# ABSTRACT

Wardani, Laurensia Andina Atika. 2008. *An Analysis on Synonymous Verbs and a Study on the Students' Mastery of Synonymous Verbs*. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

The current study investigated the mastery of synonymous verbs among the sixth semester students of the English Language Education Study Program of Sanata Dharma University. There were three research questions: (1) What are similar and distinctive semantic features contained in each pair of the synonymous verbs? (2) How much have the sixth semester students of the English Language Education Study Program of Sanata Dharma University mastered the synonymous verbs? (3) What is the profile of the sixth semester students' mastery of synonymous verbs?

To answer those research questions, the writer applied survey method and dictionary study. Since it was not feasible to study the entire population, therefore, sample of 47 students were taken to represent all of the sixth semester students of the English Language Education Study Program. The modified version of Forward Translation Recognition Matrix (FTRM) designed by Mukarto (2005) was used as the instrument to obtain the data.

There were three results obtained from the study. First, although each pair of verbs was considered identical in meaning, both verbs could not be substituted in all contexts. The results indicated that each pair of synonymous verbs shared certain similar semantic features and distinctive semantic features which differentiated one verb from another. The results showed that all pairs of synonymous verbs have similar semantic feature which was a human agent. Second, the mastery of synonymous verbs among the sixth semester students of the English Language Education Study Program of Sanata Dharma University fell into three categories, namely very good, good, and sufficient. The number of students classified in very good and good category was almost the same. There were 21 students (44.68%) achieved the category of very good, 22 students (46.81%) entered the category of good, and 4 students (8.51%) were included in the category of sufficient. The mean of the students' scores was 197.97 of 240 as the highest score. Based on academic regulation of Sanata Dharma University, this score was categorized in the good category. Accordingly, it can be concluded that the mastery of synonymous verbs among the sixth semester students of the English Language Education Study Program of Sanata Dharma University was good. Third, the results of the study showed that the sixth semester students' mastery of synonymous verbs varied from verb to verb. In general, based on the computation of the average value of the students' responses, the results signified that the students definitely knew the usage of seven verbs: *accept, choose, employ, hear, listen, protect,* and *see*. The average value of those verbs entered the range of 4.50 - 5.00. The usage of fourteen verbs: *allow, assassinate, attempt, defend, discover, disregard, invent, kill, look, neglect, receive, select, try,* and *use* were

known by the students, but their level of confidence was low since the average value of those verbs entered the range of 3.50 - 4.49. The average value of three verbs: *hinder, permit,* and *prevent* entered the range of 2.50 - 3.49 signifying that the students had no knowledge of the usage of those three verbs.

## *ABSTRAK*

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Studi ini mengkaji penguasaan kata kerja bersinonim oleh mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Sanata Dharma. Terdapat tiga permasalahan dalam penelitian ini, (1) Apa sajakah *similar features* dan *distinctive feature* di dalam setiap pasang kata kerja bersinonim? (2) Sejauh mana mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Sanata Dharma menguasai kata kerja bersinonim? (3) Bagaimana gambaran kemampuan mahasiswa semester enam dalam menguasai kata kerja bersinonim?

Untuk menjawab ketiga permasalahan tersebut, penulis menggunakan metode survei dan *dictionary study*. Karena tidak memungkinkan untuk mengkaji seluruh populasi, maka diambilah 47 mahasiswa sebagai sampel yang mewakili keseluruhan mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris. Penulis menggunakan modifikasi *Forward Translation Recognition Matrix (FTRM)* yang dirancang oleh Mukarto (2005) sebagai alat untuk mengumpulkan data.

Ada tiga hasil yang diperoleh. Pertama, meskipun arti dari setiap pasang kata dianggap serupa, namun kedua kata kerja tersebut tidak dapat bertukar dalam setiap konteks. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa setiap pasang kata berbagi *similar semantic features* tertentu dan *distinctive semantic features* yang membedakan kata kerja yang satu dengan yang lain. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa setiap pasang kata kerja bersinonim memiliki persamaan *semantic feature* yaitu *human agent*. Kedua, penguasaan kata kerja bersinonim oleh mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Sanata Dharma terbagi dalam tiga kategori, yaitu kategori amat baik, baik, dan cukup. Mahasiswa yang tergolong dalam kategori amat baik dan kategori baik, jumlahnya hampir sama. Sebanyak 21 mahasiswa (44,68%) mencapai kategori amat baik, 22 mahasiswa (46,81%) termasuk dalam kategori baik, dan 4 mahasiswa (8,51%) tergolong dalam kategori cukup. Nilai rata-rata yang dicapai oleh mahasiswa adalah 197,97, dari nilai tertinggi yaitu 240. Berdasarkan peraturan akademik Universitas Sanata Dharma, nilai tersebut termasuk dalam kategori baik. Oleh karena itu, dapat disimpulkan bahwa penguasaan kata kerja bersinonim oleh mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Sanata Dharma adalah baik. Ketiga, hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penguasaan kata kerja bersinonim oleh mahasiswa semester enam bervariasi pada setiap kata kerja. Secara umum, berdasarkan perhitungan nilai rata-rata dari jawaban mahasiswa, hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa benar-benar mengetahui penggunaan dari ketujuh kata kerja berikut: *accept, choose, employ, hear, listen, protect,* dan *see*. Nilai rata-rata dari ketujuh kata kerja tersebut termasuk dalam kisaran 4,50 – 5,00. Mahasiswa mengetahui

penggunaan dari keempat belas kata kerja berikut: *allow, assassinate, attempt, defend, discover, disregard, invent, kill, look, neglect, receive, select, try,* dan *use* akan tetapi tingkat keyakinan mereka rendah. Nilai rata-rata dari keempat belas kata kerja tersebut termasuk dalam kisaran 3,50 – 4,49. Nilai rata-rata dari ketiga kata kerja berikut: *hinder, permit,* dan *prevent* tergolong dalam kisaran 2,50 – 3,49 yang menandakan bahwa mahasiswa tidak mengetahui penggunaan ketiga kata kerja tersebut.