Shift in Word Formation Process of Indonesian Words

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Abstract

This article is based on the part of the research entitled "*Pergeseran Sistem Pembentukan Kata Bahasa Indonesia: Kajian Morfologi dan Sosiolinguistik*". This research is aimed at revealing the shift in Indonesian word formation. The data of this research are Indonesian words formed through word formation. The data were taken from Indonesian newspapers, tabloids, and magazines. The findings show that the shift happened in the processes of Indonesian word formation including borrowing, translation, derivation, acronym, blending, and clipping.

Key words: Indonesian word formation, Word formation shift, newspapers, tabloids, magazines

A. Introduction

In communication, language users, in general, always try to keep using the vocabulary of their language. If the diction used is deemed inappropriate, they will try to borrow, to adapt, or even to create new words in accordance with the messages to be delivered. This situation leads to the creation of new words in the language they use. Such kinds of efforts bring into the growth and the development of a language, that is the emergence of new vocabulary, either intentionally or accidentally.

Through arbitrariness in a language, the emergence of new vocabulary will possibly happen any time and can be done by anyone belonging to the speaker of the language. The arbitrariness in a language also encourages its speakers to be creative in forming new words. The process of creating new words usually starts from the strange words used as a joke between the speakers. As the new words are ears-catching and appropriate with the context of the conversation, those words are then used by other speakers. Eventually, those words spread out and are used by the other members of the group in their daily interaction. This also happens in Indonesian language in which some new words are created.

Theoretically, word formation process in Indonesian language is regulated in *Pedoman Umum Pembentukan Istilah* (*PUPI*), a general guidance of terms formation, as the 2nd attachment of the book entitled *Tata Bahasa Baku Bahasa Indonesia* (*TBBBI*), a standard grammar of Indonesian language (see Moeliono, 1988; Alwi, 1998; Pusat Bahasa, 2007). This book explains the morphological aspects of terminology including the use of roots, affixation, reduplication, and compounding. Another book, entitled *Pengindonesiaan Kata dan Ungkapan Asing*, Indonesianization of Foreign Words and Expressions, tend to explain only the direction of how foreign words and expressions are adopted or adapted into Indonesian language (Sugono, 2009). In addition, there is also another book talking about word formation, i.e. "*Pedoman Umum Ejaan bahasa Indonesia Yang Disempurnakan* (*PU-EYD*)" published by Pusat Bahasa in 2004. This book regulates the writing system of Indonesian abbreviations and acronyms. In conclusion, the explanation about word formation process in Indonesian language is discussed separately in several books published by Pusat Bahasa.

Moeliono's book (1988) about standard grammar of Indonesian language does not only regulate the use of standard language but also the system of word formation. Words in Indonesian language can be formed from other words; therefore, it is necessary to understand various terminology of explaining the formation process of such words as morphemes, allomorphs, morphophonemic, roots, analogy, category, and function. Morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit of language. The morphemes with different physical realization but in the same meaning and function are known as allomorphs. The process of changing the language forms

and sounds as a result of combining two morphemes are called morphophonemic process. The smallest meaningful unit of language chracterized by its independent characteristic is called a root which can be further developed onto a base or a compound word. Meanwhile, analogy is a process of word formation employing the existing words, usually characterized as derivation or inflection process.

The word formation system of standard Indonesian language regulated in *PBBBI, PU-EYD*, and *PUPI* can be summarized in the following table.

Figure 1
The word formation of Indonesian language regulated in
PBBBI, PU-EYD, and *PUPI*
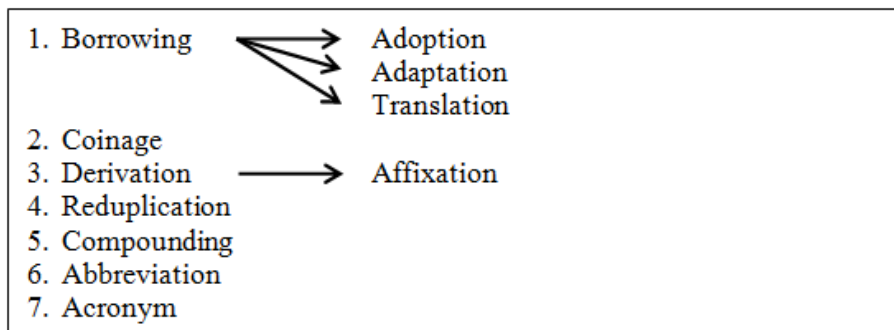
In general, *PUPI* mentions that word formation in Indonesian language is done through borrowing foreign words/terms in the form of translation, adaptation, and coinage. The form of terms includes roots, derivation/affixation, reduplication, compounding, analogy, meta-analysis, abbreviation, and acronym. *TBBBI* regulates the inflectional and derivational process of verbs, nouns, adjectives, and adverbs. *PU-EYD* regulates the writing system of reduplication, compounding, abbreviation, and acronym.

Compared to such theories of word formation/lexical formation as discussed by a number of grammarians (see McManis et all., 1987; Katamba, 1993; Jackson and Ze Amvela, 2000; Stockwell and Minkova, 2001; Booij, 2007; Lieber, 2009; Zaim, 2009), the explanation about word formation in Indonesian language still does not accomodate all processes of word formation of current new words. Moreover, recent development shows that more and more new words in Indonesian language have been created. Consequently, a comprehensive study about Indonesian word formation needs to be conducted.

One of the phenomena in the studies of word formation is the emergence of shift in forming the words. The shift in the system of word formation takes place when there is an indication of forming new words beyond the system regulated in *TBBBI, PU-EYD*, and *PUPI*. This articles talks about the shift taking place in the word formation process in Indonesian language. Specifically, this article discusses the shift in Indonesian word formation in terms of borrowing, translation, derivation, acronym, blending, and clipping.

B. The Shift in the Borrowing Process

PUPI mentions that borrowing in Indonesian word formation can be done in four processes, namely borrowing with spelling and pronunciation adaptation (camera → kamera), borrowing with spelling adaptation without pronunciation adaptation (design [disain] → desain [desain]), borrowing without spelling adaptation with pronunciation adaptation (bias [baies] → bias [bias]), and borrowing without spelling and pronunciation adaptation, e.g. *status quo*. Next, *PUPI* also explains the process of adapting foreign affixes onto Indonesian affixes (contra- → kontra-).

The word formation shift in borrowing includes adoption and adaptation process. In adoption, the finding of this research shows that borrowing words are not only roots such as

internet and *gadget*; but also acronyms such as *MDGs*, *APEC*, *GB*, etc. Study the following sentences.

(1) *Payakumbuh pemenang <u>MDGs</u> Award 2012* (Padang Ekspres, March 28th 2013).
Payakumbuh is the winner of <u>MDGs</u> Award 2012.

(2) *Bolpoin ini menyediakan kapasitas simpan 1 <u>GB</u>, dapat menampung 1.000 gambar* (Tempo, February 11th 2013).
This ballpoint provides 1 <u>GB</u> storage capacity, and is able to store 1,000 images.

(3) *Indonesia mesti gunakan <u>APEC</u>; Ekspansi korporasi global ubah paradigm* (Kompas, August 27th 2013)
Indonesia must employ <u>APEC</u>; Global coorporation expansion alters paradigms.

Referring to the theory, word formation through acronym process is done by taking out the initial letters of the words written in capital letters such in the words as *WO, SEAG, AMA*, etc. Next, those letters are written based on their spellings, and they are not pronounciable as a word. However, the shift takes place in the following sentence.

(4) *Hape dengan radio FM, Facebook & Chatting termurah* (NOVA, May 10th – 16th 2010)
The cheapest <u>HP</u> with FM radio, Facebook and Chatting.

In sentence 4, the acronym "*hape*" is written by using the spelling sounds of the initial letters of the word "handphone".

Besides, the shift is also indicated through the combination of initial words and a root as it is found in the word *YMJet-FI* (Yamaha Mixture Jet Fuel Injection). Study the following sentence.

(5) *Sepeda motor jenis trail ini disempurnakan dengan teknologi Yamaha Mixture Jet Fuel Injection (<u>YMJet-FI</u>).* (Posmetro Padang, June 24th 2013)
This trail motorcycle is completed with the technology of Yamaha Mixture Jet Fuel Injection (YMJet-FI).

The word *YMJet-FI* in sentence 5 clearly shows that *Jet* is a root, and it is combined with the initial letters of the words, i.e. *YM-FI*.

The shift also takes place in the acronym process of the word *IBX* (*Indonesia Broadcasting Expo*). Study the following sentence.

(6) *Asosiasi Televisi Swasta Indonesia (ATVSI) menggelar Indonesia Broadcasting Expo (<u>IBX</u>) di Jakarta* (Republika, April 20th 2013)
The Association of Indonesian Private Television helds Indonesia Broadcasting Expo (<u>IBX</u>) in Jakarta.

The process of the acronym *IBX* violates the regulation of Indonesian word formation because the last letter "X" is not the initial letter of the word it represents "*Expo*". The letter "*X*" is written because it is considered representing the sound "*Ex*", whereas acronym is formed based on spelling, not a sound.

Furthermore, in terms of borrowing through adaptation, a shift in the word formation is also found. Suffix "-ic" in English should be adapted onto Indonesian in the form of "-*is*" as in the words "economic" becoming "*ekonomis*", "logic" becoming "*logis*", and so forth. However, based on data analysis, it is found that such suffix is adapted onto "-*ik*" which is not commonly used in Indonesian language. Study the following sentence.

(7) *Pemda mempunyai peran yang <u>stratejik</u> dalam pembangunan perumahan rakyat* (Republika, April 9th 2013)
Pemda (Local government) plays a <u>strategic</u> role in building public houses.

The word "strategic" adapted onto "*stratejik*" in Indonesian language shows the shift in word formation process. That word should become "*strategis*", where the spelling of "*g*" is not necessarily adapte onto "*j*" because "g" spelling is also used in Indonesian language.

In addition, the words "*asset*", "*karier*", dan "*fondasi*" also indicate the shift in Indonesion word formation. study those words in the following sentences.

(8) *Adapun <u>asset</u> pada 2011, yakni Rp. 5,3 triliun* (Republika, April 9th 2013)
The total <u>asset</u> in 2011 is Rp. 5.3 trillions.

(9)   7 keterampilan berikut akan membawa kita menapaki puncak tangga <u>karier</u>. (NOVA, May 10th – 16th 2013)

The next 7 skills will bring us achieve the top <u>career</u>.

(10)   *Rio Ferdinand dan Jonny Evans menjadi <u>fondasi</u> sistem pertahanan United* (BOLA, April 04th – 05th 2013)

Rio Ferdinand and Jonny Evans become the foundation of the United's defensive system.

Indonesian spelling system does not introduce gemination (the same consonants appear contiguously in a root) such as in the word "asset". Such spelling is familiar in English and other foreign languages, but it is not common in Indonesian language. The adaptation process should be done by deleting one of the twin consonant, so the word is written as "*aset*". In the word "*karier*", the use of diphthong "*ie*" is not found in the Indonesian word. The word should become "*karir*" in which diphthong "*ie*" is adapted onto monophthong "*i*". meanwhile, in the word "*fondasi*", the use of "f" also indicates the shift in word formation process. The use of "f" does show the the characteristic of Indonesian word, however, in this context, the use of "p" is more acceptable.

C.   The Shift in the Translation Process

PUPI mentions that Indonesian words can be formed through translation based on the meaning concurrence. There are three forms of translation, they are direct translation (skyscraper → *pencakar langit*), translation with adaptation (catering → *jasa boga*), dan a combination of translation and adapted translation (bound morpheme → *morfem terikat*). In the word formation through translation, it is important to consider the following four points: (1) the translation must not be based on word by word translation (medical practitioner → *dokter*); (2) foreign terms or words in positive forms are translated into positive Indonesian words, and negative words are translated into negative Indonesian words as well (illiterate → *niraksara*); (3) a word class of a foreign word should be kept when it is translated (transparent (Adjective) → *transparan* (Adjective)); (4) translating plural foreign words is done by eliminating their plural markers (airports → *bandara*).

Based on the data analysis, the shift also takes place in translation process. As mentioned before, translation can be done through direct translation and adapted translation. For certain words, direct translation does not give clear or exact meaning of the translated word. The word "*remote kontrol*" in sentence 11 shows how direct translation fails to give the exact meaning of the word.

(11)   *Bedanya terdapat fitur infra merah yang bisa digunakan sebagai <u>remote kontrol</u> pada perangkat yang kompatibel.* (PULSA, April 24th – Mei 7th 2013).

The difference is found in the infrared feature which can be used as a <u>remote control</u> for a compatible hardware.

By translating the word "remote control" into "*remote kontrol*", this word fails to represent the meaning of the word in its language source. This is due to the fact that the word "*kontrol*" in Indonesian language means watching, looking after, keeping an eye on something, or caring for. Therefore, adaptation is necessary in translation process. By translating the word "control" into "*pengendali* (controller)", and "remote" into "*jarak jauh* (long distance)", the meaning carried out by the translated word can be represented, i.e. "*pengendali jarak jauh* (long distance controller)".

D.   The Shift in Derivation Process

The shift also takes place in the words formed through derivation. Study the following sentence.

(12)   *Untuk menggaet pembeli, ia berencana untuk memanfaatkan blog dan media sosial. "Saya akan membuat blog dan sesering mungkin <u>meng-upload</u> foto produk di*

facebook dan instagram," ujar Intan menjelaskan strategi pemasarannya (Tempo, February 11ᵗʰ 2013).

To attract the buyers, she plans to utilize blogs and social media. "I will design a blog and <u>upload</u> the product photos in a facebook and instagram," said Intan explaining her marketing strategy.

The word "*<u>meng-upload</u>*" in sentence 12 is written in different Indonesian writing system. This writing system is not commonly used because the prefix and the root must neither be separated nor given a dash (-) as in "*mengupload*". This is beyond the standard system of prefixation in Indonesian language.

E. The Shift in Acronym Process

The shift in the Indonesian word formation process through acronym is found in forming the word "*GAZA*" which stands for "*Gabungan Anak Jalanan* (a group of street children)". Theoretically, the acronym process must be based on the letters found in its original words. However, the letter "*Z*" is not found in the words constituting *GAZA*. In this word, "*Z*" is regarded to have represented the letter "*J*" which must, actually, be used in the acronym itself.

The formation of acronym "*PLTP*" standing for "*Pembangkit Listrik Tenaga Panas Bumi* (electricity generated through native heat energy)" also indicates the occurence of the shift in Indonesian word formation process. The letters found in the acronym do not represent all the words in its original form. The letter "B" that should have represented the word "*Bumi*" is not found in this acronym. The word "*Bumi* (earth or native)" is said to have been included in the meaning of the word "Panas (heat)".

F. The Shift in Blending Process

The next shift takes place in the process of Indonesian word formation through blending. Theoretically, blending is done by combining the first syllable of the first word and the last syllable of the next word(s) as in "*miras*" for "*minuman keras* (alcoholic drinks)" and "*wajar*" for "*wajib belajar* (required learning)". However, based on the data analysis, the word formation shift is found in several blending processes. One of the shifts in the blending process takes place when the blending is formed through a combination of the first syllable of the first and the first syllable of the next word(s) as in "*Pengprov*" for "*pengurus provinsi* (a province administrator)", "*Kompol*" for "*Komisaris Polisi* (Police Commissioner)", and "*Pessel*" for "*Pesisir Selatan* (South Pesisir)".

Next, the shift in blending also takes through (1) the combination of the first syllable of the first word with the syllable in the middle of the next word(s) as in "*Disdik*" for "*<u>Di</u>nas Pen<u>di</u>kan* (Ministry of Education)"; (2) the combination of the syllable in in the middle of the word and the first syllable of the next word as in "*Diknas*" for "*Pen<u>di</u>dikan <u>Na</u>sional* (National Education)"; (3) the combination of the root or free morpheme with the syllable of the next word as in "*Timnas*" for "*Tim Nasional* (National Team)". In this blending word, a part of the word "*tim*" is a root or a complete word, whereas "*nas*" is a syllable of the word "*nasional*".

G. The Shift in Clipping Process

The next shift in Indonesian word formation takes place in clipping process. Theoretically, a clipping is done by clipping an initial part or a final part of the word as in "prof" for "professor". However, based on the data analysis, a clipping is found through clipping the initial and the final part of the word, and the middle part of the word is kept as in the word "*lidik*". This word is a clipping form of the word "*menyelidiki* (investigate)". This word is formed by clipping the initial part of the word "*menye-*" and the final part of the word "-*i*".

Another shift in a clipping process of Indonesian word formation takes place when almost all of parts of the word syllables are clipped, only the first letter of the word is permanently

kept, and the other letter is kept randomly. The word "*pj*" is a word formed through clipping process from its former form "*penjabat*". This word is composed of a group of syllables "*pen-ja-bat*". Next, a final part of the first and the second syllable are clipped; therefore, "*p*" and "*j*" are kept; meanwhile, all of the letters in the third syllable "*bat*" are clipped.

H. Conclusion

The finding of the research shows that a shift takes place in some of the Indonesian word formation processes. The word formation is said to experience shift when the process of forming new words is beyond the standard Indonesian word formation process as regulated in *TBBBI, PU-EYD*, and *PUPI*. The evidence showing that the shift does take place in the Indonesian word formation can be seen through the finding of various words which are formed or created against the rules published in those three books.

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