

# Meaning Relation of Javanese Verbs Referring to Eye Activities

Nyaryatun Safitri (13020110130074)

Dra. Cut AP Ellisafny, M.Ed

English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University

Jl. Prof. Soedarto, SH. Tembalang, Semarang 50275

## ABSTRAK

Esai ini disusun untuk mempelajari relasi makna di dalam kumpulan kata kerja bahasa Jawa yang mengacu pada aktivitas mata. Topik esai ini adalah kajian relasi makna dengan melakukan penelaahan makna setiap kata kerja bahasa Jawa yang mengacu pada aktivitas mata dengan menggunakan pendekatan semantik dan teori analisis komponen.

Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah metode deskriptif. Sedangkan dalam pengumpulan data, penulis menerapkan metode dokumentasi dari *Baoesastra Djawa* (Poerwadarminta, 1939) dan metode simak bebas libat cakap. Dalam membedakan setiap kata kerja bahasa Jawa yang mengacu pada aktivitas mata, penulis menggunakan sampel jenuh (Sugiyono, 2008). Sementara itu, untuk menganalisis data, penulis menggunakan teknik perluas dan teknik ganti untuk mengetahui data tersebut gramatikal atau tidak.

Berdasarkan hasil analisis data, dapat ditarik kesimpulan bahwa kumpulan kata kerja bahasa Jawa yang mengacu pada aktivitas mata dapat dikelompokkan berdasarkan pergerakan kelopak mata, bola mata, unsur kesengajaan dan ketajaman mata saat melihat. Berdasarkan parameter tersebut penulis menemukan dua puluh satu kata kerja bahasa Jawa yang mengacu pada aktivitas mata beserta relasi maknanya yaitu sinonim.

Kata kunci: semantics, meaning relation, componential analysis, Javanese verbs, and eye activities.

## 1. Introduction

How can we distinguish the word *see* and *stare at* in English? How can we understand the differences between *melihat* and *memandang* in Indonesian? Those words have similar meaning. However, as Bloomfield argues that there is no exactly similar meaning represented by different words. All words in a language have their own meaning. They can be grouped based on their *semantic field*. This case also happens in

Javanese. Javanese has a lot of words, especially verbs, which are categorized based on their *semantic field*. We can see from this example, the Javanese verbs *nyangking*, *nyunggi* and *nggendong* include to a *semantic field*, that is, 'bring concept' (*konsep bawa*). Then the word *nglirik* and *mandeng*, for example, include in the member of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities.

Here, I choose one *semantic field* that refers to eye activities in Javanese. I limit the scope of the study, that is, Javanese verbs of *ngoko* level referring to eye activities. I choose *ngoko* level because it is easier to be found in daily conversation. I focus on the *meaning relation* of those verbs which are supported by *componential analysis theory*. There are two problems found in this research. First, what kinds of meaning relations occur in Javanese verbs referring to eye activities? The second one is how *componential analysis* can explain those types of *meaning relations*. From these research problems, it can be concluded that the purpose of the study is to explain the *lexical meaning* and the *meaning relations* of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities. Besides, this research also aims to show the variety of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities.

## **2. Theoretical Framework**

According to Nida (1975), *semantic field* is a group of meaning which shares certain semantic components. It deals with grouping some words which have similar feature based on the semantic components. Besides, Patada (2001) states that *semantic field* is a group of words which are connected oneanother based on the meaning. For example, we can use *jasmine* and *rose*, which are included in the word *flower*. Then *flower* can be defined as the member of *plant*. This case also happens in Javanese. The words such as

*ndelok*, *nglirik*, *mandeng* and *nyawang* involve in the group of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities.

Goddard (1998) says that *meaning relation* is the systematic relations between word meanings. Some words sometimes have a relation which can be classified from each meaning. Furthermore, Palmer (1981) states that there are some meaning relations found when we discuss about words meaning. Yet, here, I only discuss types of meaning relations which are related to the study. They are hyponymy and synonymy. First, the relation of hyponymy i.e. grouping words based on the matter of class membership. It happens in the words *lion* and *horse* which are members of mammals. Second, synonymy is a term which is used to mean *sameness of meaning*. Javanese verb like *mangan* has similar meaning to *madhang*. They have a synonymy relation.

I also apply lexical meaning which is called as semantic or external meaning. It is the meaning when it is independent or the meaning of word as the meaning in the dictionary. For example, Javanese verb *madhang* means 'to eat' in English. According to Djayasudarma (1993), lexical meaning is the element meaning of language as the symbol of thing, event, etc. Lexical meaning is specially owned by the elements of language out of context.

When we are learning about semantic field and meaning relation, we usually learn about componential analysis as well. According to Leech (1993), componential analysis is a process of selecting the meaning of a word into some minimal features. By using this analysis, it can help us to know the various features of words and analyse the relationship among similar words. We can use sign (+) and (-) to show the feasibility between words and their features. For example, the features of the word *man* are +male,

+adult, and -female. Then the word *woman* has such characterizations -male, +adult, and +female. It can be concluded that *man* and *woman* are opposite.

Moreover, there is one previous study which is arranged by Reny Putri Septiawati (2010). The title of her thesis is *Semantic Analysis of “Smell” Terms in Javanese*. She tries to describe the *semantic analysis* aspects of *smell* terms. She focuses on Lyon’s theory *semantic analysis* and Nida’s *componential meaning analysis*. Unfortunately, she does not provide the reader with a brief explanation of her research problem. In this research she found 29 Javanese smell terms. As mentioned before, Reni applies *componential analysis*. To support this underlying theory, she uses several methods and techniques, such as descriptive qualitative method, documentation method in collecting the data, and also expansion and substitution method in grouping the data. If the previous research focuses on semantic analysis, here I deal with meaning relation of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities.

### **3. Research Method**

This research can be defined as qualitative descriptive research since the data are written and oral words. Furthermore, the data will be analyzed descriptively. The whole research data is called population (Arikunto, 1993). However, the population of this research is Javanese verbs which refer to eye activities. I find twenty-one Javanese verbs referring to eye activities. I decide to use *total* sampling i.e a technique sampling which is used when all of the data in population are the object of the study (Sugiyono, 1999). This sampling is used to distinguish the meaning of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities.

I collect the data by using *documentation* and *uninvolved conversation observation* method. *Documentation* is technique of collecting data from note, picture or monumental works of someone (Sugiyono, 2008). Moreover I also obtain some data from *Baoesastra Djawa* written by Poerwadarminta. In addition, *uninvolved conversation observation* is a method of collecting data where the writer is only as the observer or listener and do not involve in the conversation (Sudaryanto,1993).

Moreover I use *distributional* method which means the method that uses the element of language as a parameter in the analysis process (Sudaryanto, 1993) since in this study Javanese verbs referring to eye activities become a decisive factor in order to be analyzed. I also apply *expansion* technique and *substitution* technique. *Expansion* is technique of analyzing data by expanding linguistic unit forward or backward in the sentence (Sudaryanto, 1993). I use this technique to know whether a word is grammatical or not if it is expanded (Sudaryanto, 1993). Besides, to find a special characteristic of a word I use *substitution* technique. It is an analysis technique by substituting one linguistic unit of expanded words (Sudaryanto1993).The word A is expanded into AX; the X is substituted into Y, so it becomes AY. This method is used to see whether the substituted part is suitable with the data or not. There are some steps in analyzing data. First, search the lexical meaning of each Javanese verb which refers to eye activities from *Baoesastra Djawa*. Second, use componential analysis to show the semantic features of each verb. Third, figure out the meaning relation based on the result of first and second step.

#### **4. Meaning Relations of Javanese Verbs Referring to Eye Activities**

Before I explain about the meaning relation found in this study, this succeeding table is the componential analysis of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities. There are twenty-one verbs which relates to eye activities. Then, each verb is analyzed based on the presence of their semantic features. Here, I use four semantic features i.e. eyelid movements, eyeball movements, intentional, sharp, attentive, sight frequency and human feeling. The term intentional is used to see whether a person who looks at the thing is intentional or not. Moreover, the term ‘human feeling’ is used to know the feeling or emotion of human. After using this componential analysis and looking at *Baoesastra Djawa*, we can apply the use of each verb in a sentence. Therefore, we can see the meaning relations among those verbs.

### Componential Analysis of Javanese Verbs Referring to Eye Activities

No	Verbs	Semantic Features													
		El Mo				D Eb Mo			Int	Sh	Att	SFq		HF	
		Op	WOp	C	OEC	L/R	U/D	St				Gl	L	B	G
1	<i>ndelok</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	±	±	±	±	±	±
2	<i>nonton</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	±	+	±	+	-	+	±	±
3	<i>nglirik</i>	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	±	+	+	-	±	±
4	<i>mlerok</i>	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	±	+	-	+	+	-
5	<i>mendelo</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
6	<i>nyawang</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
7	<i>mandeng</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
8	<i>ndeleng</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	±	+	±	±	±	±
9	<i>ngawaske</i>	+	-	-	-	-	±	±	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
10	<i>mlolo</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	±	±	+	-
11	<i>mblalak</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	±	±	±	±
12	<i>mendelik</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	±	±
13	<i>mentheleng</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-
14	<i>mlilik</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	±	±
15	<i>nginceng</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	±	±
16	<i>nginjen</i>	±	-	-	±	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	±	±

17	<i>ngulatake</i>	+	-	-	-	-	±	±	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
18	<i>weruh</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	±	-	-	-	+	-	-	+
19	<i>ngincer</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	±	±
20	<i>ngingetake</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	±	±
21	<i>ngedhipi</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-

El Mo	: Eyelid Movement	Int	: Intentional
Op	: Opened	Sh	: Sharp
WOp	: Wide Opened	Att	: Attentive
C	: Closed	SI	: Sight Frequency
OEC	: One Eye Closed	Gl	: at A Glance
D Eb Mo	: Direction of Eyeball Movements	L	: Long
L/R	: Left or Right	HF	: Human Feeling
U/D	: Up or Down	B	: Bad
St	: Straight	G	: Good

#### 4.1 Synonymy

As mentioned before, the term synonymy is used to mean the sameness of meaning. There are six synonymy found in this study. First, the verb *ndelok*, and *ndeleng* are synonymy since those verbs have the same semantic features i.e. +opened, -wide opened, -closed,-one eye closed, ± left or right, ± up or down, +straight, ±intentional, ±sharp, +attentive, ±at a glance, ±long, ±bad, and ±good. Those verbs mean *melihat* or ‘to look at’ in English. We can see their application in:

- a) *Rani ndelok lintang-lintang ing langit.*(Rani is looking at the stars in the sky)
- b) *Rani ndeleng lintang-lintang ing langit.* (Rani is looking at the stars in the sky)

Those sentences are grammatical and appropriate. It can be concluded that they are synonymy.

Second, the word *nyawang*, *mandeng* and *nguwaské* are synonymy as well since they have similar meaning i.e. ‘to stare at something attentive,’ such as in these examples:

- a) *Adhiku nyawang layangane sing wis dhuwur mabure.* (My younger brother stares at his kite which flies so high)
- b) *Adhiku mandeng layangane sing wis dhuwur mabure.* (My younger brother stares at his kite which flies so high)
- c) *Adhiku nguwaské layangane sing wis dhuwur mabure.* (My younger brother stares at his kite which flies so high)

The verb *nyawang*, *mandeng* and *nguwaské* can be formulated as +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, ±left or right, ±up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, ±bad, and ±good. Those examples above are grammatically and appropriately correct.

Third, the verbs *mlolo* and *mblalak* are synonymy. Those verbs have the same meaning *melotot* in Bahasa or ‘stare with big eyes.’ Furthermore, their componential analysis are -opened, +wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, -left or right, -up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, +at a glance, -long, +bad, and -good. For more explanation we can see in these sentences below:

- a) *Mripate mlolo amarga dikageti kancane.* (His eyes turned wide because his friend shocked him)
- b) *Mripate mblalak amarga dikageti kancane.* (His eyes turned wide because his friend shocked him)

Those sentences above are grammatically and appropriately correct. However, sometimes, they do not only indicate for something shocking but also indicate for someone's anger such as in *Joko nesu nganti mlolo-mlolo mripate* which means 'Joko was very angry until he stared with big eyes.'

Fourth, the verbs *mendelo*, *mendelik* and *mlilik* are the same since they indicate for someone's amazement. Their componential analysis can be formulated as -opened, +wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, -left or right, -up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, ±bad, and ±good. Those are some examples of their application:

- a) *Bocah iku mendelo ndeloki pelangi.*(The boy stared at the rainbow with big eyes)
- b) *Bocah iku mendelik ndeloki pelangi.* (The boy stared at the rainbow with big eyes)
- c) *Bocah iku mlilik ndeloki pelangi.* (The boy stared at the rainbow with big eyes)

Fifth, the verbs *ngulatake* and *ngingeti* are synonym since they have similar componential analysis, that is, +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, ±left or right, ±up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, ±bad, and ±good. Those verbs indicate there are intention and attention when people look at something such as in these examples:

- a) *Bapake ngulatake anake kang lagi numpak pit onthel.* (His father gazes at him who is riding bicycle).
- b) *Bapake ngingeti anake kang lagi numpak pit onthel.* (His father gazes at him who is riding bicycle).

Those examples are grammatically and appropriately correct.

Sixth, Javanese has the word *nginceng* and *ngincer* which mean *membidik* in Bahasa. Those verbs can be done by closing one eye like when we want to shoot something. The componential analysis of those verbs are -opened, -wide opened, -closed, +one eye closed, -left or right, -up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, ±bad, and ±good.

a) *Tono nginceng dhisik sadurunge nembak bajinge.* (Tono peers over the squirrel first, before shoot it).

b) *Tono ngincer dhisik sadurunge nembak bajinge.* (Tono peers over the squirrel first, before shoot it).

Those sentences are appropriately and grammatically correct.

### 4.3 Other Verbs

However, there are seven verbs referring to eye activities which are not synonymy. First, the verb *nglirik* means *melirik* or ‘give a brief glance.’ Furthermore, its componential analysis are +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, +left or right, +up or down, -straight, +intentional, ±sharp, +attentive, +at a glance, -long, ±bad, and ±good. This verb is used when someone looks at things without moving his head but moves his eyeball so as to see the objects. For instance, *Mripate nglirik ngiwa ndeloki wong ing sisihe* (He glances to the left to see someone sitting next to him).

Second, the verb *nginjen* means *mengintip* or ‘to peek.’ Its componential analysis can be formulated as +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, +left or right, +up or down, +straight, +intentional, ±sharp, +attentive, +at a

glance, -long, ±bad, and ±good. It is used when someone looks at something without permission. It can be seen from this sentence *Rani nginjen mbakyune sing lagi sinau saka jendhela kamar*. (Rani peeked her older sister who was studying through the room's window).

Third, the verb *ngedhipi* has two meanings. a) It means 'to wink' which indicates a matter of temptation. Usually a man uses this verb to tempt a woman. b) It means 'to blink' which indicates giving a sign to other people to do something. Its componential analysis can be formulated as -opened, -wide opened, -closed, +one eye closed, ±left or right, -up or down, ±straight, +intentional, ±sharp, +attentive, +at a glance, -long, +bad, and -good. For example, a) *Mase ngedhipi mbake kang mlaku neng ngarepe* (The boy winks to the girl who is walking in front of him); we can compare this former example with b) *Dita ngedhipi Tono supaya Tono minggir amarga ana wong arep lewat* (Dita blinks to Tono in order to he moves to other side because someone will pass the way)

Fourth, the verb *nonton* which means *menonton* or 'to watch' indicates someone looks at something entertaining. Its componential analysis are -opened, -wide opened, -closed, +one eye closed, ±left or right, -up or down, +straight, +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, -long, -bad, and +good. We can see in *Dodi mau bengi nonton pagelaran wayang kulit* (Dodi watched puppet show last night).

Fifth, the verb *weruh* is almost the same with *ndelok* but sometimes they cannot be applied in the same sentence because there is a difference sense. Javanese verb *ndelok* means 'to look at.' It differs from *weruh* which means 'to see.' When we say *Dian ndeloki bukune ana ndhuwur meja* (Dian knows that the

book on the table because she looks at the book), it differs from *Dian weruh bukune ana ndhuwur meja* (Dian glimpses at the book on the table). The componential analysis of *weruh* are +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, -left or right, -up or down, +straight, -intentional, -sharp, -attentive, +at a glance, -long, -bad, and +good.

Sixth, the verb *mlerok* means hateful and cynical look. Sometimes it is used when someone get angry as well. Its componential analysis can be formulated as +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, +left or right, -up or down, +straight +intentional, ±sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, +bad, and -good. We can see it in this sentence *Rini mleroki Tono amarga Tono nakal* (Rini looks at Tono hatefully because he is naughty).

Seventh, the verb *mentheleng* is used when someone stares at something in long frequency without close the eyes. Its componential analysis can be formulated as +opened, -wide opened, -closed, -one eye closed, +left or right, -up or down, +straight +intentional, +sharp, +attentive, -at a glance, +long, ±bad, and ±good. For example, *Mbakku menthelengi kucing sing lagi nyekel cecak*. (My older sister stares at the cat which is catching the lizard).

All examples of the use of Javanese verbs above are appropriately and grammatically correct.

## **5. Conclusion**

From this study, it can be concluded that we can figure out the lexical meaning and meaning relation of Javanese verbs referring to eye activities. Here, I find twenty-one verbs referring to eye activities in Javanese. After looking at the

*Kamus Jawa-Indonesia Populer* and using componential analysis we can pointed out the lexical meaning of each verbs. Moreover the use of each verb in a sentence helps us to decide the meaning relation which arises among those verbs. Finally, I find six groups of synonymy. I also figure out seven Javanese verbs referring to eye activities which do not relate to synonymy because they have their own meaning. From this study we can conclude that Javanese has various kinds of verbs referring to eye activities.

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