

Language Variation in College Students: Sociolinguistics Perspective

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Abstract- This research was proposed to reveal and analyze the language variations used and how college students utilize these variations daily conversation. This research employed a qualitative descriptive method. The main data of this research was the written status uploaded by college students on social media: Facebook and Instagram. The researcher then cited and captured students' posts representing language variation, classifying the types of language variations including slang, code switching & mixing, gender, colloquial language, formal & informal context, dialect to describe how the language was used. Documentation represents the final technique of data collection. The data was analyzed using Miles and Huberman theories (2014). It included collecting, reducing, classifying, and drawing conclusions from data. The validity of the data used in this study was triangulation of sources, methods, and theory. Based on the conclusion is included in the type of regional dialect, because it is a variant of the language used in a particular area. For example, Indonesian Makassar dialect, Jakarta dialect of Bali dialect etc. Although the dialects used in each region can be united with Indonesian to communicate both formally and informally. It's just that there is a difference in emphasis on the letters of a particular letter in each dialect. The intonation of sounds used in pronunciation also tends to vary from region to region. However, this does not affect in Indonesian language.

Keywords: sociolinguistics, language variation, language analysis, linguistics

I. INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the most crucial aspects of life (Downes, 1998). Suyanto (2011) defines language as a set of sounds or signs created by human verbal tools that have meaning (Utami et al., 2022). The language of a community strongly integrates sociolects, which help identify socioeconomic and educational levels, age, gender, class, and occupation (Honko, 1998, cited in Benlakdar, 2020; Nurchalistiani & Didik, 2021). It also encompasses culture and beliefs within the community (Refa & Siriporn, 2021). When it comes to language as a means of communication, it is undeniably linked to sociolinguistics, a field of linguistics that explores how people use language.

Sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics views or place the position of language in society, because in human society is no longer as an individual, but as a social community. Humans use language as a way of signaling identity with one cultural group and difference from others. Even among speakers of one language, several different ways of using the

language exist, and each is used to signal affiliation with particular subgroups within a larger culture. Linguists use the term "varieties" to refer to the different ways of speaking a language which language variation refers to differences in systems of a language that result from historical, geographic, social and functional changes. These changes normally affect the language dialect that is used in one way or the other (Q & A, 2014). According to Nababan (1991: 2) sociolinguistics is a study that discusses social aspects of language, in particular the differences (variations) that exist in related languages with social factors.

In Indonesia itself, there are various ethnic groups that can affect sociolinguistics. Ethnicity itself is a broader term than race. The term is used to categorize groups of people according to their cultural expression and identification. Commonalities such as racial, national, tribal, religious, linguistic, or cultural origin may be used to describe someone's ethnicity. While someone may speak Indonesian, their ethnicity might be A Javanese people, Sundanese People, or Balinese People. Therefore sometimes in society, we need to mix two or more languages or varieties of languages in an association. For

example, college students come from various ethnicities and are brought together in a scope that requires socializing with different ethnicities. Then the students need to mix their mother language with the national language to interact with their friends.

According to that case, we make this is the study of the social dialect of Indonesian phonology, which aims to describe dialect variations based on ethnic variables, as well as describes the choice of the dominant language in the association of College student's. This research is the development of dialectology trying to find variety language through social variables, or also known as dialect studies social (social dialectology). With there is a variety of languages spread across regions in Indonesia, study more and more important to do (Pamolango, 2012, p.8).

The researcher analyzed the result of interview from college students. There are various language found. As they used as communication tools such as in daily conversation. This interaction piques the researcher's interest in studying the variations in language use more deeply and understanding how these variations are employed. This research aims to analyze the sociolinguistic theory of language variation to determine the language variations used in daily conversation, specifically in daily conversation by college students. Based on these considerations, this research was proposed to reveal and analyze the language variations used and how college students utilize these variations daily conversation.

II. METHODS

This research employed a qualitative descriptive method. The main data of this study was the written status uploaded by college students on social media: Facebook and Instagram. Since social media users come from a variety of backgrounds, including those related to culture, geography, social background, gender, age, and so on, these different backgrounds demonstrate language variation. Two instruments were used in collecting the data, namely: observation and documentation in gathering information.

The researchers then cited and captured

students' posts representing language variation, classifying the types of language variations including slang, code switching & mixing, gender, colloquial language, formal & informal context, dialect to describe how the language was used. Documentation represents the final technique of data collection. A documentation approach is gathering numerous documents, whether papers, drawings, or colossal works of art, to support inquiry (Sugiyono, 2016). The data is analyzed using Miles and Huberman theories (2014). It included collecting, reducing, classifying, and drawing conclusions from data. The validity of the data used in this study was triangulation of sources, methods, and theory.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the researcher interested to analyze the language variation at college student association. As we know, there are many students from various cities who study in Denpasar, Bali. The student certainly has a different dialect with the native Balinese themselves. These dialects hold a language variation in Denpasar student association. The researchers tries to analyze and identify some of the dialect variation with using descriptive qualitative method and involved a total of 5 people who came from several ethnic on student association. They are Balinese ethnic, Javanese ethnic, Malacca ethnic, Makassar ethnic, and Jakarta ethnic.

To analyze the varieties of dialect in Denpasar student association, the following questions are made such as "Common language used?" "Do you have difficulty speaking formal Indonesian on society?" "Does the use of formal language have an influence in non-formal life?" "How do you adapt the language in your environment?"

The mixing of regional languages with Indonesian in the daily life of each ethnic group has different effects and different levels of difficulty in pronunciation. In this analysis, we choose resource persons who come from several ethnic that have several dialect where the speakers are also required to understand foreign languages besides their mother language and pronounce them. They have prominent dialect differences come from other ethnic groups in Indonesia. In 5 dialects there are several

mentions of very different words from each other. You can see it based on the table below:

No	Indonesian Language	Balinese Dialect	Javanese Dialect	Jakarta / Betawi Dialect	Malaka Dialect	Makassar Dialect
1.	I	Tyang / Cang	I . you Dhewe	Cave	Ha'u	I / Nakke
2.	You	You / Ci	Kowe, you	Elu	O	Ko / Ki
3	He	Ragane / Ipun / Ye	Dheweke	He	Nia	He
4	Not	Sing	Ora / Dudu / No	Not	La	Tena / tanre
5	Yes	Ae	Yes	Yes	Hou	yes

Based on the analysis of dialects collected, it can be seen, in addition to the Jakarta dialect, there are many dialects that have a different language structure with Indonesian. So often when saying dialects in Indonesian at the time of association, there are difficulties in people who have been accustomed to using local dialects before. This is revealed from the results of a survey conducted by researchers where there are 2 of 5 resource persons claiming to have difficulty adapting to using Indonesian become their daily language of association. This is because they use local languages more than Indonesian, so regional dialects accents are still inherent when they're speaking Indonesian.

According to the data obtained from observation, the researcher also found special features in accent dialect of various cities. Special characteristics in this dialect can make an identity for the person. Sometimes by knowing the dialect can be known the origin of the person. These characteristics can be seen in the description below.

1. Jember (Javanese) Dialect

For dialects in the Java region usually has a special dialect characteristic that is meek and tends to be slow when speaking. And the most commonly found is the existence of accent "medok" or can be called speaking with a heavy java accent, where sometimes there is a tendency to emphasize certain letters such as the letters "D" and "B". Likewise, when using Indonesian as a second language, speakers who

come from Java are very subtle and still accentuate the thick Javanese dialect / medok. For the use of Javanese dialect, not too influential in the language of Indonesian association every day. Although with a very thick Javanese dialect, the pronunciation of sentences in Indonesian can still be understood clearly.

2. Denpasar (Bali) Dialect

In the Region of Bali, especially Denpasar, has the characteristics of dialect special. Usually the most common Balinese accent heard from the Balinese themselves may be the pronunciation of the letter "T" which tends to sound like "Th" as in the words put, no, and know. Another feature is the sounds of the letters "F" and "V" that do not exist in the Balinese language. So the Balinese often replace it with the letter "P". For example in the words perfume, list, and vaccine that become *parpum*, *daptar*, and *paksin*. Some special sayings are also found in vowel vowels. The sound of the letter /i/ sharp, for example, is replaced with a low /i/ as in the word: white, sick, and lonely. The letter "a" is replaced with e, especially in the name. Like my own name, Soma, who is called Some. But similar to the Javanese dialect, Balinese dialect is also not too influential in everyday association because the Indonesian accent with Balinese dialect is still understandable.

3. Betawi (Jakarta) Dialect

In this dialect, native Jakarta people

usually use betawi dialect. Dialect betawi itself is not much different from the dialect Indonesian in general. This language is included in the malay language variety of Pasar, which has been used as a daily conversational language by Betawi people and immigrants in the capital and surrounding areas this dialect has a characteristic, namely some vocabulary with phonemes / a / in the closed end tribe changed to // , and the suffix / --in / to replace the suffix / --kan / in Indonesian. Based on the results of the survey we conducted, that the Jakarta / Betawi dialect, has absolutely no effect on the language of Indonesian association users because the Betawi and Indonesian languages are very similar. It's just that in its pronunciation found intonation Betawi language is a little high and fast also straightforward.

4. Tetun (Malaka) Dialect

In this dialect, the speaker uses Tetun language, Tetun language itself is one of the dialect languages in the west Timor region of Indonesia. In the Tetun dialect

(Malaka), it is found that the use of the letter "U" is often used. Just like the Betawi dialect, in the Malaka Dialect there is also a rapid and high use of sound intonation. The source of this tetun dialect has a dialect tetun that is very thick so that if using Indonesian in everyday association, it is often very difficult to understand in the first speech. It takes repetition in pronunciation to be understood the true intent.

5. Makassar (Sulawesi) Dialect

The tendency of Makassar dialect is to often abbreviate words like you shortened to "ko or ki". Makassar dialect has intonation and pronunciation of tones that almost sound similar to the people of the East. Fast pronunciation with high intonation. Our sources say that it is very difficult for them to communicate using Indonesian in association because Indonesian tends to be long-worded with slow intonation. Therefore, when in association, the source often gets a fierce stigma. Due to the often high intonation of the voice, which is usually considered an angry intonation on the Indonesian dialect.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the data above is included in the type of regional dialect, because it is a variant of the language used in a particular area. For example, Indonesian Makassar dialect, Jakarta dialect of Bali dialect etc. Although the dialects used in each region can be united with Indonesian to communicate both formally and informally. It's just that there is a difference in emphasis on the letters of a particular letter in each dialect. The intonation of sounds used in pronunciation also tends to vary from region to region. However, this does not affect in Indonesian language.

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