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The Definition of Precategorial "*Cendas*" in Kamus Dewan Fourth Edition

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Abstract

Precategorial is a word that cannot stand alone without affixes, does not exist in an imperative form and does not have a passive construction. It can exist in the form of a compound word, phrase or *kata ganda berentak* that carries a related meaning. The formation of its own entry for this type of word is necessary as the problem will be more complicated if the combination of affixes occurs (Baharom, 2009). Hassan (2019) found that there is an overlap of meaning for precategorial in Kelantanese dialect which causes confusion among the users. The importance of this study is to examine the definition of precategorial "*cendas*" in *Kamus Dewan Edisi Keempat*. This study was designed with three main objectives which are to identify precategorial "*cendas*" in *Kamus Dewan Edisi Keempat*, to explain the definition of precategorial "*cendas*" based on the Meaning Components Analysis Theory (1975) and to re-evaluate the definition. Therefore, this study only focuses on the precategorial "*cendas*" which is also an entry in the Kelantanese dialect (KD). This study uses literature research as well as field research involving respondents who are native speakers of the Kelantanese dialect, interviews and audio recordings. The findings show that this study can overcome the confusion faced by the dictionary users with the new form of definition. Therefore, this research which is related to lexicography that crosses the linguistic discipline is necessary in dealing with various problems and confusion among Malay language users.

Keywords: Definition, Precategorial, Kelantanese Dialect, Meaning Components Analysis, Lexicography

Introduction

Dictionaries are important reference materials among language users from various backgrounds. Nowadays, dictionaries are available in various forms, either printed or digital which can be accessed through applications in a smartphone or a computer device. The vocabularies in the dictionaries include general words, dialect words, loan words, technical terms and others. Compiling a dictionary is a time-consuming and tedious process. The definition stage is the most important stage in the process of compiling a dictionary because it is the stage that marks the level and quality of a dictionary. It is corresponding to the main purpose of using dictionary which is to find meaning. Hence, the quality of a dictionary will be determined by the definition given to each entry. The definition of dictionary entries can be divided into several approaches such as synonymous approach. Synonymous definition is one of the dictionary principles that uses one or more entries, matching with another entry that is considered to have the same meaning and can be exchanged. In addition, Kelantanese dialect (DK) is the dialect that contributes the most number of entries according to the state contained in *Kamus Dewan Edisi Keempat* (KD4), which is 1052 entries, sub-entries and phrases from the entire content of KD4. Therefore, this study will look at the definition aspect of the precategorial “cendas” in KD4.

Research Objectives

- To identify the precategorial “cendas” in KD4.
- To explain the definition of the precategorial “cendas” based on the Meaning (Components Analysis Theory, 1975).

Research Methodology

In general, this study is a qualitative study to determine the accuracy of the definition of DK entries in KD4 that have definition problems which are defined using synonyms. Besides, this study is based on literature review and field research that used unstructured interview method. For the data collection of this study, the researcher interviewed 10 respondents from three districts in Kelantan which are Kota Bharu, Pasir Mas and Pasir Puteh.

Literature Review

Based on the previous studies, various research related to lexicography were conducted by the researchers. Hassan (2019) conducted a study related to the definition in the dictionary using data entry taken from KD4. The definition of Kelantanese dialect entries from KD4 and the findings of the field research collected from the respondents were examined and compared. The study by Hassan (2019) through 10 selected data found that the definition of the DK entries that have been used were imprecise due to an overlap of meaning. This problem causes the confusion among the language users. On the other hand, Othman (2019) studied the aspects of orthography and phonology, as well as morphology and etymology in Thomas Bowrey Dictionary (1701). This study which focused on the development of Malay dictionary showed that since 400 years ago, Malay language has the characteristics of modern Malay language and it has been used in business affairs, official government affairs and socio-cultural field of the Malay community. Furthermore, Salinah *et. al* (2016) studied the method of elaborating the definition in Malay dictionary by focusing on the study of synonyms and circular definition in the dictionary. This study suggested a new method of elaborating synonymous words in Malay dictionary so that the dictionary users can understand the meaning of synonymous words more clearly. Through this study, Salinah *et. al* (2016) also

used *Kamus Dewan* (KD) as the source for the research. The data analysis was conducted on several types of data collection which were Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka corpus data, online forum data, questionnaire data and quantitative data. The results of the study summarised that the definition of a synonym requires a detailed description with appropriate information that can distinguish the synonymous words.

Findings and Discussion

The Precategorial “Cendas” in KD4

The entry *cendas;mencendas* is a precategorial that is defined in the form of two synonyms. In KD4, precategorial is a word that cannot stand alone without affixes, does not exist in an imperative form and does not have a passive construction. It can exist in the form of a compound word, phrase or *kata ganda berentak* that carries a related meaning. Therefore, the following are the features based on two definitions in the form of synonyms from KD4 for the entry *cendas;mencendas*:

cendas kl;mencendas menendang, menerajang

(KD4: 2005:264)

menendang 1. menyepak, mendepak, menerajang: *ditendangnya pintu rumah itu dgn sekuat-kuat hatinya*; 2. bp mengusir (dr persatuan dll), memecat (dr jawatan dll): *mereka ditendang keluar kerana melanggar disiplin parti*; 3. mendesak kuat-kuat, menolak-nolak: *buah dadanya yg tegang ~ colinya*.

(KD4: 2005:1650)

menerajang 1. menendang (ke bawah atau ke depan) dgn tapak kaki: *kaki kanannya ~ lelaki itu*. 2. Ki mengetepikan, mengesampingkan: *tetapi apabila datang seorang yang berdarjat, apabila datang orang yang lebih berharta aku diterajangnya*;

(KD4: 2005:1663)

menyepak memukul dgn kaki, menendang, mendepak: *ia ~ punggung temannya*; *~ bola*; *~ raga*;

(KD4: 2005:1459)

depak I Jk mendepak 1. menyepak, menendang: *pengganas-pengganas telah ~ orang-orang yg membantah kehendak mereka*. 2. Ki memberhentikan (drpd jawatan, perkumpulan, dll), memecat: *ahli itu telah didepak drpd persatuannya kerana tidak patuh kpd undang-undang persatuan*;

(KD4: 2005:337)

Based on the entries in KD4, *cendas;mencendas* is defined synonymously with *menendang* or *menerajang*. Furthermore, the word *menendang* has three definitions based on the definition of *cendas;mencendas*. The first one appears to be the most accurate definition for *cendas;mencendas* in KD4. Therefore, the research analysis for *menendang* only refers to the first definition that is expressed through three synonyms which are *menyepak*, *mendepak*, *menerajang*. *Menyepak* in terms of strength is different from *menerajang*. *Menyepak* is slower than *menerajang* because trampling over is a result of anger or rage and it starts with momentum.

Besides, the entry *menerajang* has two definitions. The first is a general definition while the second is a figurative definition. Based on the findings of the entry *cendas;mencendas*, the first definition is more accurate. The definition for the entry *menerajang* is clear which is

“menendang (ke bawah atau ke depan) dengan tapak kaki”. However, the doer of the action is not clearly stated, it can be either human or animal. Similarly, in terms of the direction, *menerajang* is used for downward or forward leg swing but not backward leg swing, whereas the entry *cendas;mencendas* only refers to leg lift and backward leg swing by a four-legged animal. Hence, *cendas* does not apply to human. The entry *menyepak* only has one definition with general description and two synonyms which are *menendang* and *mendepak*. However, the definition of *menyepak* as “hitting with the foot” is an inaccurate definition because in terms of Malay syntax, hitting does not involve the foot rather it must be done using the hand or other objects like cane, wooden branch and ruler.

Apart from that, another synonym for the entry *menendang* is *depak;mendepak*. *Depak;mendepak* is a loanword from Jakarta (Jk) which has two definitions. The first definition is “menyepak, menendang” and the second definition is a figurative definition, defined as “dismissing (from a position, group, etc.) or terminating”. Based on the findings of the entry *cendas;mencendas*, the first definition is more accurate. The definition of *mendepak* as “menyepak, menendang” does not clearly state who the doer is and to whom the act is done, whether it refers to an animal or a human. The findings of the study found that the word “mendepak” only refers to the action by human, not animal whereas the word *cendas;mencendas* refers to leg lift and backward leg swing by a four-legged animal.

In addition, the definition given for the entry *cendas;mencendas* is general without mentioning the group or the doer and it also does not specify the direction used for the act of kicking *menendang* or *menerajang*. However, a field study conducted by the researcher on 10 respondents found that the entry *cendas;mencendas* is only used for animals which refers to leg lift and backward leg swing by four-legged animals such as cows, buffaloes and horses. Based on the definition of *cendas;mencendas* in KD4, to ensure the researcher can understand the meaning of *cendas;mencendas*, the respondents stood with the waist slightly bent while lifting one leg and pushing it backward. The picture below is an example of “*cendas;mencendas*” in which a horse is kicking a man.



Picture 1: Kuda *Cendas* Seorang Lelaki

Table 1

The Definition Features of "Cendas" Based on the Meaning Components Analysis Theory (1975)

Entri	manusia	binatang	engangkat kaki	menghayun kaki ke belakang	menghayun kaki ke depan
Fitur makna					
<i>cendas</i>	-	+	+	+	-
<i>menendang</i>	+	+	+	+	+
<i>menerajang</i>	+	+	+	-	+
<i>menyepak</i>	+	+	+	+	+
<i>mendepak</i>	+	-	+	-	+

Table 1 shows that the entry *cendas; mencendas* has the definition features of [-manusia, +binatang, +mengangkat kaki, +menghayun kaki ke belakang, -menghayun kaki ke depan]. The word *menendang* has these features [+manusia, +binatang, +mengangkat kaki, +menghayun kaki ke belakang, +menghayun kaki ke depan]. The word *menerajang* has these features [+manusia, +binatang, +mengangkat kaki, -menghayun kaki ke belakang, +menghayun kaki ke depan]. The word *menyepak* has these features [+manusia, +binatang, +mengangkat kaki, +menghayun kaki ke belakang, +menghayun kaki ke depan]. On the other hand, the definition features for the word *mendepak* are [+manusia, -binatang, +mengangkat kaki, -menghayun kaki ke belakang, +menghayun kaki ke depan].

KD4 defines *cendas; mencendas* with two synonyms which are *menendang* and *menerajang* as described above, while the study found that *cendas; mencendas* refers to "leg lift and backward leg swing by four-legged animals such as cows, buffaloes and horses". In this case, although the definition given shows almost the same act which is lifting and swinging the leg but the way and direction of the swing between *cendas; mencendas*, *menendang* and *menerajang* are different.

In addition, the study found that the words *menendang* and *menerajang* have different definition features with *cendas; mencendas*. The analysis found that there are contrastive features that exist between these entries as *cendas; mencendas* [-manusia] [-menghayun kaki ke depan] is used to refer to leg lift and backward leg swing by four-legged animals such as cows, buffaloes and horses, while the word *menendang* is used by [+manusia] and [+binatang] and it refers to [+menghayun kaki ke depan]. As for the word *menerajang* [-menghayun kaki ke belakang], it has a contrastive feature to *cendas; mencendas* because this act involves [+menghayun kaki ke depan], stronger and there is momentum when the act is done out of anger or rage .

Based on the definition of *menyepak* which is used synonymly with the words [*menendang*] [*menerajang*] to define *cendas; mencendas*, there is a contrastive feature for the entry *menyepak* which is used to define the entries [*menendang*] [*menerajang*] in the synonymous form. In addition, there are two contrastive features that exist for the word *depak; mendepak* [-binatang] and [-menghayun kaki ke belakang] as the word *depak; mendepak* is used for [+manusia] and [+menghayun kaki ke depan]. Therefore, *depak; mendepak* as a synonym for *cendas; mencendas* cannot be used because there are some differences in the definition features. The word *mendepak* is also unsuitable to define the meaning for DK as the word

depak; *mendepak* is Jk loanword that is rarely used by people in Malaysia. In the linguistic context, the contrastive features that exist for the definition of *cendas*; *mencendas* which is *menendang* and *menerajang* make these synonymous words irreplaceable to each other. The definition features for [*menendang*], [*menerajang*] and [*mendepak*] are distinctive which shows that the words cannot be replaced by any synonyms because of very significant differences in the features. This is because *cendas*; *mencendas* only refers to the act done by four-legged animals while *menendang* or *menerajang* can be done by human and two-legged animals regardless of gender and age difference. However, *mendepak* only refers to human action by swinging their leg forward.

Therefore, the words *menendang* and *menerajang* that are used to define *cendas*; *mencendas* can be considered as partial synonyms and they are unsuitable to be used as Sabran, R. & Syam, R. (1985) explained that there are some words in a language that have almost the same meaning. Hence, these words do not entirely have the same meaning.

A Re-evaluation of the Definition of the Precategorical "Cendas"

Based on the findings obtained from 10 respondents, "cendas" is the act of lifting and swinging one leg backward by a four-legged animal. A re-evaluation of the definition of this entry has established [cendeh] as the actual pronunciation in DK. This difference exists because KD4 has changed the pronunciation of DK to the standard spelling. The results of the study found that "cendas" should be defined with an accurate description that is easy to understand, not through matching synonyms with circular meaning that will eventually confuse the language users.

New Definition for the DK Entry *Cendas*

The aspect that distinguishes DK from the Malay pronunciation is the consonant "r" pronounced in DK. Therefore, it is not suitable to retain the use of "r" for the phonetic transcription of the DK words in general dictionaries because it does not reflect the actual pronunciation.

DK Vowel Phoneme Inventory

i		u
ε	↔	o
	α	

Although it was found that the sequence of consonants is common in DK, a word that has the same syllable structure, i.e. KKV does not necessarily have the same word class. For example, the words "*glenya*" and "*glabut*" are base words, while the word "*ccerung*" is a derived word. Through these ten analysed data, it was found that the emphasis of the sound on the first syllable is an element that distinguishes derived word from basic word. The DK phoneme model in KD pays no attention to this difference. However, KD includes an affix at the beginning of a word (prefix) to show that the word is a verb, whereas the use of an affix to indicate a verb is not included in DK.

Based on the findings obtained from 10 respondents from three districts in Kelantan, it was found that the actual pronunciation for the entry [cendas] in DK is [cendeh]. The respondents stated that they never knew the actual meaning of [cendas] and some of them had never heard the entry [cendas] before, as found in KD4. Based on the definition of the entry [cendas]

as “*menendang, menerajang*”, the respondents got an idea that the actual pronunciation of the entry [cendas] is [cendeh]. However, all 10 respondents stated that the entry [cendeh] refers to an act by four-legged animals such as horses, cows and buffaloes, which is lifting and swinging one leg backwards, different from the definition given by KD4 that defines this entry as *menendang, menerajang*. The definition given by KD4 in the form of synonyms is not only general, but fail to guide the users to get an idea of the actual meaning and accurate image of the entry.

Re-evaluation of the definition for this entry has confirmed [cendeh] as the actual pronunciation in DK. This difference exists possibly because KD4 has changed the pronunciation of DK to the standard spelling. Changes in pronunciation based on standard spelling will indirectly change the actual meaning of the entry and the users will not know the word because there is no word [cendas] in DK. The use of the word [cendas] for [cendeh] in KD4 will indirectly cause confusion to the users. Similarly, Mohamad et al (2015) suggested that spelling variation for certain words in the dictionary should be cross-referenced by asking the dictionary users to refer to the standard form and spelling in order to ease the users who are confused about standard spelling. Therefore, the researcher suggested that the standard spelling for the entry “*cendas*” in KD4 is cendeh. cendeh; [cəndEh].

The results of the study found that it is appropriate for *cendas* entry to be redefined to guide the users, especially those who are not native speakers of the dialect in order for them to understand the actual meaning instead of just giving examples through sentences to explain the definition given in the form of synonyms. Defining entries through synonym approach has created imprecise meaning and confusion to the dictionary users.

Redefining through a description that is accurate and easy for the users to understand is not through matching synonyms that has overlap meaning and will eventually confuse the users. A more detailed description with appropriate information which is the characteristics that can distinguish the synonymous words should be provided Ja'afar, S. & Doreen, F. H. C. (2016). In addition, the example should also be included as a guide to provide better understanding to the users. Besides, the phonetic symbols should be added after the entry *cendas; mencendas* to ensure the actual pronunciation of the dialect entry is correct. The use of phonetic symbols is important as it helps the users to pronounce the word, especially non-DK speakers. The definition for the entry *cendas; mencendas* needs to start with a verb marker because this dialect entry is a verb.

The researcher found that there is no feature similarity between the words *cendas; mencendas, menendang, menerajang, menyepak* and *mendepak*. However, the word *menendang* can be a synonym because there is a corpus for the word *menendang*. Here is the proposed new definition:

cendeh; bercendeh

[tΣ↔n.dEh]

KI

kk

perbuatan mengangkat atau menghayun sebelah kaki ke belakang oleh binatang berkaki empat, seperti lembu, kerbau dan kuda; menendang:

Jange duk mmain gak belake kuba tu, namokae keno ~. (ayat DK)
Jangan bermain di belakang kerbau, nanti kena ~ (ayat baku)

Conclusion

In this regard, a theoretical approach is necessary in dictionary-making process to redefine the entries, especially dialect entries that are defined less precisely, especially through matching synonyms. The reason is that every definition for each entry needs to be analysed first. The Meaning Components Analysis Theory (1975) should be applied to identify the existence of the same component for synonyms. In addition, the findings from the interviews also need to be taken into consideration to ensure that the data obtained is accurate, from the right source and supported by the corpus data. For the dialect definition, field studies need to be carried out to get information from the native speakers of the dialect. Apart from the examples of word usage shared by the respondents, corpus data can also be used to help the dictionary users understand the meaning more clearly. The use of graphics is also necessary for some entries to help the dictionary users understand the definition.

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