words watch+dog (Harper, 2000). But in this modern era, the word watchdog has changed its meaning metaphorically. The word watchdog is currently known in the term press media which is defined as an institution tasked with supervising various institutions that have great power in society. The concept of the word watchdog refers to public and government relations. The change in meaning in watchdog undergoes a *metaphorical process* in which this change in meaning is used as a comparison or equation.

The word watchdog previously meant "a guard dog", but now the word watchdog is used to describe supervisory activities on social institutions, where this word is widely used in the field of journalism. This change in meaning occurs *because of the emergence of metaphors* in which there are elements of figurative words to describe a meaning that is not like the original meaning.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion about the research. The major findings and the whole content are summarized in conclusions. The suggestion provides some

thoughts about study which is related with this research and might be useful for future writers.

## 5.1 Conclusion

Based on the results of the discussion above, it can be concluded that there are 34 words that have changed the meaning contained in the selective article of the Jakarta Post. In this findings research, there are 7 types of changes in meaning and several factors found in this articles, including changes in meaning broadening, narrowing, metaphor, litotes, pejoration, hyperbole and metonymy.

In the first article entitled *India and ASEAN must enhance their partnership* news articles, there are 6 words that experience changes in meaning, which are divided into widespread and metaphorical changes. Then, there are 6 factors that cause changes in meaning, namely linguistic cause, psychological cause, need for a new name, social cause, and existence of polysemy. One of the words is the word 'anniversaries' which has changed its meaning widely and is influenced by social factors.

The second article with the title *Ghosting: Is the phenomenon of shutting people out acceptable?* contains 11 words that have changed their meaning. The type of meaning change is metaphor, narrowing, widening, litotes, widening, pejoration, and hyperbole. Then, the semantic change factor is metaphoric extension, social cause, need for a new name, psychological cause, polysemy cause, and taboo of propriety. One of the words that has changed its meaning is found in the word 'ghosting' which has changed its meaning metaphorically due to the metaphorical extension factor.

The third article is entitled *Why social media is boosting your stress?* contains 4 words that have changed their meaning. The first is the word *Selingung* which is categorized as hyperbole due to historical factors. The second is the word *Tweeting* which has changed its metonym meaning due to the need for a new name. The third is the word *Viral* which has a metaphor due to the expansion of the metaphor. The last is the word *Chat* which has expanded its meaning due to

factors. social.

The fourth article is titled *Love in times of coronavirus: Virtual blind dates during the pandemic*. In this article, there are 8 words that have changed their meaning. The types of meaning changes include metaphor, metonym, litotes, pejoration. Then, the factors are structure of vocabulary, existence of metaphoric, loss of motivation, psychological cause, social factor. One of the words that has changed its meaning in this article is the word 'chilled' which has changed its meaning metaphorically because of the metaphorical extension factor.

The last article is entitled *Cover up: Indonesian women pressed to wear Islamic headscarves*. In this article, there are 5 words that have changed their meaning. The first word is 'teenaged' which has a narrow meaning due to historical factors. The second word is 'daughter' which expands its meaning due to social factors. The third word *Bullied* which is pejorative due to loss of motivation. Then, the word 'tip of the iceberg' which is a type of metaphor by the expansion of the metaphor. The last one is the word 'watchdog' which belongs to the type of metaphor that changes due to the emergence of a metaphor.

As mentioned earlier, that semantics is the study of meaning in a language. When we study a language, we must know what meaning is contained in that language, so that we understand and do not misinterpret the meaning in a language. Meaning as an element of language is one element that has the potential to change because meaning is related to concepts and human thoughts that are always evolving. The changes in meaning that most occur in the article are changes in meaning that are metaphorised by the expansion of metaphors and social factors.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that nowadays it is very important to learn about meaning and change in meaning. However, everyone should learn semantics even if it is just the basics. This is because every language has a very different meaning, and we must be able to distinguish each of these meanings. Especially if someone works in the field of mass media, it is very important for them to know the meaning of the word in order to make it easier for them to convey

information to public, both in visual media and print media. Because later it will also become reading material in the community which really must be considered in choosing what words are appropriate and accurate.

## 5.2 Suggestion

Based on the results of this study, the authors hope to contribute to future authors who are interested in learning about semantics, especially semantic change using Bloomfield's theory.

For the next writer, the writer suggests taking various words which will later be analyzed using Bloomfield's theory. The author also suggests that the next author uses other research objects such as short stories, drama scripts, or song lyrics. Finally, through this research, the author hopes that this thesis can be used as a reference for further research.

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