**LEXICAL RELATIONS USED IN JASON MRAZ’S SONG LYRICS**

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***Abstract:*** *This study analyzes lexical relations used in Jason Mraz’s song lyrics. Lexical relations are the relationship of the meaning of a word which belong to a particular activity or area of specialist knowledge. To conduct this research the researcher uses descriptive qualitative method, because the data in the form of words, phrases, and sentences. The data of this research is the verses from 15 songs of Jason Mraz’s song lyrics. To analyze the data, the researcher takes the data which consist of lexical relations that are used in the lyrics of Jason Mraz’s songs, and explain the meaning and function of lexical relations in those lyrics. The results of this research showed that lexical relations which consist of hyponymy, meronymy, synonymy, and antonymy are used in Jason Mraz’s song lyrics and each kind of lexical relations has different functions.*

***Keywords:*** *Lexical Relations, Jason Mraz, Song Lyrics*

***Abstrak:*** *tujuan penelitian ini adlah untuk menganalisa lexical relations yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu Jason Mraz. Lexical relationship adalah arti kata yang digunakan pada aktivitas tertentu atau pada bidang pengetahuan khusus. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan metode deskriptif kulaitatif karna data yang diperoleh dalam bentuk kata, frase, dan kalimat. Data dalam penelitian ini diambil dari 15 verses dari lirik lagu Jason Mraz. Untuk menganalisa data, penulis mengambil data yang mengandung lexical relation yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu Jason Mraz, dan menjelaskan arti dan fungsi dari lexical relation dalam lirik tersebut. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukan bahwa lexical relation yang mengandung hiponim, meronim, sinonim, dan antonim yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu Jason Mraz yang menunjukan masing masing jenis Lexical relations memiliki fungsi yang berbeda.*

***Kata kunci:*** *Lexical Relations, Jason Mraz, Lirik Lagu.*

1. **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a system of arbitrary, vocal symbols which permit all people in a given culture, or other people who have learned the system of that culture, to communicate or to interact (Finocchiaro, 1964: 8). It means that language is a tool for communication that enables humans to cooperate. It is used by people to express ideas and emotions, share thoughts and feelings, and deliver information. Through language, people can express what they want to say or describe, either orally or in written. Language can be studied. The study of language is called linguistics. Linguistics is the study of language as a system of human communication. There are several branches of linguistics. They are phonetics (the study of speech sound), phonology (the study of the patterns of speech sounds), morphology (the study of word formation), syntax (the study of phrase and sentence formation), semantics (the study of meaning in language). Besides, there are sociolinguistics (the study of language in social factors, that is, social class, educational level, age, sex, etc) and psycholinguistics, (the study of the mental processes that a person uses in producing and understanding language). Semantics which deals with the word meaning is called lexical semantics or lexical relations. Lexical relations describe relationship among word meanings. It is the study of how lexicon is managed and how the lexical meanings of lexical items are related each other. There are several types of lexical relations, such as, homonymy, polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, and meronymy (Saeed, 2003:63). Homonyms are unrelated senses of the same phonological word. Polisemy is a term refers to a word which has a set of different meanings which are related by extension and invoked if the senses are judge to be related. Synonyms are different phonological words which have the same or very similar meaning. Antonyms are words which are opposite in meaning. Hyponymy is a relation of inclusion. Meronymy is a term to describe a part-whole relationship between lexical items. (Saeed, 2003 :63). Lexical relations can be found in many literary works. People can find those kinds of them in articles, poetry, short story, novel, song, and many others. One of the interesting works that can be analyzed is song.

Songs are one of the literary works. A song consists of a number of lyrics which set to the music and intended to be sung. A song is a short piece of music with words that you sing (Bull, 2008:423).Songs have many functions. Songs have an amazing power to influence man’s emotions and behaviors. Songshave been found to affect and stimulate many different parts of the brain and body.Songs can reduce stress, aid relaxation, alleviate depression, and help store andrecall information, among other functions. Music is one of the best relaxationtherapies in today’s times of depression (Salcedo, 2002: 74). From the functions above, human beings can find manyadvantages from songs. This inspires the researcher to study about songs. The researcher finds that there are many lexical relations used in the song’s lyrics, especially in Jason Mraz’s lyrics. In ***Live High*** lyric, part of lexical relations found in the lyrics is synonymy. In this lyrics, there some words that are different in spelling, but have close meaning toward another. For example, *I try to* ***picture*** *a girl through a looking glass. And* ***see*** *her as a carbon atom,* ***see*** *her eyes and* ***stare*** *back at them. See the girl as her own new* ***world****, though a home is on the surface. She is still a* ***universe****.* ***Picture***, ***see*** and ***stare***, and ***world*** and ***universe*** in this lyric have very close meaning.

The researcher chose Mraz’s songs to be analyzed, because the songs have different theme and the moral messages are stated there. Mraz created the songs based on his life experience and the circumstance that happened at that time. It is important and interesting to analyze the lexical relations, as many people, students and collegians who love listening to songs might find it difficult to distinguish kinds of lexical relations that appear in songs or another literary works. The researcher is interested in analyzing them in song lyrics, because she wants to know Mraz’s purpose to repeatedly use different words which have the same meanings in his lyrics. Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting a research on the use of lexical relations in a thesis entitled, “An Analysis of Lexical Relations Used in Jason Mraz’s Song Lyrics”.

Lexical relations are the relationship of the meaning of a word which belongs to a particular activity or area of specialist knowledge (Saeed, 2003:63). They include hyponyms, homonymy, polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, and meronymy. According to Cruse (2000:150), lexical relations study about the meanings of words. It is divided into two kinds of classes. First, lexical relations express identity and inclusion between word meanings, and second, those express opposition and exclusion. The first class consists of hyponymy, meronymy and synonymy, meanwhile the second class consists of incompatibility and co-taxonomy, and opposites.

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According to Saeed (2003:49), the traditional descriptive aims of lexical relations have been to represent the meaning of each word in the language and to show how the meanings of words in a language are interrelated. These aims are closely related because the meaning of word is defined in part by its relations with other words in the language.

Some other functions are also stated by Saeed (2003:63), for example, the function of homonymy is to distinguish variations in pronunciation, meaning that not all speakers have the same set of homonyms. Polysemy is to state the multiple senses of words. Synonyms may portray positive or negative attitudes of the speaker, for example *naïve* or *gullible* seems more critical than *ingenuous*. It also states different connotations of words. Antonyms are used to identify several different types of relationship under a more general label of opposition, to involve words which are at the same time related in meaning yet incompatible or contrasting, and to explain the semantic oddness of sentences, to compare to another object based on the context. Hyponymy is used to reflect the natural world of words, for example to reflect classifications of human artefacts. Meronymy is to reflect hierarchical classifications in the lexicon somewhat like taxonomies, a typical system of word.

1. **METHODOLOGY**

This study is a qualitative research as the data in this study are words, phrases, and sentences. The data in this study are described descriptively based on the kinds of lexical relations. The researchers collected the data mainly from the songs of Jason Mraz. The researchers analyzed the song lyrics of Jason Mraz in terms of the following subjects:

* 1. **Homonym**

Homonyms are unrelated senses of the same phonological word. Some linguists distinguish between two terms of homonyms, such as homographs (senses of the same written word) and homophones (senses of the same spoken word). According to Saeed (2003:63), the different types depend on their syntactic aspects both behavior and spelling. For example:

1. Lexemes of the same syntactic category, and with the same spelling, e. g. lap ‘circuit of a course’ and lap ‘part of body when sitting down’.
2. Of the same category, but with different spelling: e. g. the verbs ring and wring.
3. Of different categories, but with the same spelling: e. g. the verb keep and the noun keep.
4. Of different categories, and with different spelling: e. g. not and knot.

Homonymy occurs when different meanings by the same linguistic form, for example the words “*bank*” (*side of river)* and “*bank*” (*financial institution)*,” *pupil” (student)* and *“pupil” (in the eye), “mole” (an animal), “mole” (a small dark mark on the skin),* and *“mole” (a stone wall built in the sea), “sole” (of the shoes)* and *“sole” (fish), “leaf” (of a tree)* and *“leaf” (of a book),* and *“can” (metal container for liquids)* and “*can” (be able to).*

* 1. **Polysemy**

Polysemy is a term to refer to a word which has a set of different meanings which are related by extension. There is distinction made in lexicology between homonymy and polysemy. Both of them deal with multiple senses of the same phonological word, but polysemy is invoked when the senses are judged to be related. Polysemous senses are listed under the same lexical entry, meanwhile homonymous senses are given separate or different entries. (Saeed, 2003:64).

For example, the word *back* has a set of different meanings, such as *human back, the back of a chair, the back of sofa, the back of knife,* and *the back of football player.* The word *eye* also has different meaning by its extension, *human eye, the eye of a needle, the eye of a potato, and a hook* and *an eye.*

* 1. **Synonymy**

Synonyms are different phonological words which have the same or very similar meanings. (Saeed, 2003:65) Some examples might be these pairs, *couch/sofa, boy/lad, lawyer/attorney, toilet/lavatory,* and *large/big*. Synonymy happens based on different situation. It can be because of different dialects, different registers, styles of language, colloquial, and literary conditions. Formality is another factor. Many of these words are, slang terms used in colloquial contexts instead of more formal terms like *police / officer*. Speaker attitude is a further distinguishing factor. Some words, like *fuzz*, *flatfoot, pigs* or *slime*, reveal negative speaker attitudes, while others like *cop* seem neutral. (Saeed, 2003:65).

* 1. **Antonymy**

Antonyms are words which are opposite in meaning. Saeed (2003:66) states five kinds of antonyms which involve words at the same time related in meaning either in compatible or contrasting. They are simple antonyms, gradable antonyms, reverses, converses, and taxonomic sisters. Simple antonym is a relation between words such that are negative of one states the positive of the other. These pairs are also called as complementary pairs and binary pairs. For instance, *dead* and *alive* (of an animal), *dead* indirectly stated not *alive*. Gradable antonym is a relationship between opposites where the positive of one term does not necessarily imply the negative of the other, e. g. *rich* and *poor*, *fast* and *slow*, *young* and *old*, and *beautiful* and *ugly*. Reverses happens between terms describing movements, where one term describes movement in one direction, and the other the same movement in the opposite direction. For examples, *(go) up/down, (go) in/out and (turn) right/ left*. Converses are terms which describe a relation between two real things as shown in the pairs, *own* and *belong to*, *above* and *below*, *employer* and *employee*. Taxonomic sisters are classification systems that can be seen by the example of colour adjectives in English: *red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and brown.* The words *red* and *blue* are sister members of the same taxonomy.

* 1. **Hyponymy**

Hyponymy is a relation of inclusion which includes the meaning of a more general word. For example *dog* and *cat* are hyponyms of *animal*, *hibiscus* and *rose* are hyponyms of *flower*. The genereal term is called superordinate or hypernym and the specific term is called hyponym (Saeed, 2003:68). Hyponymy refers to something that can be said as class membership which has relationship to the general word. For instance, “When we went shopping yesterday to the market, my mother wanted to buy some *fruits*. Finally after walking around for a few minutes, we found *apples* and *pears*.” *Apples* and *pears* are the hyponyms of fruits. *Fruit* is called superordinate.

* 1. **Meronymy**

Saeed (2003:70). states that meronymy is a term used to describe a part-whole relationship between lexical items. The words *wheel*, *engine*, *door, window* are meronyms of *car*. Another way of how to identify its relationship is by using frames like X is a part of Y, or Y has X, as *wheel* is a part of *car* and *car* has *wheels*.

Meronymy differs from hyponymy in transitivity. Hyponymy is always transitive, but meronymy may or may not be. For example, *nail* as a meronym of *finger*, and *finger* of *hand*. *Nail* is a meronym of *hand*, *a hand has nails*. A non-transitive example is: pane is a meronym of *window* (*A window has a pane*), and *window* of *room* (*A room has a window*); but *pane* is not a meronym of *room*, for one cannot say *A room has a pane.* Or *hole* is a meronym of *button*, and *button* of *shirt*, but one wouldn’t want to say that *hole* is a meronym of *shirt* (*A shirt has holes*).

In relation to this study, there are two other previous related studies: Gultom and Lestari. Gultom (2009) focused on Semantics on An Analysis of Meaning Properties and Lexical Relations in The Rainbow by D. H Lawrence. She found 57 instances of synonymy, 50 instances of antonymy, 13 instances of hyponymy, and 7 instances of homonymy. The relationship between the previous study and this study is both of them analyzed lexical relations. The significant differences in previous study and this present study are (1) the previous study used all the theories from different linguists of semantics, meanwhile this present study focuses on Saeed’s theory, though the supporting theories are also needed in this study, (2) and the object of the previous study was a novel, while the object of this present study is song lyrics.

Lestari (2009) focused on Discourse Analysis of Lexical Cohesion found in song lyrics. She found three kinds of reiteration in discourse analysis, such as, synonym, hyponym, and metonym. The relationship between previous study and this study is that both of them analyzed the same types of lexical relations, such as synonymy, hyponymy, and antonymy. The significant difference is that the previous study used Cook’s theory to classify and answer the problems, meanwhile in this research, the researcher uses the theory of Saeed.

* 1. **Song**

Songs are one of the literary works that is interesting to listen. Song consistsof a number of verses which set to the music and intended to be sung. Fowler (1951:1200) states that a song is a short poem set to music and it is rhymed in stanzas, poetry and verse. It may be about love, war, friendship, or called about the nature circles of human being’s life.

According to Bull (2008:423), a song contains language exposition used by a composer to express her/his feeling, thought, and willing. The variation of word which is used by the composer is suitable with his or her thought, feeling, and ability. Hence, to make song has more artistic and good value, the composer usually uses figurative language and implicit meaning in her/his song.

According to Fowler (1951:716), a song lyric is any fairly short poem which consists of verses; it is used to express writers’ own thoughts and sentiments usually at no great length and in stanzas. Furthermore, he states that in the original Greek, lyric signified a song rendered to the accompaniment of lyre. In some current usage, lyric still retains the sense of the poem written to be set to music. In short, a lyric is a song written for musical accompaniment by a lyre. It is written in the form of stanza and refers to the words of song. So, lyric related to this research is refers to the words of song. For example, the song lyric which was taken from “Life is Beautiful”;

*It takes a crane to build a crane
It takes two floors to make a story
It takes an egg to make a hen
It takes a hen to make an egg
There is no end to what I'm saying

It takes a thought to make a word
And it takes a word to make an action
It takes some work to make it work
It takes some good to make it hurt
It takes some bad for satisfaction*

* 1. **A Short Biography of Jason Mraz**

Jason Mraz was born in June 23, 1977 in [Mechanicsville, Virginia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mechanicsville%2C_Virginia). He is an American singer and songwriter. He is of [Czech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czech_people) descent through his grandfather, who moved to the United States from [Austria-Hungary](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austria-Hungary) in 1915. His surname is [Czech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czech_language) for "frost", so when one translates “frost” into [Czech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Czech_language), it becomes Mraz. His parents, Tom Mraz and June, divorced when he was four years old, but he stated that he had an idyllic childhood, saying, "My hometown of Mechanicsville was very American. There were white picket fences, a church on every street corner, low crime and almost no drug use. It was a good place to grow up." Jason Mraz started to his career in 2001, when he released a live acoustic album, [*Live at Java Joe's*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Live_at_Java_Joe%27s). In 2002- 2003, he signed a recording contract with Elektra Records. He recorded his first album with the Dave Matthews Band, John Mayer producer John Alagía, and Virginia-based roots rock band the Agents Of Good Root. Mraz then released his first major-label debut album, [*Waiting for My Rocket to Come*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waiting_for_My_Rocket_to_Come). The album was a relative commercial success, peaking at number 55 on the [Billboard Hot 200](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard_Hot_200) and at number two on the [Top Heatseekers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Top_Heatseekers) Chart. On July 26, 2005, he released his second major-label album, [*Mr. A–Z*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mr._A%E2%80%93Z), for [Atlantic Records](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Records). It entered the [*Billboard* 200](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billboard_200) album chart at number 5. In December, the album earned a [Grammy Award](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammy_Award) nomination for Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical. Mraz released his third studio album, [*We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Things.*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/We_Sing._We_Dance._We_Steal_Things.) on May 13, 2008, and his first single, "[I'm Yours](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I%27m_Yours_%28Jason_Mraz_song%29)", reached No. 1 on [AAA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adult_album_alternative) radio charts in the US. In early 2009, a song titled "Try Try Try" was appeared into the Internet. The song was later released in 2010 by Michael Squire.

1. **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The following data shows the research finding about lexical relations, in the lyrics of Jason Mraz’s songs which deal with research problems. Each of the data display is followed by the analysis. The data are presented verse by verse and the researcher does not include the verse which does not represent any kinds of lexical relations.

These following data shows the interpretation of the researcher towards the findings above. In the first song, antonyms are found more than one, they show that the song reflects about how beautiful life is and to make it so, it needs process. By using antonyms, the writers contrast and compare the situations. In the second song, synonyms are found more than one time. Synonyms are used to stress the feeling of how the betrayal could give significant effect to someone’s heart and faith is useless. In the third song, synonyms are found more than one time. Synonyms appear in the lyrics to stress the idea of the writers that the condition of night life is very dangerous, because there are youths who work and visit there and there is no limitation for them to do anything they want. In the fourth song, synonyms are found more than once. Synonyms appear to stress the writers’ idea about happiness that could be caused by love. In the fifth song, antonyms are found more than once. Antonyms appear to contrast the situation of the world today, where sometimes the reality is not suitable with the condition we want. Nevertheless, people should still respect the life and also treat people the same and equal. In the sixth song, antonym and synonym are found. Antonym is used to contrast the feeling when the writers feel relieved getting the message from someone he loved and panic when he does not. Synonym appears to stress the writers’ ideas about wanting to have the girl again. In the seventh song, antonyms are found more than once. They are used to compare and contrast the situation of having somebody with him and without. Antonym also reflects the nature of human. In the eight song, antonyms are found more than once . antonyms appear to compare and contrast the situation. The song reflects to the idea of love that had by a man who wish to get someone he loved by his side, he feels lonely without her. Then, he compares the condition when he has been with her, and he feels so much happy. In the ninth song, synonym is found. It reflects the situation where a man feels discouraged of himself for everything he has done, but one night he tries to believe in his heart that he will be okay. In the tenth song, antonyms are found more than once. These reflect the idea on how something cannot be judged by the appearance only, it must be seen from the inside. In the eleventh song, synonym and antonym are found. They reflect the idea about love. Love is true and actual, there is no any limitation for love and everyone could feel it. It can give happiness and sadness. In the twelfth song, antonym is found. It reflects the idea of broken heart. In the eight song, synonym, antonym and meronym are found. They reflect the idea about friends. A true friendship is when truth and trust happened. In the fourteenth song, synonym is found. The song portrays the situation about loving someone from his childhood and it still happens now. In the fifteenth song, synonym and meronym are found. They reflect the idea of the song where in life, sometimes people do not appreciate what they have and feel that they are lack of everything, but the fact is, they have got what they want. In the sixteenth song, synonym is found. It reflects the condition where the writers need to adapt in the new environment and other people from different background. In the seventeenth song, antonym and synonym are found. The song portrays the life of someone that he feels down and thinks that he fails in his life. In the eighteenth song, meronymy, antonym, and hyponym are found. The song shows the love that appeared between two friends and they feel lucky because they have known each other. In the nineteenth song, antonyms are found. They reflect the nature of human, good and bad. The song shows the beauty of life, people should enjoy it and advantage what they have. The last song, antonym and synonym are found. The song shows the idea about love, that people should feel it .

1. **CONCLUSIONS**

The objectives of the study are to identify the kinds of the lexical relations used in the lyric of Jason Mraz’s song lyrics and also to describe the meaning and function of the lexial relations used in the lyrics. The conclusion is drawn from the analysis shows that there are four kinds of lexical relation which are used in the lyric of the Jason Mraz’s songs, they are synonym, antonym, hyponym, and meronym. the function of the lexical relations within the verse in the lyric of the Jason Mraz’s songs is to represent the meaning of each word and to show how the meanings of the words in the lyrics are connected each other . Furthermore, the general function of the lexical relations is to collaborate paternal links of the text in order to produce a good coherence in presenting the text, and the text will be interesting and not monotonous. In every lyrics, the researcher finds message that implicitly stated by the writers. The words are interrelated each other and they have hidden meanings.

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