
A Semantical Analysis on Amir Hamzah Poems

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the lexical meaning of Amir Hamzah's poem *Ibu Dehulu* and to identify its referential meaning. In producing a poem, only few writers like Amir Hamzah produce a poem that contains implied meanings or meanings that are not written down clearly or explicitly through the words written like in his poems. Although this poem is one of an old poem, but this poem is contained of aesthetic messages and is still interesting and worth reading until now. Based on the explanation and the condition above, the writer is interested in reviewing and analyzing five famous poems by Amir Hamzah through semantic studies. In reviewing the poem, the writer focuses on two types of meaning contained in the semantic field such as lexical meaning, and referential meaning. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative, since the analyzed data were described in qualitatively. Qualitative research is a research design that has three formats. The three formats include descriptive, verification, and grounded research formats, then described based on lexical and referential used as a reference for research. The results showed that of the *Ibu Dehulu* poem by Amir Hamzah selected by the author, there were 5 lexical words that have and referential meanings

Keywords: Semantic, Poetry, Lexical and Referential Meaning, Ibu Dehulu

1. INTRODUCTION

The introduction covers the research background, research questions, research objectives, significance of research, and literature review (including the underlying theories). Each part is not written in different sub-headings. Literary works are human expressions that are personal in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, human spirit. Literary works are conveyed communicatively about the author's intention for aesthetic purposes. These works often tell about the meaning of a situation.

Literary works are classified into two groups, namely imaginative literary works and non-imaginative works. The Imaginative genre consists of Poetry, Fiction or narrative prose such as: Novels, Romance, Short Stories and Dramas while the Non-imaginative Genres are literary works based on facts

that really happened. Among the non-imaginative works mentioned above, poetry is one of the interesting genres to be discussed. Poetry is a literary work related by its elements, such as rhythm, spell, rhyme, line, and stanza. In other words, Poetry is an expression of emotion, imagination, idea, thought, rhythm, tone and diction that impresses and touches the listener's heart. In producing poetry, a writer pays attention to meaning through figurative language or parables and produces a poem whose sentences contain implied meanings. As stated by Pradopo (2010:7) that, there are three main elements in poetry, the first is thoughts, ideas or emotions; the second is the shape; and the third is the effect.

Lexical semantics is a branch of semantics that investigates the meaning of vocabulary elements of a language in general as independent units regardless of their position in sentences. The dictionary is a good example of the lexical semantics of the meaning of each word described there. According to Chaer (2002:7) If the object of the lexical investigation of the language, the meaning of the semantic type is called lexical semantics. Lexical semantics is the study of meaning related to words (according to the dictionary). Lexical is an adjective form derived from the nominal form of the lexicon (vocabulary, vocabulary, vocabulary). The unit of the lexicon is a lexeme, which is a meaningful language form unit. If we equate the lexicon with vocabulary or vocabulary, then the lexeme can be equated with words. Thus, lexical meaning can be interpreted as meaning that is lexical, lexeme, or word. Then, because it can also be said that lexical meaning is a meaning that is in accordance with the referent, a meaning that is in accordance with the finding of the observation of the senses, or a meaning that is really real in our lives. For example, the word that the rat was killed by a cat, or in the sentence this time the harvest failed due to the attack of the rat pest. The word rat in both sentences clearly refers to the rat animal, not to anything else.

Referential meanings are linguistic elements that are closely related to the non-linguistic world (ideas or words). Object can be described using component analysis; often too called denotation, opposite of connotation. Referential meaning is also related directly with reality or reference. This meaning is related to cognitive meaning as well as concept that has been agreed upon by the language user community. In general, referential meaning is a meaning that has a clear reference or meaning that has a reference. Sudaryat (2009:153) explains that the reference or reference is the relationship between the word and its reference. Words that function as referents are called dies, while the elements they refer to are called antecedents. According to Djajasudarma (2009:14) states that referential meaning is meaning that is directly related to reality or reference.

Every poetry contained of implied meanings or meanings that are not written down clearly or explicitly through the words which conveyed by the writer through a language. This condition of course

makes the poetry are interested to be revealed through various ways such as through semantic study. Therefore, through the study of language by semantic, the meaning contained in poetry through semantics can be studied or analyzed. Semantic is one of the branches of linguistics which study about meaning. As stated by Chaer (2009, p.2) that, semantics is a linguistic study that studies the meaning or meaning of language.

Meaning is a message conveyed by words, sentences, and even symbols. Meaning is important for people not only for understanding in communication but also for getting what they need. In addition, meaning is also important in covering a variety of languages. *Meaning is the field of the study discussed in semantic science. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of words in languages.* According to Leech (1981: 8), meaning can be learned as a linguistic phenomenon itself, not as something outside of language. However, the study of meaning is part of the study of linguistics. Furthermore, Leech (1981), stated that meaning plays an important role in understanding what is communicated. As such, there are seven types of meaning, and they contribute a lot to the semantic field. The study of meaning is a new field of this century, in the future; This field of study will advance and will have a lot off value in the analysis of meaning in the field of linguistics In general, Leech (1981) classified meaning into seven types such as conceptual meanings, thematic meanings, and associative meanings; connotative meaning, style meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and collective meaning.

In producing a poem, only few writers like Amir Hamzah produce a poem that contains implied meanings or meanings that are not written down clearly or explicitly through the words written like in his poems. Although this poem is one of an old poem, but this poem is contained of aesthetic messages and is still interesting and worth reading until now. Based on the explanation and the condition above, the writer is interested in reviewing and analyzing five famous poems by Amir Hamzah through semantic studies. In reviewing the poem, the writer focuses on two types of meaning contained in the semantic field such as lexical meaning, and referential meaning.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative, the data were analyzed descriptively qualitatively, then described based on the lexical and referential which were used as research references, namely by reviewing what had been obtained, identifying, grouping the data and concluding the types of lexical and referential meanings in the poem "*Ibu Dehulu*" by Amir Hamzah 1973. Qualitative research according to Koentjaraningrat (1993: 89) means that qualitative research is a research design that has

three formats. The three formats include descriptive research, verification, and grounded research formats.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The study of poetry using the semantic method seeks to reason out the words contained in the poem by being limited by the types of meaning in the form of lexical meaning and referential meaning. This means, the study of poetry using semantic analysis tries to analyze vocabulary from the most basic to the core. The following are the presentation of the data:

Table 1. Data of Lexical and Referential Meaning

NO	Poem	Lexical	Referential
1.	<i>Ibu Dehulu</i>	<i>Ibu</i> (Mother) Mother is a woman who loves children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Matanya</i> (Her eyes) • <i>Bibirnya</i> (Her lips) • <i>Mukanya</i> (Her face) • <i>Hatinya</i>(Her heart)
2.	<i>Ibu Dehulu</i>	<i>Marah</i> (Very unhappy) Very displeased (because of being insulted, mistreated, and so on); angry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Diam tiada berkata</i> (Silence without words) • <i>Matanya terus mengawas</i>(His eyes keep watching) • <i>Bibirnya tiada bergerak</i>(Her lips don't move) • <i>Mukanya masam menahan sedan</i>(His face is sour holding back sobs) • <i>Hatinya pedih</i>(His heart hurts)
3.	<i>Ibu Dehulu</i>	<i>Aku</i> (I) Interpreted by the speaker as the subject or first person singular pronoun.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daku</i> (Me) • <i>Lakuku</i> (My behavior) • <i>Dahiku berapi pancaran neraka</i> (My forehead is burning with hell) • <i>Sejuk sentosa turun ke kalbu</i> (Cool calm down to the heart)
4.	<i>Ibu Dehulu</i>	<i>Pilu</i> (Sad) Feeling or showing sorrow, unhappy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tiada peduli apa terjadi</i> (No one care what happened) • <i>Kesal</i>(Upset) • <i>Menurutkan setan, mengkacau-balau</i>(According to the devil, messing up) • <i>Jurang celaka terpancang di muka</i> (The chasm is visible in advance) • <i>kusongsong juga -biar cedera</i>(I'll do the opposite too! – let it hurt)
5.	<i>Ibu Dehulu</i>	<i>Ibu</i> (Mother) Woman who loves children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dipegangnya</i>(She's holding it) • <i>Dirangkumnya</i> (Summarized) • <i>Dikecupnya</i>(She kissed)

Discussion

In this case, the writer will explain the finding of the research in accordance with the problems formulated regarding the lexical and referential meanings of Amir Hamzah poems. In this study, the writer analyzed five famous poems by Amir Hamzah with the limitation of the study on lexical and referential meaning. Poetry does not rule out the possibility that there are real meanings and true meanings or what is called dictionary meaning. Each word also often uses a slur. Therefore, this research has the finding and discussion, packaged in the table below:

Table 2. The Analysis of Lexical and Referential Meaning on Data 1

Data	Lexical	Referential
<i>Ibu</i>	<i>Ibu</i> (Mother) Mother is a woman who loves children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Matanya</i>(Her eyes) • <i>Bibirnya</i>(Her lips) • <i>Mukanya</i>(Her face) • <i>Hatinya</i>(Her heart)

In the table above, the writer only finds one word that has lexical and referential meaning. In the first table the words *ibu* (Mother) has a lexical meaning interpreted as a woman who loves her child, while the second table of the words *ibuku* (My mother) has a referential meaning. This is evidenced because the word *ibu* (Mother) indicates that the person belongs to the author's parents and is a third person pronoun. Word *ibuku* (My mother) also refers to the word *ia* (She) because the word *ia* is a singular third person pronoun and the word *Ibuku* (Mother) refers to words like *matanya*, *bibirnya*, *mukanya dan hatinya* (Her eyes, her lips, his face and her heart) includes the owner pronoun or is called a possessive pronoun. This pronoun is used to express a substitute for possession. This is evidenced by the word *ibuku* (My mother) refers to the possession of the word *ibuku* (My mother).

Table 3. The Analysis of Lexical and Referential Meaning on Data 2

Data	Lexical	Referential
<i>Marah</i>	<i>Marah</i> (Very unhappy) Very displeased (because of being insulted, mistreated, and so on); angry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Diam tiada berkata</i> (Silence without words) • <i>Matanya terus mengawas</i>(His eyes keep watching) • <i>Bibirnya tiada bergerak</i>(Her lips don't move) • <i>Mukanya masam menahan sedan</i>(His face is sour holding back sobs) • <i>Hatinya pedih</i>(His heart hurts)

In the table above, the writer only finds one word that has lexical and referential meaning. In the first table word *marah* (Angry) has a lexical meaning is defined as a trait that is not happy because it is insulted or treated, while the second table of words *marah* (Angry) has a referential meaning, namely the meaning that refers to the next sentence such as *diam tiada berkata* (Silent) because being angry with

someone is usually caused by a dislike for someone's behavior, so that someone can only show an attitude of silent behavior and not say anything, word *marah* (Angry) then refers to the sentence *matanya terus mengawas* (Eyes keep watching) because someone who is angry usually shows an unusual look. Word *marah* (Angry) also refers to the sentence *bibirnya tiada bergerak* (lips don't move) because usually someone who is angry shows a silent attitude and doesn't talk much. Word *marah* (Angry) also refers to the sentence *mukanya masam menahan sedan* (His face is sour holding back sobs) because usually someone who is angry shows a face like she wants to cry that is held back because of emotion and the last word *marah* (Angry) mengacu pada kalimat *hatinya pedih* (Her heart hurts) because usually someone who is angry feels hurt because of someone's behavior.

Table 4. The Analysis of Lexical and Referential Meaning on Data 3

Data	Lexical	Referential
<i>Aku</i>	<i>Aku(I)</i> Interpreted by the speaker as the subject or first person singular pronoun.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daku</i> (Me) • <i>Lakuku</i> (My behavior) • <i>Dahiku berapi pancaran neraka</i> (My forehead is burning with hell) • <i>Sejuk sentosa turun ke kalbu</i> (Cool calm down to the heart)

In the data, the word *aku* (I) has a lexical meaning is interpreted by the speaker as a subject or a singular first person pronoun. In the second table the word *aku* (I) has a referential meaning. This is evidenced by the word *aku* (I) referring to the word *daku* (Me) the word *daku* (Me) is usually used at the end of a word ending in and the word *aku* (I) then has a referential meaning which refers to the word *lakuku* (My behavior) which shows the behavioral attitude of the word *aku* (I).

Table 5. The Analysis of Lexical and Referential Meaning on Data 4

Data	Lexical	Referential
<i>Pilu</i>	<i>Pilu</i> (Sad) Feeling or showing sorrow, unhappy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tiada peduli apa terjadi</i> (No one care what happened) • <i>Kesal</i> (Upset) • <i>Menurutkan setan, mengkacau-balau</i> (According to the devil, messing up) • <i>Jurang celaka terpandang di muka</i> (The chasm is visible in advance) • <i>kusongsong juga -biar cedera</i> (I'll do the opposite too! – let it hurt)

In the table above, the writer only finds one word that has lexical and referential meaning. In the first table the word *pilu* (Sad) has a lexical meaning, which sad state for something someone does. In the second table the word *pilu* (Sad) has a referential meaning. This is evidenced by the word *pilu* (Sad) refers to the sentence *tiada peduli apa terjadi* (No one cares what happened) interpreted to feel sad

because no one cares what happened. The word *pilu* (Sad) also refers to the sentence *berkesal hati* (Upset) meaning upset with the heart and then sad. Word *pilu* (Sad) also refers to the sentence *menurutkan setan, mengkacau-balau* (Follow the devil mess up) interpreted when someone feels sad at that time it can confuse the mind so that it follows negative words in the mind. Word *pilu* (sad) also refers to the sentence *jurang celaka terpandang di muka* (The chasm is visible in front) interpreted when a person feels sad when someone dares to take risky actions and the word *pilu* (Sad) refers to sentence *kusongsong juga - biar cedera* (I'll do the opposite too! – let it hurt) interpreted when a person is sad and dares to do a dangerous act for himself.

Table 6. The Analysis of Lexical and Referential Meaning on Data 5

Data	Lexical	Referential
<i>Ibu</i>	<i>Ibu</i> (Mother) Woman who loves children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dipegangnya</i> (She's holding it)• <i>Dirangkumnya</i> (Summarized)• <i>Dikecupnya</i> (She kissed)

In the table above, the writer only finds one word that has lexical and referential meaning. In the first table the word *ibu* (Mother) has a lexical meaning meaning a woman who loves children. In the second table word *ibu* (Mother) has a referential meaning. This is evidenced by the word *ibu* (Mother) refers to sentences like *dipegangnya, dirangkumnya dan dikecupnya* (She held, summarized and kissed) including owner pronouns or called possessive pronouns (this pronoun is used to express a substitute for ownership). The word has a reference to the next word *aku* (I) which is the object and the word *ibu* (Mother) as the subject.

4. CONCLUSION

Amir Hamzah's poetry tells about his life. in the first poem tells the figure of a mother who is angry with her child, then in the second poem in the garden of the world, the poet's heart is filled with love for the lover so that everything that happens in life feels beautiful. In the discussion there are 5lexical words and its referential meanings. Otherwise the results of the analysis can be summarized in to 4 chains of lexical words, they are:

- *Ibu: matanya – bibirnya – mukanya – hatinya – dipegangnya – dirangkumnya – dikecupnya*
- *Aku: daku – ku –aku*
- *Marah: diam tiada berkata – matanya terus mengawas – bibirnya tiada gerak – mukanya masam menahan sedan – hatinya pedih*
- *Pilu: tiada peduli apa terjadi – kesal – menurutkan setan mengkacau balau – jurang celaka berpandang di muka – kusongsong juga biar cedera*

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