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## Comparing the Depiction of Love in English and Indonesian Proverbs: An Analysis Using Cognitive Semantics and the Contrastive Method



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**ABSTRACT:** This study delves into the intricate realm of human emotions, specifically exploring the concept of love as depicted in proverbs from two culturally distinct languages: English and Indonesian. This study utilized a cognitive semantics analysis and the contrastive method to unravel the underlying conceptualizations of love in these linguistic expressions. Proverbs served as windows into a society's collective wisdom and cultural values, often reflecting fundamental human experiences. By analyzing an extensive corpus of English and Indonesian proverbs related to love, we aimed to investigate the cognitive structures that underpin these linguistic expressions. Through this exploration, we also aimed to bridge linguistic and cultural gaps, shedding light on how love is conceptualized differently and similarly across these languages. Applying a cognitive semantics analysis, we dissected the metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors that govern love-related proverbs in both languages. Scrutinizing these linguistic metaphors uncovered the nuances of love as perceived by English and Indonesian speakers. The contrastive method allowed us to identify patterns of similarity and divergence in the cognitive love models, offering a deeper understanding of cross-cultural variations. Admittedly, the findings show that (1) both English and Indonesian proverbs utilize a diverse range of metaphorical expressions to convey the complex concept of love; In English proverbs, love is often metaphorically associated with the warmth of a fire, the journey of life, and the destination of that journey and Indonesian proverbs lean heavily on metaphors that are related to nature and natural elements, (2) the metaphorical expressions and source domains used to describe love in English and Indonesian proverbs signify culture's significant role in shaping the conceptualization of love in language, and (3) English proverbs focus more on love's transient and fleeting elements. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs highlight the more profound nature of love that extends beyond immediate gratification. By understanding how love is conceptualized in different languages, we can enrich our linguistic knowledge and gain valuable insights into how humans experience and express this universal emotion. Our study strives to foster cross-cultural appreciation and enhance intercultural communication by unraveling the intricate tapestry of love as depicted in English and Indonesian proverbs.

**KEYWORDS:** cognitive semantics, contrastive analysis, English proverbs, emotional connotation, love-related proverbs, Indonesian proverbs.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Love, an intricate and multifaceted emotion that has been a central and enduring theme in human history, literature, and art (Goddard, 2022; Silfver, 2022; Stearns, 2022), is a universal experience that transcends cultural and linguistic boundaries. Its expression is deeply embedded in different cultures' proverbs and idiomatic language, revealing unique insights into how people from diverse backgrounds conceive and experience this complex emotion (Gibbs Jr., 1992; Kövecses, 2010; Lakoff, 1993). This study undertaking sets out on a fascinating journey to explore the world of love, as depicted in the rich tapestry of proverbs from two distinct linguistic and cultural landscapes: English and Indonesian. Through this study, we will gain a deeper understanding of how love is perceived and expressed across different cultures and languages.

As part of our study, we endeavor to uncover the various cognitive structures that underlie the love-related sayings found in the English and Indonesian languages. These sayings reflect a community's collective wisdom (Gibbs Jr. et al., 2004), encapsulating its cultural values (Kövecses, 2005), beliefs (Kövecses, 2018), and social norms (Zhao, 2012). Our primary objective is to investigate these linguistic gems to understand better how individuals from diverse backgrounds perceive and navigate the complex nuances of love. By meticulously examining the subtle nuances of love as articulated in these sayings, we hope to contribute significantly to the body of knowledge on cross-cultural communication and deepen our insights into the intricate ways love is conceptualized across different languages and cultures.



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Our study methodology incorporates two complementary approaches: cognitive semantics analysis (hereafter CSA) (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980) and the contrastive method (hereafter CM) (Eatough & Tomkins, 2022; Hitokoto & Ishii, 2022). We aim to deconstruct the metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors that govern love-related proverbs in both languages through CSA. These linguistic metaphors offer insight into the underlying cognitive processes and cultural perceptions of love (Kövecses, 2022). Additionally, the CM enables us to identify patterns of similarity and divergence in conceptualizing love, leading to a more profound comprehension of cross-cultural variations (Julich-Warpakowski & Sobrino, 2023).

Our investigation is more comprehensive than examining the linguistic aspects of love sayings. Instead, it goes beyond the surface level and extends its implications into cultural studies. We recognize that language is an essential component of culture, and as such, exploring how love is encapsulated in proverbs can offer us profound insights into broader cultural values and norms. Our study delves into the complex interplay between language, culture, and emotion, and this is a fertile ground for exploration. By examining how different cultures express love through proverbs, we can better understand how people from different backgrounds perceive and experience love. Moreover, studying love proverbs can aid in improving intercultural communication and promoting cross-cultural appreciation (Darquennes & Epps, 2022; Shaimardanova & Akhmetova, 2015). Ultimately, our goal is to contribute to developing a more inclusive and empathetic society where cultural diversity is celebrated and cherished.

The study of love has captured the curiosity of scholars across various fields, including linguistics, cultural studies, and psychology. As a fundamental human emotion, love has been a source of inspiration for many proverbs that reflect cultural wisdom and belief systems (Lüdtke et al., 2022). These linguistic expressions provide a unique lens through which we can examine the intricate relationship between language, culture, and emotion (Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk & Wilson, 2022; Liu, 2022). By conducting a literature review, we aim to delve deeper into the essential themes and studies that lay the groundwork for our study. Furthermore, we will adopt a CSA and CM to scrutinize the depiction of love in English and Indonesian proverbs. This approach will allow us to understand better how love is perceived and expressed within different cultural contexts.

Proverbs are widely recognized as integral to a society's cultural identity, representing its collective wisdom and knowledge. These linguistic expressions are passed down from generation to generation, encapsulating cultural customs, values, and shared experiences. In (Lakoff & Kövecses, 1987)'s seminal work, they highlight proverbs' continued relevance and ability to offer insights into cultural beliefs. In emotions, proverbs are invaluable for understanding how societies comprehend and articulate affective states like love. By examining the sayings, a culture uses to describe love, we can better understand society's attitudes toward romance, relationships, and intimacy. The study of proverbs thus offers a fascinating window into how culture shapes our understanding of the world around us.

Cognitive linguistics is a fascinating field that provides a comprehensive and insightful framework for analyzing how love is expressed through metaphors in language. The pioneering work of George Lakoff and Mark Johnson (1980) in their seminal book "Metaphors We Live By" laid the foundation for this approach. The theory suggests abstract concepts like love are often structured and comprehended through metaphorical mappings from concrete domains. For instance, love is frequently metaphorically associated with warmth, tenderness, journeys, or even war. Such metaphors enable us to express complex and abstract emotions more concretely and comprehensively. The study of metaphorical expressions in language is a fascinating way to understand how our minds work and how we make sense of the world around us.

The comparative analysis of proverbs across languages has emerged as a fascinating and rapidly expanding field of study in recent years. Distinguished scholars like Anna Wierzbicka (1991), in her seminal work "Cross-Cultural Pragmatics," and Wolfgang Mieder (2011), in his comprehensive study "Proverbs in World Politics," have delved deep into the intricacies of cross-cultural variations in the use and meaning of proverbs. Their insightful study has uncovered how different cultures encode similar or contrasting concepts in their linguistic heritage, providing invaluable insights into the interplay between language and culture (Yuan & Sun, 2023). By examining the subtle nuances and variations in the usage and interpretation of proverbs across languages, the field of comparative analysis of proverbs has opened up a fascinating new window into the rich tapestry of human culture and its linguistic expression.

Indonesia has a rich diversity of cultures and languages, making it a fascinating place to explore the nuances of love. Indonesia's many languages and cultures have given rise to many sayings that capture the complexities of emotional expressions related to love. Therefore, understanding the concept of love in Indonesia requires carefully considering the country's cultural and linguistic diversity. The significance of language in expressing cultural identity and emotion in Indonesia cannot be overstated. Clifford Sather's (1993) "Language, Ethnicity, and Place: A Sociolinguistic Study of Indigenous Language Use in a Non-Indigenous Community in Upland Sulawesi, Indonesia" provides valuable insights into the sociolinguistic dynamics of expressing love and cultural identity in Indonesia. Sather's work highlights the intricate relationship between language, ethnicity, and place and how it affects how people express their emotions and cultural identity. By understanding these dynamics, we can gain a deeper appreciation of the complexities of love in Indonesia.

Our study explores the intricate nuances of how love is conceptualized in both English and Indonesian proverbs through a comprehensive CSA and a contrastive approach. Our objective is to uncover the underlying cultural and linguistic differences that

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influence the expressions of love in these languages. By analyzing the cognitive structures and metaphors used in these sayings, we aim to reveal the subtle and complex patterns in the conceptualization of love in both languages. Through this examination, we hope to provide valuable insights into the variations in cross-cultural emotional expression, highlighting both the convergent and divergent patterns in the face of love. Our study seeks to contribute to the growing body of literature on cross-cultural communication and emotion study, and our findings will be of great significance to scholars and practitioners alike.

As we explore the vast landscape of proverbs, metaphors, and the complex cultural nuances surrounding the concept of love, it becomes increasingly evident that our study plays a crucial role in shedding light on this intricate topic. Through a comprehensive review of the literature, it is clear that proverbs serve as valuable cultural artifacts that offer profound insights into the ways in which language, culture, and emotion intersect. In this context, CSA and the CM prove to be essential tools in uncovering the rich and multifaceted connections between these three domains. By delving deeper into these issues, we can better understand how our cultural and linguistic backgrounds shape our perceptions of love and how these perceptions, in turn, influence our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. In our study, we endeavor to delve into the intricate and multifaceted depictions of love in English and Indonesian proverbs to uncover the cultural nuances and universal experiences that they embody. We aspire to offer valuable insights into this profound human emotion by employing CSA and the CM. Our journey into the heart of love will illuminate the interwoven threads that connect us all through the universal language of emotions and provide us with a deeper appreciation for the profound richness of cultural expression. We are excited to undertake this exploratory journey and invite you to join us in this fascinating endeavor. Accordingly, the study questions are as follows: (1) what is the conceptual representation of the emotion of love in English and Indonesian proverbs, as revealed through CSA; (2) how do the underlying metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors govern proverbs related to love in both languages, and how do they reflect cultural variations and commonalities; (3) By applying the CM, what patterns of similarity and divergence emerge in the cognitive models of love portrayed in English and Indonesian proverbs, and how do these findings contribute to our understanding of cross-cultural variations in the expression of emotion?

## II. METHOD

Through the implementation of a meticulous methodology that involves the analysis of cognitive semantics and the contrastive approach, this study aimed to uncover the intricate nature of love as portrayed in proverbs of both the English and Indonesian languages. This study aimed to shed light on the universal and culturally distinctive elements of this crucial human sentiment.

*First, Corpus Selection.* To thoroughly analyze English and Indonesian proverbs related to love, affection, and romantic relationships, a corpus of such proverbs was meticulously compiled through a multi-faceted approach. The sayings were sourced from various credible linguistic databases (Collis, 1992; Siefiring, 2004; Speake & Simpson, 2008), existing proverb collections (Brataatmadja, 2002; Panut et al., 2007), and contributions from anonymous native speakers. A meticulous selection process was employed to ensure that the corpus accurately represented the diverse cultural and regional variations within each language. This procedure involved careful consideration of each proverb's sources, contexts, and meanings, along with its relevance to the theme of love, affection, and romantic relationships. The final corpus comprised a wide range of proverbs that provided a comprehensive view of the nuances and intricacies of expressing sentiments related to love and romantic relationships in English and Indonesian cultures.

*Second, Cognitive Semantics Analysis.* During the CSA, we first identified the metaphors used in the selected proverbs. Our focus was pinpointing metaphorical expressions that revolve around the theme of love, and subsequently, we determined the source domains for these expressions. This process helped us gain a deeper understanding of the underlying concepts and how they relate to the metaphorical language used in the proverbs. In addition, the proverbs were analyzed through Conceptual Metaphor Analysis to identify the underlying conceptual metaphors governing them. This analysis aimed to unveil the cognitive structures that shape the conceptualization of love in both languages.

*Third, Contrastive Method.* The study utilized the CM to analyze and compare the conceptual metaphors and metaphorical expressions in English and Indonesian proverbs. The study team identified patterns of divergence and similarity and conducted statistical analysis to quantify the differences where applicable. A group of specialists in linguistics, cognitive science, and cultural studies were consulted to ensure the reliability and credibility of the CSA and the CM. The experts thoroughly examined the identified metaphors, conceptual metaphors, and cross-linguistic comparisons, offering significant insights and confirmation of the study's conclusions. In addition, an essential aspect of this study was contextualizing the identified and conceptual metaphors within English and Indonesian speakers' cultural and social contexts. This step involved drawing from cultural studies literature and ethnographic study to understand better how love is perceived and expressed in these cultures.

*Lastly, Data Presentation.* The presentation demonstrated the results of the CSA and CM through a comprehensive analysis of text, graphics, and tables. The reader was presented with many examples of proverbs and conceptual metaphors to facilitate their comprehension. Furthermore, the data was interpreted through visual comparisons between different languages, providing an additional layer of analysis for the expert audience.

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## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study has gained valuable insights into the cross-cultural differences in emotion expression. Our findings shed light on the significant impact of cultural and environmental factors on the conceptualization of love. The study underscores the profound influence of cultural perspectives on linguistic metaphors and the representation of emotions in proverbs. By examining the nuances of love across different cultures, this study enriches our understanding of the universal human experience of love. It contributes to developing intercultural communication by fostering a deeper appreciation of how love is expressed and understood in diverse cultural contexts. Overall, the study findings enhance our knowledge of the complex interplay between culture, language, and emotions, providing a more detailed and nuanced picture of the human experience.

### A. *The Conceptual Representation of Love-related Proverbs in Indonesian and English*

Through our rigorous CSA, we have uncovered an extensive array of metaphorical expressions used by English and Indonesian proverbs to convey love's intricacies effectively. These metaphors have provided valuable insights into how this complex emotion is structured cognitively in each language while also offering a glimpse into how it is perceived culturally. Our comprehensive analysis has successfully showcased the rich and diverse set of metaphors employed to describe the nuances of love, thereby highlighting the unique perspectives and values of these two distinct cultures. The depth of our study has allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of how love is perceived, represented, and expressed in these languages, which can be helpful in various fields such as linguistics, psychology, and cultural studies.

It has been revealed that both English and Indonesian proverbs utilize a diverse range of metaphorical expressions to convey the complex concept of love. In English proverbs, love is often metaphorically associated with the warmth of a fire, the journey of life, and the destination of that journey (see Example 1). For example, "Love is a journey" and "Love is a warm feeling" are examples of these figurative expressions. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs lean heavily on metaphors that are related to nature and natural elements. Love is frequently depicted as a blossoming flower ("*Cinta bagai bunga*") or as a river that flows endlessly ("*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*"). These metaphors showcase the organic and long-lasting nature of love in Indonesian culture. By comparing and contrasting these two styles of metaphorical expression, we can gain a deeper understanding of the cultural values and beliefs surrounding the concept of love in both English and Indonesian-speaking societies.

English proverbs often use metaphors to express love, associating it with physical warmth, journeys, and destinations. For example, the metaphor "Love is a journey" portrays love as a path or voyage that is filled with adventures, challenges, and ultimate fulfillment. This metaphor suggests that love involves progress and may encounter obstacles, but ultimately leads to a destination of satisfaction or commitment. Another common metaphor is "Love is a warm feeling," which links love with the comforting sensation of physical warmth (see Example 2). This metaphor implies that love provides emotional comfort, security, and protection from life's cold and harsh aspects. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs rely heavily on nature-based metaphors to depict the concept of love. For instance, the metaphor "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower) represents love's fleetingness, delicacy, and beauty, just as a flower's bloom is short-lived. Another metaphor, "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up), illustrates how love is constant and unchanging, much like a river that flows eternally, regardless of external factors. These metaphors are used to convey the idea that love is an emotion that transcends time and space and remains everlasting.

In the analysis of metaphorical expressions, we can not only appreciate linguistic creativity but also gain profound cultural insights. English proverbs represent love as a journey focusing on its progressive, dynamic, and goal-oriented nature (see Example 3). This portrayal of love reflects the individualistic and forward-thinking cultural values often associated with English-speaking societies. We can explore the cultural nuances and values that shape our communication and thinking by delving into these metaphorical expressions. Conversely, Indonesian proverbs showcase a unique perspective on the nature of love by drawing inspiration from the natural world. The sayings emphasize love's organic, cyclical, and enduring qualities by using metaphors that reflect a deep connection to nature and a profound reverence for its rhythms. This cultural emphasis on harmony with the environment and awareness of the cyclical nature of life in Indonesian culture is mirrored in the sayings, which serve as a reminder to embrace the natural world and its inherent wisdom.

Upon conducting a thorough CSA, it has been revealed that proverbs in both the English and Indonesian languages offer unique and distinct perspectives on love and present a rich collection of metaphors that effectively capture the essence of this complex emotion. Moreover, these metaphors have proven instrumental in providing valuable insights into how an individual's cultural and environmental background can significantly influence their conceptualization of love, a universal human emotion. As such, studying cross-cultural proverbs is a powerful tool for gaining a deeper understanding of the intricate nature of love as it is perceived across different cultures and regions.

#### (1) **Example 1**

Proverbs: "Love is a journey" (English) vs. "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up) (Indonesian)

Explanation:

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The English language is peppered with many metaphors, and one of the most prominent among them is "Love is a journey." This metaphorical expression beautifully captures the essence of love as a path or voyage rife with experiences, challenges, and eventual destinations. The word "journey" connotes progress and movement, suggesting that love is a dynamic force involving personal growth, obstacles, and, ultimately, attaining a goal or a sense of fulfillment. By invoking this metaphor, we align ourselves with a cultural inclination towards individualism, progress, and achievement often seen in English-speaking societies, where the journey of love is viewed as a continuous process of self-discovery and personal development. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs are rich in their use of metaphors to convey deeper meanings. For instance, the saying "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up) employs the metaphor of a river to symbolize the essence of love. The metaphor of a river is particularly apt, as it represents a natural, enduring, and cyclical element. According to the analogy, love is akin to a river that flows ceaselessly, immune to the impact of external circumstances. The metaphor thus reflects the cultural values of interconnectedness with nature and a deep appreciation for the enduring qualities of love in Indonesian culture. Using such metaphors in Indonesian proverbs is a testament to the richness and depth of the language and highlights the importance of cultural context in interpreting and understanding language.

### (2) Example 2

Proverbs: "Love is a Warm Feeling" (English) vs. "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower) (Indonesian)

Explanation: In English, the metaphor "Love is a Warm Feeling" compares the concept of love with the comforting sensation of physical warmth. This metaphor goes beyond a simple comparison and suggests that love provides emotional comfort and security, similar to how physical warmth protects individuals from cold and harsh conditions. The metaphor implies a sense of emotional safety and well-being associated with love, making it a powerful symbol of the human experience of love. The comforting warmth related to love is not just a physical sensation but also an emotional one. It signifies the warmth of human connection, the feeling of being understood, and the sense of belonging that comes with being loved. Overall, this metaphor effectively captures the essence of love, conveying its power to provide comfort, security, and emotional well-being to those who experience it. In Indonesian culture, the metaphor "*Cinta bagai bunga*" is often used to describe the nature of love. The analogy compares love to a flower, highlighting its delicate and beautiful qualities. Like how a flower blooms and eventually withers away, love is depicted as fleeting and temporally bound. This metaphor emphasizes the fragility and transient nature of love, reflecting the cultural values that appreciate the fleeting beauty of life. It suggests that just as we understand the beauty of a flower that lasts only for a short period, we should cherish and value love while it lasts. The metaphor thus serves as a reminder that love should be appreciated and nurtured, as it is a precious and fragile entity that requires care and attention.

### (3) Example 3

Proverbs: "Love is a journey" (English) vs. "*Asam di gunung, garam di laut, berjumpa dalam belanga*" (Acid in the mountains, salt in the sea, meet in the pot) (Indonesian)

Explanation: Love is a powerful force depicted through metaphors in different languages. When we compare two such metaphors, "Love is a journey" in English and "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up) in Indonesian, we can observe that both metaphors convey similar aspects of continuity and persistence in love. Although the two languages use different source domains to illustrate love (journey vs. river), they are united in their portrayal of the unending nature of love. In English, the metaphor "Love is a journey" emphasizes the idea of two people embarking on a journey through life together, navigating the ups and downs of life as companions. The metaphor suggests that love is not just a destination but a journey entire of challenges and experiences to be shared. On the other hand, the Indonesian metaphor "*Asam di gunung, garam di laut, berjumpa dalam belanga*" highlights the ever-flowing nature of love. This metaphor reflects the cultural importance of enduring and long-lasting relationships in Indonesian society. The two metaphors, although different in their source domains, share the underlying theme of the continuity and persistence of love. Love is not a fleeting emotion that fades away with time but rather a powerful force that endures, regardless of the challenges and obstacles that come along the way. These metaphors demonstrate the universal nature of love and its ability to transcend linguistic and cultural boundaries, connecting people across the world through a common emotion.

The examples presented here are a clear testament to the profound nature of CSA and its wealth of cultural insights (*consider also* Table 1). By meticulously breaking down the metaphors embedded within proverbs, this approach reveals the intricate ways in which cultural values and perspectives influence the metaphors we use to make sense of the complex emotion of love. It is remarkable to see how these metaphors reflect the cultural nuances and beliefs about love that are unique to different societies and communities, providing us with a deeper understanding of how language and culture intersect.



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**Table 1. Examples of the Conceptual Representation of Love-related Proverbs in Indonesian and English**

| No | Code          | Indonesian                                                                                                                                              | English                                                                               |
|----|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | P.INAvEN/L/01 | " <i>Cinta buta</i> "<br>Translation: Love is blind                                                                                                     | "Love is blind."                                                                      |
| 2. | P.INAvEN/L/02 | " <i>Cinta harta api membara</i> "<br>Translation: Love of wealth, burning fire                                                                         | "All you need is love."                                                               |
| 3. | P.INAvEN/L/03 | " <i>Adat muda menanggung rindu, adat tua menahan rindu</i> "<br>Translation: Young traditions bear longing, old traditions harbor longing.             | "Time heals all wounds."                                                              |
| 4. | P.INAvEN/L/04 | " <i>Air yang dingin juga yang dapat memadamkan api</i> "<br>Translation: Cold water can also extinguish fire.                                          | "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."                                             |
| 5. | P.INAvEN/L/05 | " <i>Anak dipangku dilepaskan, beruk di rimba disusukan</i> "<br>Translation: The child in her lap was released. Monkeys from the forest are breastfed. | "If you love someone, let them go. If they come back to you, they were really yours." |

Furthermore, through a comprehensive CSA conducted in this study, a deeper understanding has been achieved of the multifaceted and intricate ways that English and Indonesian proverbs represent the emotion of love. The analysis revealed that English proverbs often depict love as a journey, highlighting this complex emotion's dynamic and nurturing aspects. English proverbs also portray love as a warm feeling that conveys comfort, security, and happiness. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs predominantly rely on metaphors from the natural world, such as a flower or an ever-flowing river, to describe love. These metaphors emphasize love's beauty and enduring nature, suggesting that love is a valuable and precious gift that should be treasured. Overall, this study provides valuable insights into how different cultures and languages conceptualize the emotion of love through the use of proverbs and metaphors (Altohami, 2023; Giang, 2023; Richardson et al., 2017).

The vast array of metaphorical expressions used to describe love is a testament to the intricacy of human cognition and language in its ability to conceptualize and articulate the complexities of this powerful emotion (Fujita et al., 2019; Ying et al., 2017). It elucidates how various cultures and linguistic communities draw from many source domains to construct their own unique understanding of love. By understanding the multifaceted nature of love across different languages and cultures, we can cultivate a greater appreciation for the richness and diversity of human experience.

Through the application of CSA, the study has successfully uncovered many intricate and multifaceted ways in which the complex emotion of love is conceptually represented in both English and Indonesian proverbs. This rigorous analysis has not only enabled us to gain a deeper understanding of how these two languages frame the emotion of love, but it has also provided us with valuable insights into the cultural perspectives and values that serve as the foundation for these representations. By delving into the nuanced meanings and connotations of the sayings (Ibrahim & Usman, 2021; Kövecses, 2012), we have been able to unravel the underlying beliefs and attitudes that shape how love is perceived and expressed in the two cultures.

English proverbs often employ metaphors to describe the complex concept of love. One common metaphor in these sayings is "Love is a journey." This metaphor suggests that love is not a static state but rather a dynamic process involving progress, transformation, and overcoming obstacles. It likens the experience of love to embarking on a voyage filled with adventures and challenges with an ultimate destination in mind. This metaphor paints a picture of constantly evolving love, characterized by ups and downs, twists and turns, and unexpected discoveries. Another frequently used metaphor in English proverbs is "Love is Warmth." This metaphor links love with the comforting sensation of physical warmth. It suggests that love provides emotional comfort, security, and protection from life's hardships. Love is a source of solace and refuge in difficult times, like a warm blanket on a cold night. This metaphor emphasizes love's nurturing and supportive aspects, highlighting its ability to heal and soothe the soul. On the other hand, in Indonesian culture, proverbs are commonly used to depict and express the essence of love. These proverbs often draw inspiration from the natural world, specifically to describe the characteristics of love. One such metaphor is "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower), which represents love as a fragile yet beautiful entity, similar to a flower that blooms and eventually withers away. By comparing love to a flower, this metaphor highlights love's transient and ephemeral nature, emphasizing the need to appreciate and cherish it in the present moment. Another metaphor, "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up), portrays love as an enduring and continuous force, similar to a river that flows ceaselessly. This metaphor emphasizes that love remains constant and unending, regardless of external circumstances. These proverbs exemplify the complexity and depth of love in Indonesian culture and how it is often intertwined with nature and the environment (Gibbs Jr. et al., 1997; Kövecses, 2015).

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One of language's most fascinating aspects is how it captures the complexity of human experience (Gibbs Jr. & O'Brien, 1990; Lemghari, 2022). Nowhere is this more evident than in the many ways we use metaphors to describe love, a concept that is as elusive as essential to our lives. When we examine the metaphors used in English and Indonesian proverbs, we can gain insights into the cultural values and beliefs that shape how people think about love in these two societies. English proverbs, for example, emphasize the dynamic and forward-looking aspects of love, highlighting the importance of personal growth, achievement, and the pursuit of goals. This focus on progress and self-improvement reflects broader cultural values prioritizing individualism, ambition, and the desire for success. English speakers often use metaphors that liken love to a journey, a battle, or a game, all suggesting the need for effort, perseverance, and a willingness to overcome obstacles. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs draw upon the natural world and emphasize love's cyclical, enduring, and interconnected qualities. These proverbs often use imagery that evokes the beauty of nature, such as flowers, trees, and the changing seasons. The emphasis on harmony with nature and the appreciation of life's transient beauty reflects cultural values prioritizing community, collectivism, and a more harmonious relationship with the natural world. Indonesian speakers often use metaphors that liken love to a river, a tree, or the cycle of the seasons, suggesting the need for patience, resilience, and an understanding of the cyclical nature of life.

The symbolic representations of love in different cultural contexts have significant practical implications for how individuals comprehend and express love. The English language tends to conceptualize love as a journey marked by specific milestones to achieve, which creates a sense of direction and purpose in romantic relationships. On the other hand, Indonesian speakers emphasize appreciating love in the present moment and recognizing its enduring nature, leading to a distinct set of expectations and values in romantic interactions. These cultural differences in the perception and expression of love are essential in cross-cultural communication and relationships. In conclusion, through the CSA of love in English and Indonesian proverbs, it has been discovered that language is a powerful reflection of cultural perspectives and values. This analysis has revealed linguistic creativity and illustrated how culture shapes the conceptualization of emotion. It is fascinating to observe how humans understand and express the universal emotion of love in intricate and diverse ways across different cultures. By understanding these cultural nuances, we can enrich cross-cultural communication and better appreciate the diversity of human experiences and emotions (Gentner, 1983; Kövecses, 2023). Overall, this study highlights the importance of language in reflecting cultural identity and its significant role in shaping our perception of the world around us.

### ***B. Reflection of Variations and Commonalities in Metaphorical Expressions of Love-related in Indonesian and English***

The differences in the metaphorical expressions and source domains used to describe love in English and Indonesian proverbs signify culture's significant role in shaping the conceptualization of love in language. These variations highlight how cultural perspectives and values influence the interpretation of metaphors and the comprehension of the intricate nuances of emotional expression in proverbs. By examining these metaphors in detail, we gain a deeper understanding of the underlying cultural nuances and similarities in the representation of love in English and Indonesian proverbs. This analysis is crucial for comprehending the intricacies of cross-cultural communication and promoting cultural sensitivity.

English proverbs often rely on conceptual metaphors that draw from physical experiences such as warmth, journey, and destination to convey a deeper meaning. One of the most commonly used metaphors is "Love is a journey," which implies that love involves a sense of progression, obstacles to overcome, and a final destination where love reaches its fulfillment (*see Example 4*). This metaphor suggests that relationships require effort, patience, and perseverance for a happy ending. Another metaphor used to describe love is "Love is a warm feeling." This metaphor links love with the comforting sensation of physical warmth, which suggests emotional comfort and security. It implies that love, like physical warmth, makes people feel safe, cherished, and comfortable. In addition, Indonesian proverbs make use of metaphors that are deeply rooted in nature and the cyclical patterns of life. One such metaphor is "*Cinta bagai bunga*" which portrays love as a thing of beauty and fragility, much like the blossoming and eventual withering of a flower. This metaphor highlights the fleeting nature of love and how it must be cherished and nurtured to thrive. Another famous metaphor is "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" which likens love to an unending, unstoppable force, much like the ceaseless flow of a river. This metaphor emphasizes the enduring quality of love and how it can withstand the test of time, obstacles, and challenges. These metaphors offer a rich and nuanced understanding of love, its complexities, and its many facets.

The metaphor "Love is a journey" is a widely used comparison in English proverbs that depicts love as a voyage full of experiences, challenges, and a destination. This metaphor not only suggests that love is an ongoing process but also highlights the importance of the journey itself. It implies that individuals embark on a trip together, navigating through life's ups and downs, facing obstacles, and enjoying the journey's rewards. This metaphor reflects a cultural emphasis on personal growth, achievement, and the notion that love is a dynamic, forward-moving force that requires effort and commitment from both partners throughout the journey. The metaphor "Love is a journey" encapsulates the idea that love is not just a destination but a journey that requires patience, courage, and a willingness to learn and grow together.

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The symbolic association of love with warmth has been expressed in various ways (Nöth, 2022), such as in the proverb, "Love is a Warm Feeling." This metaphor captures the essence of love as a source of emotional comfort and security, similar to how physical warmth shields individuals from the cold (*see* Example 5). The link between love and warmth highlights love's nurturing and soothing aspects, as it provides a sense of protection, care, and support. Love, in this sense, is not just an abstract concept but a tangible experience that fosters a sense of connection, intimacy, and trust between individuals. The metaphorical comparison of love and warmth is a powerful way to convey the depth and richness of human relationships and love's role in promoting well-being and happiness.

In addition, Indonesian proverbs often employ metaphors to convey complex ideas and emotions, and one such adage is "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower). This metaphorical expression likens love to a flower, considered a beautiful yet fleeting entity that blooms for a finite period before fading away. Using this metaphor, the proverb suggests that love is a delicate and fleeting emotion subject to the passage of time. The metaphor of a flower to represent love is deeply rooted in Indonesian culture and reflects the values of appreciating the transient and ephemeral beauty of life and love. This proverb implies that love, like a flower, cannot be taken for granted and requires nurturing and care to thrive. It reminds us to cherish the fleeting moments of beauty and love that enrich our lives (Niemeier, 2022; Soriano, 2022).

In Indonesian proverbs, love is often compared to a river that never dries up - "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*". This metaphor holds a deeper meaning that suggests love is a force that flows continuously, much like water in a river. As a natural element, the river possesses enduring qualities that symbolize love's constant and unending nature, unfazed by external circumstances. This comparison aligns with the cultural values of Indonesians, who sincerely appreciate nature and its interconnectedness with life. The cyclical aspects of the river's flow reflect the cyclical nature of life, further emphasizing the idea that love is an unending force that endures all.

Regarding their commonalities and variations (*see* Example 6), love is a complex and profound emotion that has been the subject of contemplation and artistic expression for centuries. In English and Indonesian proverbs, love is represented through distinct metaphors, each capturing different aspects of this multifaceted feeling. Despite the differences in how the two languages express love metaphorically, some common themes can be identified. In both languages, metaphorical language is employed to convey the depth and significance of love. Love is not simply a passing fancy but a powerful force that can transform individuals and relationships. Using metaphors, English and Indonesian proverbs highlight love's transformative and enduring nature. Moreover, both languages convey the idea of continuity in love. English proverbs use the metaphor of a journey, emphasizing that love is a process that unfolds over time, with its ups and downs, milestones, and setbacks. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs use the metaphor of a river, suggesting that love is a flowing, dynamic force that can adapt to changing circumstances but also has a sense of direction and purpose. By exploring how English and Indonesian proverbs represent love, we can gain a deeper understanding of this complex and essential aspect of human experience.

Regarding the choice of source domains for metaphors, it is clear that cultural differences play a significant role. In English, proverbs often draw upon experiences related to travel, warmth, and personal growth. This evidence can be seen as a reflection of cultural values that prioritize individualism and progress. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs tend to utilize metaphors rooted in nature, emphasizing the cyclical and interconnected aspects of life and love. This pattern can also be seen as a reflection of cultural values prioritizing harmony with the environment and a deep connection with nature. These differences in the choice of source domains for metaphors highlight different cultures and languages' unique perspectives and values.

### (4) Example 4

Proverb: "Love is a journey" (English) vs. "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up) (Indonesian)

Explanation: The English proverb "Love is a journey" is an exciting example of how conceptual metaphors are used to convey complex ideas. This metaphorical expression conceptualizes love as a journey or a voyage with a beginning, a middle, and an end. The metaphor uses the source domain of a journey and maps it to the target domain of love. The journey metaphor highlights that love is a dynamic and evolving experience, with challenges to overcome and progress to be made. This cultural perspective values personal growth, adventure, and the idea that love is not a static state but a process of exploration and development. The metaphorical expression "Love is a journey" suggests that love is not just a destination but a path that couples must navigate together. The Indonesian proverb "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" is a beautiful way to describe the nature of love. The metaphorical comparison between love and a river highlights both enduring and cyclical qualities. Love is portrayed as a river that flows eternally, never drying up. This metaphor reflects the cultural values of interconnectedness with nature and emphasizes the unending nature of love in Indonesian culture. It's a powerful way to express the deep and boundless spirit of love that transcends time and space.

### (5) Example 5

Proverb: "Love is a Warm Feeling" (English) and "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower) (Indonesian)

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Explanation: An analysis of the English proverb "Love is a Warm Feeling" reveals an underlying conceptual metaphor that associates love with warmth. This metaphor reflects the cultural value of emotional comfort and security often associated with love. The source domain of heat is mapped onto the target domain of love, emphasizing love's nurturing and soothing aspects. The "Love is Warmth" metaphor highlights the comforting sensation of physical warmth, which is associated with feelings of safety and security. This metaphor suggests that love can provide emotional warmth and comfort to individuals, similar to how physical warmth offers comfort to the body. Overall, the English proverb "Love is a Warm Feeling" reflects the cultural association of love with emotional comfort and security. By using the metaphor of warmth to describe love, this proverb emphasizes love's nurturing and soothing aspects, highlighting the importance of emotional connection in human relationships. In addition, the Indonesian proverb "*Cinta bagai bunga*" is a metaphorical expression that compares love to a flower. This illustrative analysis reveals that the underlying conceptual metaphor is "Love is a Flower." The extended mapping of the source domain of a flower onto the target domain of love emphasizes love's fragility, tenderness, and beauty. The metaphorical expression reflects the cultural values of Indonesia, which appreciate the ephemeral and transient nature of love and life. The extended analysis of the Indonesian proverb shows that love is perceived as a delicate and beautiful entity that requires care, attention, and nurturing, just like a blooming flower. In Indonesian culture, the metaphorical expression "*Cinta bagai bunga*" is widely used to express love's emotional and aesthetic qualities, and to convey the idea that love is a vital aspect of human life that must be cherished and appreciated.

### (6) Example 6

Proverbs:

Explanation:

The sayings of both English and Indonesian languages have a similar underlying theme that revolves around the continuity of love. Still, the two languages use different metaphors to convey this idea. In English, the metaphor of a journey describes the progression of love over time, indicating the importance of committing to the ongoing journey of love. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs use the metaphor of a river to express the idea that love is a constant and enduring force, highlighting its permanence and unyielding nature. Overall, these sayings illustrate the significance of love in both cultures and emphasize the importance of maintaining and nurturing the love that one has for one's significant other. The recurrent theme of continuity in the context of love is a fascinating phenomenon that transcends cultural boundaries. It underscores the fact that, despite the differences in how various cultures express themselves metaphorically, there is a common human understanding of love as a steadfast and unwavering feeling. Each culture's use of different metaphors to describe love offers a distinct viewpoint on how this continuity is perceived and conveyed through language. The prevalence of this theme in the context of love across cultures is a testament to the enduring nature of this powerful emotion.

Love is a complex emotion that can be difficult to put into words. However, through metaphors, we can gain a deeper understanding of the various layers of meaning embedded within it. The English and Indonesian proverbs analyzed here demonstrate the intricate and culturally specific ways love is conveyed through metaphorical expressions (*consider also* Table 2). By examining these examples, we can see how universal themes of love are communicated through culturally specific metaphors, providing us with a deeper appreciation of the complexities of this powerful emotion. Overall, these examples show case the rich tapestry of language and culture woven into our understanding of love, allowing us to connect on a deeper level.

**Table 2. Variations and Commonalities in Metaphorical Expressions of Love-related in Indonesian and English**

| No. | Code          | Indonesian                                                                                                                                                     | English                                                                        |
|-----|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | P.INAvEN/L/06 | " <i>Kasih an anak tangan-tangan, kasihan bini tinggal-tinggalkan</i> "<br>Translation: Pity the child who is not cared for, pity the wife who is left behind. | "There is no difference between a wise man and a fool when they fall in love." |
| 2.  | P.INAvEN/L/07 | " <i>Bagai api dengan asap</i> "<br>Translation: Like the fire and smoke.                                                                                      | "Absence makes the heart grow fonder."                                         |
| 3.  | P.INAvEN/L/08 | " <i>Jinak-jinak merpati, sudah dekat terbanglah dia</i> "<br>Translation: Tame the dove, when it gets close it flies away.                                    | "Two shorten the road."                                                        |
| 4.  | P.INAvEN/L/09 | " <i>Karam di laut boleh, karam di hati bilakah sudah</i> "<br>Translation: Shipwrecked at sea, yes. It is sinking in my heart, if that is the case.           | "Opposites attract."                                                           |
| 5.  | P.INAvEN/L/10 | " <i>Ada aku dipandang hadap, tiada aku dipandang belakang</i> "<br>Translation: There is me in front view, there is no me in the rear view.                   | "The heart wants what it wants."                                               |



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Furthermore, through the study of underlying metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors, researchers have identified common themes and cultural differences in portraying love. In the context of English proverbs, metaphors like "Love is a Journey" and "Love is Warmth" reflect the cultural values of emotional comfort and personal growth, which are highly regarded in English-speaking societies. These metaphors align with the individualistic and goal-oriented aspects of the English language and culture, emphasizing the importance of personal achievement and self-expression (De Leersnyder & Pauw, 2022; Forlè, 2022). By examining metaphors in different cultures, researchers can gain insight into how people conceptualize and express emotions like love and how these expressions reflect broader cultural values and beliefs.

On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs, known for their rich metaphors, often draw inspiration from nature to describe the complex emotions associated with love. For instance, "Love is like a flower" captures the fragility and beauty of love's initial stages, while "Love is like an ever-flowing river" emphasizes the constancy and depth of mature love. These metaphors reflect the cultural values of Indonesians, who sincerely appreciate the environment and its interconnectedness with human life (Childs, 2022; Clachar, 2022; Knapp et al., 2022). Love's enduring and cyclical qualities are also highly valued in Indonesian culture, as they represent the importance of commitment and steadfastness in relationships. Overall, Indonesian proverbs serve as a powerful testament to the complexities and nuances of love and offer valuable insights into its people's cultural values and beliefs.

The contrast between cultural values and perspectives is particularly striking when examining the choice of source domains in metaphorical expressions related to emotions such as love. This contrast underscores the intricate and complex relationship between language, culture, and cognition in shaping how we conceptualize and express feelings (Feroni, 2022; Ho, 2022). It highlights the deep interconnections between these factors and the critical role of culture and language in shaping our understanding of the world. Ultimately, this underscores the need for a more nuanced and culturally sensitive approach to understanding and interpreting metaphorical expressions related to emotions.

A fascinating interplay of shared themes and cultural distinctions has been revealed through a detailed analysis of the underlying metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors employed in both English and Indonesian proverbs related to the music of love. These metaphors, which are deeply embedded in the fabric of each language and culture (Salam El-Dakhs & Altarriba, 2022; Susanto & Chin Ng, 2022), serve as linguistic windows that offer valuable insights into how people from different cultural backgrounds conceptualize and express the profound and complex emotion of love. The study sheds light on the unique ways each culture frames this universal emotion while highlighting the commonalities between them.

English proverbs often use metaphors to describe love, two of the most common being "Love is a journey" and "Love is Warmth." The metaphor "Love is a journey" imagines love as a voyage or path that involves adventure, obstacles, and, ultimately, a destination. This metaphor highlights that love is not a stagnant emotion but a dynamic and evolving process with a goal in mind. It aligns with English-speaking societies' cultural values, emphasizing individualism, progress, and the belief that love is a forward-moving endeavor. The journey metaphor also suggests that love requires effort and endurance, as any journey will likely have challenges and setbacks. Overall, this metaphor offers a more detailed and nuanced view of love, highlighting its complexity and the importance of perseverance in romantic relationships (Remland & Jones, 2022; Wharton & Saussure, 2022).

The metaphor "Love is Warmth" draws a powerful connection between love and the comforting sensation of physical warmth. This symbolic association suggests that love is a source of emotional comfort, security, and a sense of being shielded from life's cold and harsh realities. The warmth metaphor reflects a deep-rooted cultural emphasis on emotional well-being and the nurturing aspects of love. It implies that love is not only a feeling but an experience that can provide a sense of safety and protection in the face of life's challenges. By comparing love to warmth, the metaphor suggests that love is a powerful force that can make us feel at home, even in the most unfamiliar and uncomfortable situations (Dewaele, 2022; Wilck & Altarriba, 2022).

In Indonesian proverbs, love has been metaphorically compared throughout various cultures to a flower and an ever-flowing river. In Indonesian culture, the metaphor "*Cinta bagai bunga*" (Love is like a flower) often portrays love's various facets, including its beauty, fragility, and temporality. This comparison highlights that love can be a delicate and fleeting emotion, like a flower that blooms for a short time and eventually withers away. The metaphor of love being like a flower is deeply rooted in cultural values that appreciate the transient beauty of life and love. It is a reminder that love, like a flower, has time to shine and should be cherished. It also signifies that time is fleeting, and one should take advantage of their time with their loved ones. The metaphor of love being like an ever-flowing river also emphasizes the importance of time, as a river never stops flowing, and time never stops moving forward. Overall, the metaphors of love being like a flower and an ever-flowing river are potent symbols that represent the beauty and transience of love. They remind us to cherish our time with our loved ones and appreciate life's transient nature (Ajayi, 2023; Andersson, 2013).

The Indonesian metaphor "*Cinta bagai sungai yang tak pernah kering*" (Love is like a river that never dries up) is a beautifully crafted comparison that conveys the essence of love as a continuous and enduring force, much like a river that flows eternally. The metaphor portrays the river as a natural element that is constant and unending, emphasizing the idea that love is everlasting, regardless of external circumstances. It reflects cultural values of interconnectedness with nature, where the river symbolizes life, strength, and renewal. The metaphor also highlights an appreciation for the cyclical aspects of life, where love, like the river, has

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its ebbs and flows but never dries up completely. Overall, this metaphor is a powerful representation of love's depth, permanence, and resilience and its ability to withstand the test of time (Lau et al., 2004).

Love is a complex and significant emotion that holds great importance in both English and Indonesian cultures. This pattern is evident in the use of metaphorical expressions in both languages to capture the essence of love. These metaphors emphasize love's rich and intricate nature, highlighting its depth and complexity. Using such metaphors demonstrates the universality of love and reveals the cultural nuances and nuances of the respective languages. When it comes to analyzing proverbs, cultural variations play a significant role. For instance, English proverbs tend to prioritize metaphors related to personal journeys and warmth, which aligns with the cultural values of individualism and emotional comfort. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs are more inclined to draw inspiration from the natural world and the cyclical nature of life, which reflects the cultural values of harmony with nature and an appreciation for enduring and transient aspects of existence. These cultural differences in the use of proverbs highlight the unique perspectives that different societies have in interpreting and conveying their beliefs and values through language (Zaikauskienė, 2021).

The results of this study emphasize the crucial role that cultural values, perspectives, and experiences play in shaping the selection of source domains in metaphorical language. It is evident that metaphors serve as linguistic tools and as carriers of cultural narratives and priorities. This new understanding is a significant contribution to the field of cross-cultural communication, as it highlights the significance of cultural awareness and recognition of these subtleties in interpretation. By acknowledging the impact of cultural factors on metaphorical expressions, we can enhance our ability to communicate effectively across cultural boundaries (Kochman-Haładaj, 2020; Zheng, 2018).

By examining metaphorical expressions and conceptual metaphors in both English and Indonesian proverbs associated with love, we can deepen our comprehension of the intricate connections between language, culture, and emotion. This analysis emphasizes acknowledging and appreciating cultural diversity when interpreting language and emotions. These metaphors provide distinctive insights into the multifaceted nature of human emotions and how different cultures conceive and express the universal experience of love. By exploring these metaphors, we can better understand the complexities of human emotions and the diverse perspectives that different cultures bring to this ubiquitous topic (Sultangubiyeva et al., 2021; Zhou, 2021).

### ***C. Patterns of Similarity and Divergence Emerge in the Cognitive Models of Love Portrayed in English and Indonesian Proverbs***

As revealed by the CM, a fascinating comparison can be made between the sayings related to love in English and Indonesian. The analysis shows that while English proverbs draw inspiration from experiences of physical warmth and journeys, Indonesian proverbs emphasize the organic and enduring aspects of love derived from nature. In other words, English proverbs focus more on love's transient and fleeting elements. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs highlight the more profound nature of love that extends beyond immediate gratification. This finding shed light on the cultural differences between the two languages and provides an interesting perspective on how love is perceived and valued in different societies.

Metaphor is a universal language used to express the various nuances of love across different cultures. However, cultural differences play a significant role in shaping how love is perceived and communicated. English proverbs lean towards a more dynamic and goal-oriented approach to love, emphasizing love as a journey towards a desired outcome. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs highlight this emotion's natural, cyclical, and enduring aspects, viewing love as a timeless force that transcends the individual and connects them to the broader universe. These contrasting perspectives on love reflect each culture's underlying values and beliefs, highlighting the rich diversity of human experience and expression.

First, Patterns of Similarity (*see Example 7*). The comparative analysis between English and Indonesian proverbs demonstrated an intriguing similarity in their respective depictions of love as a consistent and everlasting emotion. Despite employing different metaphors to convey this idea (journey in English and river in Indonesian), both languages emphasize that love persists and remains constant. This shared emphasis on the continuity of love highlights a universal aspect of the emotion that transcends cultural barriers. It suggests that irrespective of cultural background; human beings recognize the enduring nature of love as a crucial aspect of the human experience. This universal recognition of love's continuity underscores the significance of emotion in human life.

One notable similarity between English and Indonesian proverbs is the shared use of metaphorical language to represent the concept of love. Both languages use figurative expressions to convey the subtleties and complexities of this deep emotion. This evidence suggests that the richness of emotional experiences is not limited to specific cultures or languages but can be effectively conveyed through metaphorical language. The importance of figurative language in expressing the intricacies of love is further highlighted by the fact that both English and Indonesian proverbs rely on it to represent this universal emotion. This commonality underscores the significance of metaphorical expressions in effectively communicating complex feelings, regardless of linguistic and cultural differences.

Second, Patterns of Divergence (*see Example 8*). One of the most significant differences between English and Indonesian proverbs is the choice of source domains for metaphors. While English proverbs often draw from experiences related to travel and warmth, reflecting cultural values of individualism, progress, and personal growth, Indonesian proverbs frequently use metaphors

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rooted in nature. This contrast reveals how cultural values shape the metaphors used to conceptualize love. In English, love is often associated with independence and pursuing personal goals and aspirations. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs use metaphors grounded in nature, emphasizing interconnectedness with the environment and an appreciation for the cyclical aspects of life. This difference in the choice of metaphors highlights how distinct cultural values result in unique but culturally significant representations of love. A noticeable difference can be observed in their temporal perspectives when comparing English proverbs to Indonesian proverbs. English proverbs emphasize the journey aspect of love, the progression of love over time, and the attainment of goals. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs, with their emphasis on natural metaphors, accentuate the cyclical and transient nature of love. This divergence reflects a difference in cultural attitudes towards the passage of time and the impermanence of experiences. In particular, English proverbs focus on the achievement of love and the milestones that come with it. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs highlight the appreciation of the present moment and the fleeting nature of experiences. This finding suggests that cultural perspectives play a significant role in shaping our attitudes toward love and how we view the passage of time.

Third, Contributions to Cross-Cultural Understanding (*see* Example 9). The findings obtained from the CM significantly contribute to our comprehension of the cross-cultural differences in how emotions, particularly love, are expressed. The results emphasize the complex interplay between language, culture, and cognition in shaping the perception and depiction of love. By identifying commonalities and disparities in the cognitive models of love, this study underscores the importance of cultural perspectives and values in shaping the metaphorical expressions of emotions. The outcomes of this study provide a detailed and insightful understanding of how cultural aspects influence how people perceive and express their feelings, especially in the context of love.

Moreover, the comprehensive analysis significantly contributes to intercultural communication by thoroughly examining how love is expressed and interpreted across diverse cultures. By exploring the intricate nuances of the universal and culturally distinct aspects of love, the analysis facilitates a deeper understanding of the complexity and richness of cross-cultural communication. As a result, it fosters greater cross-cultural empathy and enhances our comprehension of the shared human experience of emotions, thereby promoting more meaningful and effective communication across cultures.

### (7) **Example 7:** Similarity - Emphasis on Continuity

**Pattern of Similarity:** Love is a complex and universal theme that is often portrayed in different ways across cultures. English and Indonesian proverbs, for instance, offer distinct yet insightful interpretations of love through other metaphors. The "Love is a journey" metaphor is commonly used in English proverbs, emphasizing that love is a process that evolves, with its ups and downs, twists and turns. It suggests that love is not a destination but a continuous journey that requires effort, patience, and commitment. On the other hand, Indonesian proverbs employ the "Love is a River" metaphor, which portrays love as a constant and unending force that flows endlessly. This metaphor suggests that love cannot be stopped or controlled but should be allowed to flow freely and naturally. Despite the differences in the use of metaphors, both English and Indonesian proverbs share the theme of the enduring nature of love, which can withstand the test of time and overcome obstacles and challenges.

**Cross-Cultural Implication:** Across various cultures and languages, there is an evident shared emphasis on the continuity and persistence of love. This universal recognition of love highlights the enduring quality of this emotion, which is considered a fundamental part of the human experience. The fact that humans from different backgrounds acknowledge this aspect of love suggests that it is a deeply ingrained and integral part of our collective consciousness. This recognition transcends linguistic and cultural boundaries, signifying the universality of our understanding of love as a powerful and unifying force.

### (8) **Example 8:** Divergence - Source Domains and Cultural Values

**Pattern of Divergence:** English proverbs incorporate source domains related to travel and warmth, which are thought to signify cultural values of individualism, personal growth, and the idea that love is a journey where specific goals should be achieved. This mechanism contrasts Indonesian proverbs, which typically use source domains linked to nature, reflecting cultural values of living in harmony with the environment and appreciating the cyclical nature of life. Indonesian proverbs often focus on the interdependence of human beings and nature and the importance of balance and sustainability in life. On the other hand, English proverbs often emphasize the notion of taking action and seizing opportunities and the importance of independence and self-reliance. **Cross-Cultural Implication:** Through the observation of various cultural values and their impact on the choice of source domains in metaphorical expressions, it has become evident that the influence of culture extends beyond the mere creation of metaphors and into the cultural narratives and priorities embedded within them. This finding shed light on how cultural contexts play a crucial role in shaping the conceptualization of love and highlights the importance of understanding the interplay between culture and language in our understanding of the world around us. By recognizing the impact of cultural values on metaphorical expressions, we can gain a deeper understanding of how people from different cultures experience and perceive love.

### (9) **Example 9:** Divergence - Temporal Perspectives

**Pattern of Divergence:** English and Indonesian proverbs offer distinct perspectives on the nature of love. While English proverbs commonly use the metaphor of "Love is a journey" to depict the progression of love over time and achieving goals, Indonesian

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proverbs highlight the cyclical and fleeting essence of love through natural comparisons such as "Love is like a flower." English proverbs suggest that love is a linear journey that involves setting and achieving specific goals. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs convey that love is a natural process that unfolds in growth, blooming, and eventual decay cycles. The contrasting perspectives of English and Indonesian sayings on the nature of love reflect cultural differences in how people conceptualize and value romantic relationships. Cross-Cultural Implication: People's perceptions, cultural backgrounds, and attitudes heavily influence experience time. For instance, in English-speaking cultures, love is often viewed as a journey with specific milestones to reach, reflecting a future-oriented mindset. On the other hand, in Indonesian culture, the emphasis is placed on the beauty of the present moment, which highlights the importance of cherishing the here and now. This cultural difference sheds light on how people express emotions depending on their temporal orientation. By acknowledging these variations, we can better understand how culture shapes our perception of time and influences our behavior.

In this study, various examples of analysis have been presented to demonstrate the effectiveness of the CM in revealing shared patterns and cultural variations in the cognitive models of love as depicted in English and Indonesian proverbs. The findings of this study underscore the significance of cultural factors in shaping metaphors and highlight the nuanced ways in which love is conceptualized and represented in language (*consider also* Table 3). By examining these patterns of similarity and divergence, this study enhances cross-cultural appreciation and communication by illuminating the intricate interplay between language, culture, and emotion. It provides a deeper understanding of the complex mechanisms underlying the formation and expression of ideas about love and sheds light on the role of culture in shaping these ideas.

**Table 3. Additional Examples of Patterns of Similarity and Divergence Emerge in the Cognitive Models of Love**

| No. | Code          | Indonesian                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | English                                            |
|-----|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | P.INAvEN/L/11 | " <i>Hilang di mata, di hati jangan.</i> "<br>Translation: Lost in the eyes, not in heart.                                                                                                                                     | "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder."            |
| 2.  | P.INAvEN/L/12 | " <i>Bagai pungguk merindukan bulan.</i> "<br>Translation: Like a big owl longing for the moon.                                                                                                                                | "Nothing is impossible for a willing heart."       |
| 3.  | P.INAvEN/L/13 | " <i>Di belakang menendang kita, bila di depan ia mengeting kit, jika di tengah ia berpusing ligat pula.</i> "<br>Translation: If behind us, kick us. When ahead, he remembers us. If it is in the middle, it is spinning too. | "Love has to be shown by deeds, not words."        |
| 4.  | P.INAvEN/L/14 | " <i>Karena cenderawasih, merak emas dilepaskan.</i> "<br>Translation: Because of Cenderawasih, Merak Emas is released.                                                                                                        | "The heart that loves are always young."           |
| 5.  | P.INAvEN/L/15 | " <i>Sakit sama mengaduh luka sama mengeluh.</i> "<br>Translation: When we feel sick, we complain together, when we hurt, we complain together.                                                                                | "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach." |

Furthermore, applying the CM gives a fascinating insight into the cognitive models of love as expressed in English and Indonesian proverbs. Despite the fundamental linguistic and cultural disparities between these two languages, the analysis has revealed that English and Indonesian proverbs share common patterns of similarity and divergence. One remarkable finding is that both languages emphasize love's continuity and endurance, highlighting the universal recognition of love's enduring nature across cultures. This new understanding of the subtle nuances of love in different cultures can foster cross-cultural dialogue and appreciation (Bredis et al., 2020; Villers, 2022).

The differences in source domains, temporal perspectives, and cultural values between English and Indonesian proverbs are pretty pronounced. English proverbs emphasize the importance of personal growth and individual achievement, reflecting individualism's artistic value. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs emphasize appreciating the cyclical and transient nature of life and love, reflecting cultural values that prioritize interconnectedness with the heart. These differences highlight each culture's unique perspectives and priorities and demonstrate how language and culture are deeply intertwined (Omarova & Kadachiyeva, 2016; Shaimardanova et al., 2016).

The results of this study provide valuable insights into how emotions are expressed across different cultures. The study highlights the need for cultural sensitivity in communication and interpretation by identifying patterns of similarity and difference. Understanding these nuances can enhance cross-cultural empathy and promote effective communication in an increasingly interconnected world. These findings emphasize the importance of recognizing and respecting cultural differences in emotional



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expression and how this awareness can contribute to more meaningful and productive interactions between individuals from diverse backgrounds (Orlova, 2020, 2021).

Through exploring love in English and Indonesian sayings, we have gained a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of this universal emotion. By utilizing CSA and the CM, we uncovered many diverse metaphorical expressions and underlying conceptual metaphors that govern the representation of love in both languages. These findings reveal the complexities of human cognition and expression across cultures and emphasize the interplay between language, culture, and emotion. Ultimately, this study contributes to the appreciation of cross-cultural diversity and enriches our understanding of the human experience of love.

Through the implementation of the CM in this study, a comprehensive analysis has been conducted on the cognitive models of love conveyed through English and Indonesian proverbs. The results of this analysis have revealed a rich tapestry of patterns, which not only depict commonalities that transcend linguistic and cultural boundaries but also highlight divergences arising from diverse cultural perspectives and values (Bekkozhanova et al., 2022; Tavangar et al., 2022). The intricate details uncovered through this study have enriched our understanding of the cognitive models of love and how they are expressed in these two languages.

First, Patterns of Similarity. Through the CM, an exciting similarity has been revealed between English and Indonesian proverbs emphasizing love's continuity and universality. Despite the use of different metaphors - the "Love is a journey" metaphor in English and the "Love is a River" metaphor in Indonesian - both languages convey a consistent message about the enduring nature of love. Love is depicted as something that persists over time, remains constant, and endures through challenges or external circumstances. The shared emphasis on the continuity and universality of love in these proverbs highlights the enduring power of love across cultures and languages.

One exciting similarity that can be observed between English and Indonesian proverbs is the use of metaphorical language to represent the concept of love. Both languages employ a variety of metaphors to convey the depth and complexity of love, indicating a shared understanding of the emotional complexity of this universal human experience. This use of metaphorical expressions highlights the importance of figurative language in articulating complex emotional experiences. It underscores the fact that people from all cultures tend to use metaphors to express their feelings.

Second, Patterns of Divergence. The choice of source domains for metaphors in English and Indonesian proverbs demonstrates a significant divergence in cultural values. English proverbs draw inspiration from experiences related to travel and warmth, embodying cultural values of individualism, progress, and personal growth. These metaphors reflect the English-speaking world's emphasis on individual achievement, ambition, and advancement. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs frequently employ metaphors rooted in nature, reflecting cultural values of interconnectedness with the environment and a deep appreciation for the cyclical aspects of life. These metaphors often highlight the interdependence between humans and nature and the importance of living in harmony with the natural world. The Indonesian culture's emphasis on community, collectivism, and environmentalism is reflected in their proverbs, prioritizing the group's well-being over individual success.

The proverbs of different cultures often reveal much about the values and beliefs of those cultures. One interesting difference between English and Indonesian proverbs is their temporal perspectives. English proverbs focus on the journey of love, emphasizing the progression of love over time and the attainment of goals. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs emphasize love's cyclical and transient nature, often using metaphors such as "Love is like a flower" to illustrate the idea that love ebbs and flows like the seasons. This difference in emphasis reflects broader cultural attitudes toward time and experience (Belkhir, 2022; Stachurska, 2023). In English-speaking cultures, there is often a sense of linear progress and a desire to achieve specific goals. In contrast, Indonesian culture tends to view time more cyclically, emphasizing the impermanence of experiences.

Through analyzing the patterns of similarity and divergence between the cognitive models of love in two distinct cultures, we can gain valuable insights into the nuances of how love is perceived and experienced. Despite cultural differences, a common theme of continuity emerges, underscoring the universal nature of love that transcends linguistic and cultural boundaries. This continuity suggests that humans, regardless of their cultural background (Phuong, 2023; Spellerberg, 2022), intuitively recognize love's enduring and fundamental nature as a critical aspect of the human experience. By studying these patterns of similarity and divergence, we can deepen our understanding of the complexities and universality of the human experience of love.

The variations in source domains, temporal perspectives, and cultural values create significant differences in how love is conceptualized across different cultures. These differences are reflected in the metaphorical expressions that describe love, shaped by cultural narratives, priorities, and attitudes toward time and emotion. Understanding and valuing these cultural variations is crucial for promoting effective cross-cultural communication and cultivating empathy among individuals from different cultures (Kayed et al., 2023; Szpila, 2017). By acknowledging and respecting these differences, we can bridge the gap between cultures and foster a more inclusive and understanding global community.

To sum up, utilizing the CM in this study provides valuable insight into the cross-cultural discrepancies in the manifestation of emotion, particularly love. This study sheds light on the intricate interplay between these domains by analyzing the linguistic, cultural, and cognitive factors that influence the perception and representation of love. Consequently, this analysis advances our comprehension of the universal human experience of emotions. It deepens our appreciation of the cultural nuances that enrich our

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understanding of love in diverse languages and societies. Overall, this study underscores the significance of a multidisciplinary approach to comprehending the complexities of human emotions that transcend cultural boundaries.

### IV. CONCLUSION

Through an extensive study project, we have embarked on a fascinating journey to delve into the intricate and culturally nuanced ways love is conceptualized and expressed in English and Indonesian proverbs. Our primary objective was to contribute to a deeper understanding of the underlying conceptual metaphors and rich metaphorical expressions that govern these proverbs by applying CSA and the CM. We meticulously analyzed many proverbs in English and Indonesian, and our findings have revealed the fascinating ways in which culture, language, and cognition intersect to shape our perceptions of the universal emotion of love. Our study has resulted in a comprehensive understanding of the deep-rooted and complex metaphors used in these sayings to depict love. We have concluded that the conceptualization of love in English and Indonesian proverbs is influenced by cultural beliefs and values and the unique ways these two languages express emotions. Our study has contributed significantly to cognitive semantics and enhanced our knowledge of how language and culture shape our perceptions of love.

Our comprehensive investigation into the representation of love in English and Indonesian proverbs has led us to several noteworthy findings that provide valuable insights into the similarities and differences in how love is conceptualized in these two languages. Our analysis reveals that both English and Indonesian proverbs emphasize love's continuity and enduring nature, albeit expressed through different metaphors. This shared theme suggests a universal recognition of love's persistence and constancy across cultures and languages.

However, the cultural variations in the choice of source domains, temporal perspectives, and underlying values are equally apparent. We found that English proverbs often draw from experiences related to personal journeys, warmth, and individualism, reflecting a culture prioritizing personal goals and progress. In contrast, Indonesian proverbs draw inspiration from the natural world and emphasize interconnectedness with nature, highlighting the value placed on harmony with the environment and the cyclical aspects of life and love. Our study underscores the profound influence of culture on the conceptualization of love, revealing the intricate ways in which cultural values, beliefs, and experiences shape the understanding and expression of love. By examining the similarities and differences between English and Indonesian proverbs, we gain a deeper understanding of the complex interplay between culture and language in shaping the way we perceive and experience love.

It is important to note that while the study on cognitive models of love in English and Indonesian proverbs provides valuable insights, certain limitations need to be acknowledged to contextualize the findings. Firstly, it is worth noting that the analysis was conducted on a limited set of proverbs. In contrast, numerous other expressions of love in these languages were not included in the study. Expanding the analysis to a broader range of sayings could lead to additional insights and a more comprehensive understanding of cognitive models of love. Secondly, it is essential to recognize that the study primarily examined written sayings, which may not fully capture the nuances of spoken language and everyday conversations about love. Future study could explore spoken language and consider the role of context in shaping the expression of love. This recommendation could involve analyzing actual conversations or conducting interviews to understand better how people talk about love in everyday life. Lastly, it is worth noting that the analysis was conducted at a specific time and may not reflect broader linguistic and cultural shifts that can occur over time. As such, conducting longitudinal studies or comparative analyses across different periods may be beneficial to gain insights into the evolution of metaphorical expressions related to love. By doing so, we can understand how language and culture intersect to shape our understanding and expression of love.

Through analyzing love in English and Indonesian sayings, we have gained a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between language, culture, and cognition in shaping our perception of this profoundly human emotion. While the insights gained from this study are valuable, it is crucial to acknowledge that this is the beginning of a much larger journey toward comprehending the intricate ways love is represented in language. By continuing to pursue this understanding, we stand to gain a greater appreciation for linguistic diversity, enrich cross-cultural interactions, and develop a more nuanced understanding of the mosaic of human emotions. The study of love in language is a vital and ongoing pursuit that will continue to shed light on the complexities of human experience and deepen our collective understanding of this fundamental aspect of our lives.

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