INVESTIGATING NEW WORD FORMATION IN INDONESIAN USERS' TWITTER POSTS

PEMBENTUKAN KATA BARU DALAM UNGGAHAN PENGGUNA TWITTER INDONESIA

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Abstract: *The new formation of slangs is evidence that languages develop dynamically. The slangs are generated more in the digital era as the presence of social media which one of them is Twitter contributed quite significantly. Twitter which is simple and easy to use makes it the best place in the process of user creativity, one of which is in making new words. Inventory of this word becomes important because the rapid development of language allows for changes that have not been recorded so that they do not leave traces. Therefore, the researchers try to investigate the new slangs contained in Twitter and its formation process to draw conclusions what process is the most dominant used. This research is a qualitative study with a corpus study whose data is taken from Twitter uploads from Indonesian users. The results of this study found that there are six new word formation processes found in Twitter posts such as blending, clipping, acronyms, compound, borrowing and multiple processes. Blending is the most dominant process used by Twitter users in Indonesia because it is easier and looks more creative.*

Keywords: *New Word Formation, Slangs, Twitter*

Abstrak: Pembentukan kata gaul adalah salah satu bukti bahwa bahasa berkembang secara dinamis. Kata gaul yang dihasilkan semakin banyak di era milenial seiring hadirnya sosial media yang salah satunya adalah Twitter yang memberi sumbangsih cukup signifikan. Twitter yang sederhana dan mudah digunakan membuatnya menjadi tempat terbaik dalam proses kreatifitas pengguna yang salah satunya dalam membuat kata baru. Penginventarisan kata ini menjadi penting karena perkembangan bahasa yang sangat cepat memungkinkan terjadinya perubahan yang tidak sempat tercatat sehingga tidak meninggalkan jejak. Oleh karena itu, penulis berusaha menginvestigasi kata-kata gaul baru yang terdapat dalam Twitter beserta proses pembentukannya untuk menyimpulkan proses yang terjadi. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif dengan studi korpus yang datanya diambil dari unggahan Twitter dari pengguna Indonesia. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan bahwa ada enam proses pembentukan kata baru yang ditemukan dalam postingan Twitter dengan blending sebagai proses yang paling dominan. seperti blending, clipping, acronym, borrowing dan multiple processes. Blending adalah proses yang paling dominan digunakan oleh pengguna Twitter Indonesia karena lebih mudah dan lebih terlihat kreatif.

Kata kunci: Pembentukan Kata Baru, Kata Gaul, Twitter

1. INTRODUCTION

Language as a means of communication is developing dynamically. It develops in terms of its uses, structures even its parts. It is due to human's limitless creativity which influences the language they used to fit their needs and civilization. It is not a big surprise when the GLM estimates that in the modern world, a new word is created every 98 minutes. Each year, an estimated 800 to 1,000 new words are added to English language dictionaries (in the 20th

century alone, more than 90,000 words have been added). On the other hand it also happens to Indonesian language, there are two thousands new words added every year to KBBI. This extraordinary development of language is taking accounts of the existence of social media (JawaPos, 2018). Many researchers are interested in investigating new word formations since decades ago however it is rarely found a research talking about how social media grows a medium of those new word formations. A new word formation of slangs in social media has been investigated earlier by Fathonah (2018) who emphasized her investigation on meme picture posted in Facebook group which is also included as a social media.

Social media is an umbrella term generally applied to web-based services that facilitate some form of social interaction or networking. This includes websites where the design principle behind the service is explicitly about allowing users to create and develop online relationships with "friend" or "followers". The term also encompasses platforms where the focus is on generating and sharing content, but in a mode that allows comment (Zappavigna,2012, p.1). One of them is Twitter in which as microblogging services, allows users to publish streams of length-delimited posts to Internet- 2 mediated audiences. It contains one of the most common patterns in microblogging, and expression of thanks for personal endorsement (ibid).

Twitter is one of the most common social media used in Indonesia. It had been very popular in 2010 which was a symbol of up-to-dated of someone. Someone would be considered an up-to-dated person if s/he at least had Twitter account. However, its position had been pushed by Instagram which is considered more entertaining since the users not only can share messages or posting limited text like what they can do in Twitter, but they can also share photos and videos. On the other hand, Twitter is very simple to use which makes the users can spread the information more rapidly than what can be shared in other social media platforms. The simplicity of Twitter is its weakness and strength (Zappavigna, 2012). Although, Twitter users now is not as numerous as before but they are still considerable since they have a significant role in creating a trend. The Twitter users were perceived to be creative since they were the trend-setter of new words and the ones who spread it out. It can be seen from many new words created and understood only by Twitter users. The production of these new words is called neologisms (Yule, 2006).

Neologisms stand for innovation in every language. New words are created every day and their number is growing fast in term of English or Indonesian or the combination of both. Those new words can be formal and informal term. The formal terms were able to be used in any situation of social 3 settings yet informal one were used mostly in more comfortable situation between personal or certain group member of the society. The informal terms were usually called slangs. Slangs were used to communicate to certain group member in community which depicted the inclusiveness among the member. Slangs were originally an oral expression though in its development, the written expression of slangs was also accepted. The rapid development of slangs in written expression was related to the social media. Social media is one of the media which has a significant role in creating and spreading slangs by using these new words in their posts. It is significant to learn how these words are created, because slangs undergo certain linguistic processes, the so-called word formation processes.

These phenomena were important to be studied since the slangs were used widely in communication through Twitter. Also, the activity of listing the words became essential to the linguistic study to be evidences that language developed dynamically. It was a part of science which needed to take into account to be realized by the readers of this research.

2. METHODS

This present study is a qualitative study design in which the researchers examined the corpus (Twitter posts) to find the relevant data which in the form of new words or new phrases which were counted as slangs. In order to ensure that the words or phrase were new, the researchers consulted the data to Oxford English Dictionary, Merriam Webster Dictionary, KBBI (Indonesian language Dictionary) and for the abbreviation or acronym, they consulted to abbreviation lists in texting (Crystal: 2008). Beside listing the new word or phrase, the researchers also analyzed the processes in creating the words or phrases based on new word formation processes proposed by Yule (2006) through the procedure of data analysis by Miles and Huberman's theory (1994, p.14-16) of analyzing descriptive qualitative study.

In obtaining the data, the researchers monitored the new slangs from the Indonesian Trending Topic for a month started from July to August 2019. This aimed to limit the corpus being studied in this research. All suspected new words or slangs were collected and listed for the data reduction process. The researcher reduced the data based on the novelty of the word and the process embedded in the words. The words which got new meaning but did not undergo any morphological processes as mentioned by Yule (2006) are not taken as data. After reducing the data, the researchers display the findings in the form of table to ease the process of conclusion drawing in which the researchers classified the words to their process of word formations.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

There are forty new words which were indicated as slangs created by Indonesian users found in Twitter. These words were undergone the processes of borrowing, acronym, clipping, blending, compounding, and multiple purposes. Here, these new words were displayed and classified based on the process they underwent as follows:

3.1. Borrowing

There are seven words created through the process of borrowing in which six of them are phonetic borrowing and another one is calque. Phonetic borrowing is the borrowing spellings, pronunciations and meanings of a language, then they undergo assimilation; each sound in the borrowed word is substituted by the corresponding sound of the borrowing language. In some cases, the spelling is changed. Meanwhile, calque is a direct translation of the elements of a word into the borrowing language. The four words form using borrowing are *hooman, kaoom, mastah, come moon,* and *hyung.*

The word '*hooman*' means human in English which is created by taking the spelling of English. '*Hooman*' is assumed that 'double o' (oo) pronounced as [u] like in the word such '*boom*' and '*boot*'. Here, it can be seen that Indonesian Twitter users borrow English spelling which they assumed that double o (oo) were pronounced as [u]. Thus, the Twitter users substitute the letter 'u' with 'oo' then the meaning of the word 'hooman' is still the same.

Mastah is originated from the English word '*master*'. It is associated with the British pronunciation which dropped the phoneme [r] in the end of the word. Yet, the Twitter users write the word like how they pronounced instead of writing the actual word.

Kaoom is word taken from an Indonesian word kaum (folks). The process of creating this word is also similar to *hooman*. As most Indonesian thought that 'oo' (double o) pronounced [u] so they change the letter [u] in kaum to be 'oo' which perceived to have the same sound. The intention of using 'double o (oo)' instead of using 'u' was likely to make slang from common words.

Come moon is an example of loan translation in which the users used English language to translate Indonesian phrase literally. Come moon means datang bulan in Indonesian which was

actually can be translated in English as period. The creation of this slang was not caused by lack of knowledge but it is intentionally created to attract attention of the readers.

Misuh is an example of borrowing regional language (Javanese language) which means 'giving swear'. Twitter users usually use this word when they want to tell that they are angry or upset and want to swear. Another regional borrowing is *sambat*. This word is taken from Javanese language which means 'complaining'. Twitter users usually used this to express when they want to complain about their life.

The last data found is *hyung*. The word *hyung* is borrowed from Korean language which means 'brother'. Twitter users used this word to refer a sender or someone who posts something. The use of this word in Twitter is influenced by the popularity of Korean dramas which allow their audience to learn new term from new language.

3.2. Acronym

The researchers found four words derived from acronym process. These words were used widely by most of Indonesian users. The first one is *pap*. The word pap is actually an abbreviation of 'post a picture'. At the beginning, *pap* is written in all capitals but when it is used broader, it is written in small letter. *Pap* is usually used when someone wants to request someone's picture to be sent him or her, but lately it is associated with negative things like posting a nude photo.

The second is *DM* which is abbreviation of 'direct message' which means private chats or private messages. It is an English words however Twitter users used in along with Indonesian words, or affixes such as prefix 'di' or suffix '-in' become 'didm' or 'dmin' respectively means sending direct message.

The third is *jbjb. Jbjb* itself is derived from 'join bareng join bareng' and is given a meaning as 'following or participating in a discussion'. This word is used when someone wants to be part of someone's discussion or when someone intends to get permission to talk about the same topic. Another case of using this word is to show that there is an interaction between users.

The last is *BM. BM* is actually abbreviated from 'banyak mau' but later on its use has a meaning of 'wanting something very much' and in most cases this word is associated with the desire of foods or drinks.

The researchers actually found more than two words created through acronym such idk, idc, ikr, and so on. These words were not included in the research data since those words were abbreviation created from the existence of SMS (Short Message Service) and already listed in abbreviation lists of texting language (Crystal, 2008, p. 289).

3.3. Clipping

The results revealed that there are twelve words including as clipping. The clipping process was meant to make the word simpler or to make it exclusive among the member of community (Indonesian Twitter users). The words which are formed through clipping are *acc, ava, nder, ngets, dom, pen, halu, ambis, slur, jan, rep, parno*.

The word *acc* is a clipping from the word account. It is actually well known used as a clipping of the word 'accept' however Twitter users add more meaning to the clipping as a short form of account. It was used in the example "ini acc lama atau baru?" (Is this your old account or the new one?)

The word *ava* is a shortened form of 'avatar' which is known as a display picture in Twitter. Thus, the Twitter users used the word 'ava' to talked about the user's display picture. For example, "kamu cowo kok ava kamu cewe"? (Why do you use a girl photo as your display picture if you are a boy?)

Nder is a shortened form of English word sender. This word is acted like a nick name for the sender to make it more friendly listening. For instance, "Postingannya bagus, nder!" (Your post is good, sender!).

Ngets or *Bet* or bat is taken from the same Indonesian word 'banget' (very). It is created through the process of clipping. In the word *ngets*, the word underwent a process of front-clipping which dropped 'ba', yet there were some users said 'bet' or 'bat' in which they clipped the middle parts of the words. The word 'banget' is usually shortened as 'bgt' in texting language or well known as SMS. It was an assumption that the word bet or bat is derived from the shortened form 'bgt'.

Dom is a shortened form of Indonesian word domisili (home or place to live). The users clipped the end of the word to make it simple to write or sounds cooler.

Pen is not an English word means a stationary but it is a clipped form of the word pengen (want to). In this word, the users dropped several letters inside the word and left the initial and end letters of the word. The use of this word is like in the post "Pen punya pacar yang cantik tapi aku sadar aku kentang" (I want to have a beautiful girl friend but I know myself is ugly).

Ngehalu or *halu* comes from the Indonesian word halusinasi (halusination). This word is used talk to describe someone talking nonsense as in "pen jadian ama Baek Kyung? Halu loe" (You want to date with Baek Kyung? Dream it off). It was also used to state something as an imagination only as in "Kamu jadi peka sama perasaanku. Aku halu" (You realized my feeling. In my imagination).

The word *jan* underwent the process of clipping like the word pen did. The users omitted some parts inside the word and left only its first and last letter to make it understandable although it was clipped. It is used for instance, "Jan cari aku, aku udah bahagia" (Don't look for me, I am already happy).

Slur was usually used to address friends in Twitter which derived from the Javanese or Sundanese words sedulur (friends or brothers/sisters). This word underwent the process of clipping in which the users omit the part 'edu' from the word sedulur perhaps to make it simpler to be an address to someone like bro, sis or guys. For example, "Apa kabarnya, slur?"(How are you guys?).

The word *rep* was shortened form of the word 'reply' (noun). It was a feature which can be found in Twitter to give comments to a post. In another platform such as Facebook and Instagram it was called comments. This word can be used like the example "tolong rep bagi yang setuju yaa" (Comment if you agree, please).

The word *ngambis* or *ambis* was actually taken from the Indonesian word 'ambisius' (ambitious). The users dropped the letter the end of the word to create this slang. This word was widely used by adolescence users and often related to UTBK or higher education selection exam.

The word *parno* was actually derived from the word paranoid which means a mental disorder in which people who suffered from it would feel anxious and frightened to something which actually did not exist. It was also described as an exaggerated fear. However, the word 'parno' was used to describe a feeling of being afraid of something, so the meaning became widened than it should.

3.4. Blending

There are fourteen words created through blending process. The blending process combined two or more different words into one. Most of them take the first word as the beginning of the word and the last word to be the end of the word. The blending process become the most common process in creating new words, it can be showed that the frequency was highest.

Convokill is derived from two English words: conversation and killer which means something which kill or stops the conversation. The convokill in Indonesian language is any phrase which doesn't give enough information to continue the conversation. For example, a boy asked a girl 'what do you have for lunch?' and the girl reply 'nothing' or '.', these expressions are called *convokill* (conversation killer).

Petrus Jakandor is an abbreviation of Indonesian phrases 'pepet terus jangan kasih kendor' (never give up). It is used to describe someone who are trying to approach someone (in purpose to date her/him). It is also a kind of "good luck" statement for the man/woman who are trying to do it. It can be used as in "Bro, cewe yang kemarin cantik tuh, petrus jakandor" (Bro, the girl was beautiful, never give up).

Magadir is a combination from the Indonesian phrases manusia ga tau diri (Shameless person). Magadir was a phrase to show someone who had given kindness but still asked for more or reply the generous ones with bad attitude. It was used as in "Udah dibantuin malah nyelingkuhin, dasar Magadir". (I have already helped you, but you cheated on me, what a shameless person you are).

Copas is a blending of two English words: copy and paste means taking something (quotation or text) from other sources and put it somewhere else. It is associated with the functional tool in Microsoft word that is to copy and to paste which is used to express a copying act. It was commonly used to inform the reader that the information was not from the sender but he/she taken it from other sources (usually put the credit on). For example "Guy, ini beritanya. Copas dari grup wa universitas" (Guys, this is the information. I take it from the University Whatsapp Group).

Gabut comes from Indonesian phrases gaji buta (getting salary without working). However, the meaning perceived in Twitter users community is not as literal as it should. Gabut is understood as the state of doing nothing, having no jobs or having no activities such as in this utterance "Gabut nih, pengen keluar tapi ga punya uang" (I don't have anything to do, I want to go out but having no money).

Gacor is created by online transportation riders or drivers to express their lucky day. Gacor itself was combination from the phrase gampang cari orderan (easy to get jobs/ orders) however it is used to be an exclamation word such as awesome!, great!, or amazing! such as in this utterance "Gua menang GA nih, Gacor abis dah!" (I won the giveaway, it was so amazing)

Bomat is originated from Indonesian phrases bodo amat (I don't care). The users take the first syllable of the first word and combine it with the last syllable of the second word to create the word. It is used in the post like in "Bomat deh. Gua ngantuk" (I don't care, I'm sleepy).

Bucin is a blending of Indonesian phrases Budak cinta (love slave) however the meaning perceived by the users was not limited to its literal meaning. The users used the word bucin to express someone love her bf or gf very much or someone who wants to do anything for his /her loved one. Sometimes, it can be used as a verb means loving or liking someone very much as in "Aku bucin banget sama dy woy" (I love him very much).

Santuy is derived from two different Indonesian words they are santai (relaxed) and cuy (an addresser like 'bro' or 'guys'). This words are used to describe how relaxed Indonesian Twitter users in facing danger or problem in their daily life. This word is used as in the example "Gak lulus ujian, santuy, masih ada remidi ya kan" (I did not pass the exam, relaxed, I still can take the remedian, can't I?)

The word *mager* was created from the combination two Indonesian words 'malas (lazy)' and 'gerak (move)'. The users combine these two words by taking all initial syllables. This word was initially used to describe the state of someone who did not want to move out from the place she or he was. Yet, the meaning of this word was widely accepted as being lazy in all state.

Samsek was a blending from the words 'sama sekali (at all)' in such example "Aku ga suka dia samsek (I don't like her at all)". In this word, the users combined the two words by taking the beginning of the two words and combined them into one word. 1

Salfok was derived from two Indonesian words 'salah (mis-) and fokus (focus)'. The users took the initial syllable of the words and combined them into a new word which gave a meaning 'focus on different sides with the previous speaker or addresser'. This word was used as in the example 'Aku malah salfok sama bajunya'.

Salken was a combination of two Indonesian words 'salam (regard)' and 'kenal (introduction)' which means 'nice to meet you'. It was used to greet people or person who was just 38 introduced or when someone wants to know more in term of being friend with someone.

Tarsok was derived from the Indonesian words 'ntar/bentar (in a minute)' and 'besok (tomorrow)'. This word was used when someone wanted to postpone an activity for the next day like in the example "Jangan tarsok tarsok aja lah, kerjain sekarang" (Don't say you will postpone it again, just do it right now).

3.5. Compounding

Compound is the process in which two different words are combined to form a new word as i.e. football, best friend, and etc. The researchers found out that there was one word made by compound. This word is *bomboclaat*. This word is originally derived from two words: 'bumbo, a Jamaican word means ass' and 'claat the Jamaican dialect for the word cloth'. This word was meant a menstruation but lately was used as an curse word.

3.6. Multiple Processes

In this research there were seven words made by multiple processes such as borrowing, derivational, conversion, and coinage. The first word created was *unfaedah*. This word means not beneficial. This word underwent three processes such as borrowing, conversion and derivation. In this word, there is a process of borrowing an English prefix un- and attach it to the root of Indonesian 'faedah' which means benefit. In Indonesian, faedah is actually a noun then in this word it is shifted into adjective and added a prefix un-. It is not an interlanguage between target language (English) and the host language (Indonesian) because Twitter users who used it understood the meaning and intentionally forming the word since it's more understandable by the community rather than saying unbeneficial as the right translation of the purposed word.

Berflower here means developing. This word derived from Indonesian prefix 'ber' and root word 'flower' (in Indonesian means bunga and kembang informal language of bunga) which gave translation as berkembang in Indonesia. Indonesian users intended to create a new word which is likely to be understood by other users and gave more impression than its original word 'developing'. This word is associated with Indonesian country as developing country. Instead of saying Indonesia is a developing country, the users preferred using Indonesia is negara berflower. The creation of this word is probably the same like what happened in the previous word in which it is not an interlanguage but it contains an intentional purpose carried by the users.

Berforest is derived from Indonesian prefix 'ber' and English root 'forest'. The word means having forest. This word is created to respond the word 'berflower'. Yet, the creation of the word 'berforest' is actually a literal translation unlike the word 'berflower'. It happens since there is a misunderstanding of the word 'berflower' meaning. Some of the users thought that the word 'berflower' means 'berbunga' so they thought that Indonesia country is more likely to be country which has forest than flowers that is why they attach the word 'berforest' in exchange of the word 'berflower'.

The word *mutualan* derived from the English root word 'mutual' and Indonesian suffix '-an'. The meaning of word mutual is giving benefit to each person or party in a relationship, however, in this context it means 'friend'. It is associated with being a follower (a term indicated 'friend' in Twitter). Giving suffix '-an' to the word 'mutual' was intended to make a word which means being a friend with. Yet, the suffix '-an' in this context is not a formal suffix in Indonesian language since suffix '-an' is actually created a noun from a verb such as 'main' which means play (verb) becomes 'mainan' which means toy (noun). The informal suffix '-an' in Indonesian are used broadly in everyday language to form a verb from noun such as 'yasinan' which derived from Arabic word 'yasin' (a chapter in Quran) and suffix –an gave a meaning of reading yasin.

Sefruit was a combination between Indonesian prefix se- and English word fruit as it base. It was meant to create an Indonesian word 'sebuah' (a/ an) however the users made it more complex by combining two different words from two different languages. It is used as in "Aku kangen kamu tapi kamu kangen dia. Sefruit tragedy" (I miss you but you miss him. A tragedy).

Chatan is a combination between English word chat and Indonesian suffix "an". It was used to describe an act of having chat with someone or sometimes it is used to represent the chat itself. For example, "Semalam, aku chatan sama dia, tapi abis kubalas dia ga balas chatanku lagi" (Last night, I was chatting him but after I reply his chat he did not reply my chat anymore).

Hestek is taken from the word hashtag which is a new word created after the appearance of Twitter. Hashtag itself is a coinage taken from the Twitter tools to collect the similar interests among the Twitter users. Hashtag allows Twitter users to find a word or phrase they interested in Twitter using punctuation #. It is firstly introduced by Twitter then is used by other platform like Instagram.

By the previous findings, it was seen that there were six processes to form the new words, they were borrowing, clipping, blending, acronym, compound and the last one is multiple processes. There were seven processes of borrowing, four processes of acronyms, twelve processes of clipping, seven processes of multiple processes, one process of compound and fourteen processes of blending. The research finding was less than what Fathonah (2018) had found in her research. Her research revealed that there were 10 processes occurred in the creating slangs in Facebook group. This difference might happen since the present research focused on slangs used by Indonesian users while the previous research focused on a Facebook group which used English as their first language. The characteristic of Indonesian language limited the process of new word formation from the process like backformation and made them more comfortable in making words via simpler processes such as blending and clipping.

As mentioned previously that Indonesian people tended to use blending and clipping to form a new word which made the frequency of clipping and blending stand out from other processes. Blending is the most preferable process in creating new words since it is simpler and more applicable in which the users can combine two or more words by taking the initial or the end of the words and combining them. Blending was used in the process of creating the word such as magadir, petrus jakandor, salfok and bucin. From these examples we can see the characteristic of blending process used in Indonesian language was 45 slightly different with blending in English language. Blending in English language usually took the initial part of the word and combined it with the end part of the word while Indonesian users took both initial part of two or more words and combined them all.

Clipping is also preferable by Indonesian users since it is easy to apply and to understand by the users among the community. It is aligned to Fathonah's finding (2018) that she found clipping was the most frequent process in creating slangs. Clipping was easy to do just by reducing the part of the word. It was one of the reason why clipping was the second most frequent processes in created slangs in Indonesian tweets.

4. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

4.1. CONCLUSION

There are six processes of creating new words found in this research based on Yule's theory (2006). Those six processes are borrowing, acronym, clipping, blending, compound and multiple processes. There are seven processes of borrowing, four processes of acronym, twelve processes of clipping, fourteen processes of blending, one process of compound, and seven processes of multiple processes. Blending was found as the most dominant process in the present research. It was the easiest way to create a new word in Indonesian language by taking the initial part of the words and combined them all.

4.2. SUGGESTIONS

The present research suggest the future researcher to study slangs found in Twitter which are formed by semantic process especially semantic shifting. The future researcher can study more about the new word formation in other media. The researchers also suggest the future researcher to study about Twitter from different point of view such as public sentiments and discourse analysis.

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