

ABSTRACT

The sportsnews headlines reporting the result of a game or competition represent many different verbs to describe winning and losing. The use of different verbs is to create a kind of variation in writing such headlines and not just to avoid monotony. For instance, the headlines do not always use verb 'win' for describing winning and 'lose' for losing.

Semantically, these verbs show the relation in meaning. Through structural semantics approach and semantic relationships from Palmer, this study is aimed at analysing how the semantic relationships occur among the variety of verbs describing winning and losing.

The data were taken from three different Indonesian newspapers from Surabaya. Of the 810 headlines collected, there are 20 different verbs describing winning and 68 describing losing. All of them can be divided in three kinds of verbs. Those are state, process, and activity verbs. Most of these verbs are action verbs especially for verbs describing losing.

The result of the analysis has shown that the semantic relationships among the verbs refer to the relations of synonyms and hyponyms. The synonymy relationships of the verbs are near-synonyms. They are different in connotation and in use for describing winning and losing. For the hyponymy relationships the verbs can be formulated and illustrated hierarchically in which the meaning of the verbs can be generated. The further applicative conclusion of this analysis is that this study is a tentative study since it has relation to the creativeness of sportswriters which might be unlimited. They do not just write such headlines by using different verbs but they are also concerned to make headlines as metaphoric creations.