VERB *EU* 'SEE' IN THE ACEHNESE LANGUAGE

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Abstract
This study discusses the meaning and semantic structures of the EU verb 'see' in Acehnese language. Therefore, the theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage is used. The data were collected by interviewing native speakers of Acehnese language. The results showed that the meaning of the verb EU in Acehnese language is formed by the combined semantic prime of the verb 'see' with that of 'feel', 'think', 'know', and 'say'. The resulting polysemy is see/think, see/know, see/feel, and see/say. Furthermore, the semantic structure of the verb EU is characterized by the same semantic component in describing the meaning of EU, namely the components' X see Y' and 'X see Y like this'.

Keywords: *Semantic structure, verb, Natural Semantic Metalanguage.*

INTRODUCTION

In the lexicon of the Acehnese language, the verb *EU* 'see' has various semantically related words; for example, *kalon, ngieng, pandang, glieb, saweue*, and *luem*. The meaning of this verb can be expressed by relying on its semantic structure. The study of the semantic structure of verbs is very important to explain the semantic characteristics attached to specific verbs such as the *EU* verb in the Acehnese language. A number of studies have been conducted on the use of verb 'see' from various languages, such as Indonesian (Mulyadi, 2000), Flores Lio language (Koroh, 2015), Kupang Malay language (Latupeirissa, 2016). There is only the semantic primes translation into Acehnese (Durie, Daud & Hasan, 1994). However, no studies have been conducted on the verb 'see' in Acehnese and so this research intends to fill in this gap.

This study utilized the theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) that is the semantic theory that formulates the universal meaning taken from natural language to determine the meaning of words, grammatical meaning, and the meaning of the discourse. By using this theory, the meaning of a verb can be described more clearly because NSM paraphrase analysis composed in the simplest terms to avoid circularity and obscurity (Goddard, 1998, p. 56).There is an assumption in the NSM theory that every language has a set of meanings that cannot be broken down into simpler meaning (Wierzbicka, 1996; Goddard, 1998; Goddard & Wierzbicka, 2014). This is called the semantic core which is treated as a metalanguage in description and comparison of languages. This semantic core is also called semantic primitives whose role is to avoid distortions when the meaning of one language is translated into that of another language. The primitives drawn from a given natural language combine according to a subset of the morphosyntactic conventions of that language (Goddard & Wierzbicka, 1994, p. 12).

The NSM theory was pioneered by Anna Wierzbicka (1991, 1992, 1996). In the development of this theory, Wierzbicka was assisted by her co-workers, particularly Cliff Goddard (1994, 1998, 1996a, 1996b, 2010). In addition to the semantic primitives, other important concepts in the theory of NSM are polysemy, allolexy, and universal syntax of meaning. Polysemy is a form of single lexicon to express two different semantic primes. The concept allolexy describes several different words to express a single meaning. Universal syntax of meaning refers to the semantic components such as 'I want to do something', 'Something bad happened to me', or 'These people feel something good'.

METHODS

This study utilized the qualitative descriptive method by describing the semantic structure of the verb EU 'see' in the Acehnese language. The four stages in this research were data collection, data reduction, data display, and presentation of the data analysis results (Miles & Huberman, 1994). Both oral and writing data containing the verb *eu*'s behavior in the Acehnese language were used. The data source were five speakers of Acehnese language selected based on certain criteria including native speakers of Aceh, physically and mentally healthy, understand and master the culture of Aceh, and rarely leave their villages. In collecting the data, interview and nonparticipant observation methods were used in accordance with the research requirements (Sudaryanto, 2015). The respondents were interviewed using elicited technique and semi-structured interview. Aceh dictionaries (Bakar, *et al.,* 1985; Dinas Pendidikan, 2000) used to develop instruments that were given to the respondents. The intuitions of respondents examine the grammatical appropriateness and the validity of data.

All data were analyzed using the distributional method (Sudaryanto, 2015). Work procedures applied were (1) identify the semantic characteristics of the verb EU to examine the behavioral differences in syntactic construction, (2) determine the semantic component of the verb EU, (3) compare the semantic components of the verb EU to determine the degree of similarities and differences, and (4) paraphrase the meaning of the verb EU in the form of scenario prototypes using the semantic primitives (Mulyadi, 2012). Furthermore, the result of data analysis is presented informally, using words and sentences, including the use of technical terms.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Verbs semantically refer to events (Givon, 1984, pp. 51-52). The verb EU is the representation of the vision action that implies a temporal change. The vision verbs are classified into state verbs. In order to know the semantic structure of the EU verb, it is necessary to reveal the semantic components attached to the lexical items and the meaning of the word must then be compared to the meaning of the correlated words. The semantic structure of the verb EU can be represented by a combination of the semantic primitive exponents, the polysemy (Wierzbicka, 1996, pp.25-26).

Semantic Structure of Verb EU

The meaning of SEE is polysemy with the meaning of FEEL, THINK, KNOW and SAY. People SEE something when they FEEL something or THINK about something. People also SEE something if they want to KNOW or want to SAY something. The following is an explanation of the semantic structure of the verb EU 'see' in Acehnese language.

SEE/THINK

Polysemy SEE/THINK in Acehnese explains the meaning of the verb *tilèk, ngieng, luem*, and *kalon*. The semantic prime of the verb THINK reflects actions taken to investigate an event occurring at a particular time. The meaning of *tilèk* describes someone's actions in the future ('this person will do something'). *Luem* refers to an event currently happening ('something is happening in this place'). Furthermore, the meaning of *ngieng* is associated with an event ('something is happening to someone, Y') and carefulness ('all part of something, Y'). Just like the meaning of *tilèk,* the meaning of *kalon* is associated with a person's actions, but without secrecy ('I do not want people to know this'). Consider the examples below.

(1) a. X' *Ci ta-   ngieng   bak deuh, pakon gaki manok nyoe patah.*
            try-you2sg examine clearly   why   legs chicken this broken

    b. X' *Jeut ta –kalon   aneuk lon siat?   Lon neuk jak   u keude.*
        can you 2sg supervise child   my awhile? I   want to go to the market

(2) a. X' *Kaleuh ka-   tilek   bit-bit?   Get pue han si gam nyan.*
          have   you(2sg) investigate seriously? Good or   not man   that
    b. X' *Kaleuh ku—luem rumoh nyan, lakoe   binoe tiep uroe meudawa.*
        have   I1sg peek house that, husband wife everyday argue

tilèk 'investigate'
X see Y for some time
because X think of something like this:
This person will do something
I want to know this
I do not want this person to know this
 X see Y like this

luem 'peek'
X see Y for some time
because X think of something like this:
something is happening in this place
I want to know this
I do not want this person to know this
 X see Y like this

ngieng 'examine'
X see Y for some time
because X think of something like this:
something is happening to Y
I want to know something about all parts of Y
X see Y like this

kalon 'supervise'
X see Y for some time
because X think of something like this:
This person will do something
I want to know this
X see Y like this

SEE/KNOW
    SEE/KNOW expresses the meaning of *ngieng* 'observe', *glieb* 'check', *ceungeuk* 'look into' and *kunjông* 'visit'. The meanings of *ngieng* and *glieb* imply an intention to know more or in a more detailed manner. The meaning of *ceungeuk* is interpreted as an action to find out about something and *kunjông* as an action related to a place. Consider the examples below.

(3) a. X' *Ci ta-ngieng   u likot,   bek meupok binteh moto nyoe.*
        Try you2sg observe to behind, not hit   wall   car   this
    b. X' *Ka-glieb   beubeutoi.*
        you2sg check correctly

(4) X' *Ta-ceungeuk u   likot   moto mangat deuh binteh.*
    you–look   into behind car   so that see   wall

(5) X' *Lheuhnyan ta-jak   kunjông u Banda Aceh dua uroe ngen moto nyoe.*
    After that we2pl-go visit   to Banda Aceh two day with car this

ngieng 'observe'
X see Y for some time
because X wants to know all the things Y does
X see Y like this

glieb 'check'
X see Y for some time
because X wants to know something about all parts of Y
X see Y like this

ceungeuk 'look into'
X see Y for some time
because X wants to know something is happening in this place
 X see Y like this

kunjông 'visit'
X see Y for some time
because X wants to know something about Y (place)
X see Y like this

SEE/FEEL
Polysemy SEE/FEEL expresses the meaning of the verb *meupandang* 'look' and *kalon* 'stare'. The difference between the meanings of those verbs lies in the distance, where *meupandang* characterizes long distance and *kalon* characterizes close distance.

(6) *a. X' meupandang/kalon Y yang ceudah   rupa*
          X' stare of   Y that beautiful appearance
      b. X' meupandang/kalon Y dari   juoh   2 km
          X' look   Y from distance 2 km

meupandang 'look'
 X see Y for some time
because X feel something
not because X wants to know something
 X see Y like this

kalon 'staring'
 X see Y close some time
 because Y feel something
not because X wants to know something
X see Y like this

SEE/SAY
SEE/SAY expresses the meaning of *kalon* 'look', *saweue*, 'visit', *keumunjong* 'a visit of condolence', *keureuleng* 'glance', and *blie* 'glare'. The meaning of *kalon* and *keureuleng* is interpreted as an action to know the condition of a person or thing as knowledge.

(7) *X' Geu-kalôn sôe ketok pinto di lua*
      X' look   who knock door outside

(8) *X' Geu-keureuleng u wi dan u nun bak inong   nyan*
      X' glance   to left and to right to   woman that

***kalon* 'look'**
X saw Y for some time
because X wanted to say something like this to Y
I want to know something about you
because I do not know: something that happened to you
X saw Y like this

***keureuleng* 'glance'**
X saw Y for some time
because X wanted to say something like this to Y:
I want to know something about you
I want you to know something about this
X saw Y like this

When people *saweue* 'visit someone' and *keumunjong* 'visit of condolence', the action aims to comfort and to console the person visited, namely a sick person and the family of a deceased person.

(9) *Jak ta-saweue siat   ureueng saket dilikot rumôh lon*
    go we2pl-visit awhile person   sick   behind house my

    Kamoe jak keumunjong bak si Amir barô
    we1pl go   visited   to   Amir yesterday

***saweue* 'visited'**
X saw Y for some time
because X wanted to say something like this to Y:
I want you to feel something good
because I know that something bad happened to you
X saw Y like this

***kunjông* 'visit of condolence'**
X saw Y for some time
because X wanted to say something like this
I want you to feel something good
because I know that something bad happened to you
X saw Y like this

Furthermore, the verbs *blie* 'glare' and *keureuleng* 'glance' indicate feelings towards someone. *Blie* shows that someone is mad at someone else ('X feels something bad towards Y') and *keureuleng* expresses attraction someone has to another person ('X feel something good towards Y').

(10) *X' Geu-blie ateuh lon, pue   bungeh jih?*
    X' glare   to   me, what angry   him?

    X'   Geu-keureuleng ateuh inong   nyan sabe
    X'   glance   to   woman that always

***blie* 'to glare'**
X see Y for some time
because X wants to say something like this to Y
I feel something bad towards you
I want you to know this
X see Y like this

***keureuleng* 'glance'**
X see Y for some time
because X wants to say something like this to Y:
I feel something good towards you
I want you to know this
X see Y like this

CONCLUSION

The meaning of the verb EU in the Acehnese language is formed by a combination of the semantic primes of the verb 'SEE' and those of the verb FEEL, THINK, KNOW, and SAY. The resulting polysemy is SEE/THINK, SEE/KNOW, SEE/FEEL and SEE/SAY. Based on the paraphrased meaning, the semantic structure of the verb EU is built by two similar semantic components, namely 'X see Y for some time' and 'X see Y like this'. The meaning differences of the members of the verb EU lie between these two semantic components.

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APPENDIX

Semantic Prime (Wierzbicka, 1996; Goddard, 2010)

I, YOU, SOMEONE/PERSON, PEOPLE, SOMETHING/THING, BODY	Substantives
KIND, PART	Relational Substantives
THIS, THE SAME, OTHER	Determiners
ONE, TWO, ALL, MANY/MUCH, SOME	Quantifiers
GOOD, BAD	Evaluators
BIG, SMALL	Descriptors
THINK, KNOW, WANT, FEEL, SEE, HEAR, SPEECH:	**Mental predicates**
SAY, WORD, TRUE	Speech
DO, HAPPEN, MOVE, TOUCH	Actions, events, and movement
BE (SOMEWHERE), THERE IS, HAVE, BE,(SOMEONE/SOMETHING)	Location, existence, possession, specification
LIVE, DIE	Life and death
WHEN/TIME, AFTER, BEFORE, A LONG TIME, A SHORT TIME, FOR SOME TIME, NOW, (MOMENT)	Time
WHERE/PLACE, HERE, ABOVE, BELOW; FAR, NEAR; SIDE, INSIDE	Space
NOT, CAN, BECAUSE, MAYBE,IF	Logical Concepts
VERY, MORE	Intensifier, augmentor
LIKE	Similarity