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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Section: Literature, Linguistics & Criticism

The structure of Indonesian mimetic process: A natural semantic metalanguage analysis

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to describe Indonesian mimetic process, and its original meaning. This study used descriptive qualitative method. The data were collected through listening and recording techniques. The findings obtained from this research are that Indonesian mimetic process verbs refer to the universal lexicon of word roots: HAPPEN and DO. The semantic structure of Indonesian mimetic process verbs has 1) event subtypes with event sub-subtypes (ups 'keliru/mistaken', nahhhh 'setuju/agree', cling... 'menjadi bagus/be good', deru 'air yang meluap/overflowing water', huuu 'membuat api membesar/make the fire bigger', sstt... 'rahasia/secret', gemoy 'menggemaskan/adorable', ohhh 'menghibur diri/amuse yourself') event subtype with bodily process subtypes (nyam nyam 'kenyang/full', brrr...brrr 'sakit/pain', wk wk 'tertawa sinis/cynical laugh', zzzz 'bermimpi/dream', nih 'kesal/annoyed'); 2) non-agentive movement subtype (cring 'mendapat gaji buta/got a blind salary'). Indonesian mimetic process verbs ups 'keliru/mistaken', deru 'air yang meluap/overflowing water', huuu 'membuat api membesar/make the fire grow' have purposive factors and no desirability. Indonesian mimetic process verbs nahhhh 'setuju/agree', cling 'menjadi bagus/be good', stt 'rahasia/secret', gemoy 'menggemaskan/adorable', ohhh 'menghibur diri/self-entertainment', nyam-nyam 'kenyang/full', wkwk 'tertawa sinis/laugh sarcastically', zzzz 'bermimpi/dream', cring 'mendapat gaji buta/get a blind salary' have purposive factors and no desire. The Indonesian mimetic process verb brrr...brrr 'sakit/pain' has no purposive factor and desire.

KEYWORDS: mimetic, natural semantic metalanguage, process verbs, semantic structure

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I. INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of the twenty-first century, mimetics has been a topic of theoretical and typological interest (Akita & Pardeshi, 2019; Andrason & Heine, 2023; Armoskaite & Koskinen, 2017; Badenoch & Choksi, 2021; Barrett, 2014; Dingemanse, 2011, 2012, 2017, 2019; Haiman, 2018; Hinton et al., 1995; McLean, 2021; Nuckolls, 1999; Thompson & Do, 2019; Voeltz&Kilian-Hatz, 2008). They have observed iconicity and sound symbolism. One linguistic phenomenon that arises in the languages of several nations is mimetic including Indonesia. However , it is not as frequent as Japan, which frequently employs mimetics or onomatopoeia (Sujiyanto & Dahidi, 2004).

The ability to make a text come to life is a characteristic of mimetics particularly in language that the general public consumes and uses frequently in the media (Toratani, 2018; Zhernokleyev, 2022). One of the key elements that describes the circumstances that the character in the comic faces without requiring extensive textual explanation is the usage of mimetic in comics. Mimetic research is significant because it can enhance expressive and effective communication skills. Furthermore, the situational and cultural contexts have an impact on mimicry. According to (Akita, 2016), mimicry does not only include imitation of natural sounds, human voices, and animal voices but also includes phenomimes, which is capturing the phenomenon or form of an action, event, state or nature of some object, and also includes psychomimes, which is expressing physical sensations and psychological states. In Indonesia, the word *telolet* is often uttered by people, especially young children, when a bus passes in front of them. By shouting the word *telolet*, children hope that the bus driver will sound the bus horn which sounds like a *telolet*. The word *telolet* is formed from the sound produced by the horn. This means that the phenomenon of sound imitation is growing in Indonesia.

In this study, semantic structure is employed to enhance comprehension of the mimetic's meaning. Furthermore, in Indonesian mimetics, it is essential to comprehend the semantic function of arguments in their context. The relationship between verbs and nouns forms semantic structure, which is positioned at its core (Langacker & Chafe, 1972). It is obvious to tie a word's meaning to other meanings in order to build a language's semantic structure. As a result, the components of these terms can be compared and contrasted. The semantic structure of the words "look," "stare," and "glare," for instance, can be explained by comparing them to other words that have the same meaning. For instance, "look" means "to see and pay attention" (usually in a fixed direction and distance), while "glare" means "to look at something with widened eyes in anger." If the comparison is done so precisely and thoroughly, the various components can be identified, and two possible results can be obtained: either the semantic structure has regularity and similarity, or it has irregularity and dissimilarity. This can be explained in detail using the prototype of the original meaning, which combines the definitions of verbs so that a word does not have to be defined at all (Goddard, 2012; Mulyadi, 2009; Wierzbicka, 2012)

Entities that go through a process of changing state or condition are described by process verbs. Process verbs have the semantic quality of being dynamic and enabling the usage of progressive versions (Mulyadi et al., 2024; Sudipa et al., 2021; Sugiartini et al., 2023). The fact that process verbs lack kinesis or intentionality is their semantic component. Furthermore, no action is transferred from one person to another. The event that occurs is not influenced or controlled by the subject, but the subject is affected by the event expressed by the verb in the sentence. Process verbs comprise movement verbs (not agentive) like falling, slamming, and rolling; event verbs like cracked, broken, and destroyed; and bodily process verbs like sick, inebriated, and pregnant (Mulyadi, 1998).

TABLE 1. SEMANTIC TYPES OF INDONESIA PROCESS VERBS (MULYADI, 2009B)

Verb Type	Subtype	Sub-subtype	Example
PROCESS	Events	Genesis	crushed, broken, fractured
		Bodily Process	sick, pregnant, drunk
	Non-agentive Movement		fall, tumble, slam

According to Table 1, Indonesian process verbs fall under the EVENTS category, which has two subcategory components: the HAPPENING and MOVING types. Event-type process verbs are separated into two categories based on the event's occurrence: because of one's own activities and because of the acts of others.

TABLE 2. SEMANTIC STRUCTURE OF PROCESS VERBS (FITRIANA, 2021)

Semantic Structure of Process Verbs
(1) Type Occurred
(2) Moving Type

Natural semantic metalanguage (NSM) is said to be able to accurately describe words, particularly those in other languages (Drobnak, 2009; Durst, 2003; Michaelis, 2003; Mulyadi, 1998, 2009a). The benefits of NSM are as follows: (a) NSM is intended to explain all grammatical, lexical, or illocutionary meanings; (b) proponents of this approach hold that a language's natural state is to preserve one form for one meaning and one meaning for one form; and (c) the NSM approach's explanation of meaning is framed in metabases drawn from natural language (Sudipa, 2010). In addition, the advantage of the NSM approach is the disclosure of the meaning of words in a simple way so that it can be accepted by all speakers because the paraphrase of meaning is framed in a metabases sourced from natural.

TABLE 3. ENGLISH-INDONESIAN ORIGINAL MEANING DEVICES (TRANSLATED FROM (GODDARD, 2012B) (SOURCE: (MULYADI, 2012)

Component	Element of original meaning
Substantive	I AKU, YOU KAMU, SOMEONE SESEORANG, PEOPLE/PERSON ORANG, SOMETHING/THING SESUATU/HAL, BODY TUBUH
R e l a t i o n a l Substantive	KIND JENIS, PART BAGIAN
Delimiter	THIS INI, THE SAME SAMA, OTHER/ELSE LAIN
Summator	ONE SATU, TWO DUA, MUCH/MANY BANYAK, SOME BEBERAPA, ALL SEMUA
Evaluator	GOOD BAIK, BAD BURUK
Descriptors	BIG BESAR, SMALL KECIL
Mental Predicates	THINK PIKIR, KNOW TAHU, WANT INGIN, FEEL RASA, SEE LIHAT, HEAR DENGAR
Speech	SAY UJAR, WORDS KATA, TRUE BENAR
Action, Event, Movement, Contact	DO LAKU, HAPPEN TERJADI, MOVE GERAK, TOUCH SENTUH
Place, Existence, B e l o n g i n g , Specification	BE (SOMEWHERE), THERE IS/EXIST ADA, HAVE PUNYA, BE (SOMEONE/SOMETHING) ADALAH (SESEORANG/SESUATU)
Life and Death	LIVE HIDUP, DIE MATI
Time	WHEN/TIME BILA, NOW SEKARANG, BEFORE SEBELUM, AFTER SETELAH, A LONG TIME LAMA, A SHORT TIME SINGKAT, FOR SOME TIME SEBENTAR, MOMENT SAAT
Space	WHERE/PLACE (DI) MANA/TEMPAT, HERE (DI) SINI, ABOVE (DI) ATAS, BELOW (DI) BAWAH, FAR (JAUH), NEAR DEKAT, SIDE SISI, INSIDE (DI) DALAM
Logical Concepts	NOT TIDAK, MAYBE MUNGKIN, CAN DAPAT, BECAUSE KARENA, IF JIKA
A u g m e n t o r , Intensifier	VERY SANGAT, MORE LEBIH
Similarity	LIKE/AS SEPERTI

In comics and children's books, mimetics are used to make the story come to life, make the plot more clear, add information and details that words cannot express, and enhance aesthetic appeal (Zhernokleyev, 2022). In addition to adding humor or emotion, mimetics are used in memes to help illustrate a notion or idea (Mulyadi et al., 2021). Given this context, it is appropriate to explain the semantic structure of Indonesian mimetic process verbs using the idea of NSM in order to determine each word's original meaning. Furthermore, NSM theory integrates typological approaches to language study, broad-based empirical cross-linguistic investigations, and philosophical and logical traditions in the study of meaning. In relation to the background, This research aims to describe Indonesian mimetic process, and its original meaning.

II. METHODS

Descriptive qualitative research methodology was employed in this study. Indonesian mimetic process verbs from the range of writing on the website serve as the research's data. The listening method with note-taking

help was used to gather the data. Every process verb is categorized based on its semantic kind. Process verb kinds, like HAPPEN and DO, are named after the universal vocabulary of root words. Process verbs are divided into two categories: 1) non-aggressive movement subtype; 2) event subtype, which includes occurrence subtype and bodily process subtype. This research uses the *agih* method to analyse the data. This method is a data analysis method whose determining tool is the language concerned (Sudaryanto, 2015). The analysis technique used is paraphrasing technique. The use of paraphrasing techniques in this study refers to the original meaning mechanism proposed by Wierzbicka (2012). which is adopted in accordance with the object of study of Indonesian mimetic process verbs.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents and interprets the findings on the semantic types and structures of Indonesian mimetic process verbs analyzed through NSM approach. The data are classified into three major semantic subtypes—event verbs, bodily process verbs, and non-agentive movement verbs—each expressing distinct experiential and psychological phenomena as presented in table 4.

TABLE 4. SEMANTIC TYPES OF INDONESIAN MIMETIC PROCESS VERBS

Verb Type	Subtype	Sub-subtype	Example
PROCESS	Events	Genesis	<i>ups</i> ‘keliru/ mistaken’, <i>nahhhhh</i> ‘setuju/agree’, <i>cling...</i> ‘menjadi bagus/be good’, <i>deru</i> ‘air yang meluap/ overflowing water’, <i>huuu</i> ‘membuat api membesar/ make the fire grow’, <i>sstt..</i> ‘rahasia/secret’, <i>gemoy</i> ‘menggemaskan/ adorable’, <i>ohhh</i> ‘menghibur diri/ entertain yourself’
		B o d i l y Process	<i>nyam nyam</i> ‘kenyang/ Full’, <i>brrr...brrr</i> ‘sakit/ sick’, <i>wk wk</i> ‘tertawa sinis/ sarcastic laugh’, <i>zzzz</i> ‘bermimpi/ dream’, <i>nih</i> ‘kesal/ annoyed’
	Non-agentive Movement		<i>cring</i> ‘mendapat gaji buta/“getting a blind salary”

A. Event Type due to Other People’s Actions

This verb for an event-type process describes an event that is brought about by another agent’s (Y) action, and the outcome of the event that Y performs produces a change in X. Consequently, there are two polysemy for this event-type process verb: HAPPEN and DO. The event in the semantic structure is linked to the linking element

“because” since the entity changes as a result of the prior event.

[Data 1]

RUU	ini	Akan	mengurangi	korupsi	di	negeri	ini
RUU	this is	will	reduce	corruption	in	country	this
NOM	DET	ASP	VERB	NOM	PREP	NOM	DET

‘RUU (The Asset Forfeiture Bill) will reduce corruption in this country.’

‘RUU Perampasan Aset akan mengurangi korupsi di negeri ini.’



Figure 1. A person plans to reduce corruption

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

RUU, the law draft, which Figure 1 suggests will reduce corruption, has the potential to lead to actions that can be interpreted as another form of corruption or abuse of power, namely asset forfeiture. *Upss...!* reinforcing the impression that policymakers have miscalculated or do not understand the true impact of the policies they make. This law draft of asset forfeiture, which Figure 1 suggests will reduce corruption, has the potential to lead to actions that can be interpreted as another form of corruption or abuse of power, namely asset forfeiture. *Upss...!* reinforcing the impression that policymakers have miscalculated or do not understand the true impact of the policies they make.

The configuration of the verb *Upss* 'mistake' shows a change in the entity. The verb *upss* 'mistake' occurs in the entity RUU. The verb occurs due to the influence of another agent (Y) which can be another person or entity. The semantic component mapping of the verb is 'Y does something to X'. As a result of the activity performed by Y, there is a change in X. The verb's explication is written with the following semantic structure.

upss 'kekeliruan/ mistaken'
 at that time something happened to X (RUU)
 because Y does something to X
 X into sections
 X became like that

<i>Nahhhhh</i>	baju	ini	yang	saya	suka
<i>Nahhhhh</i>	shirt	this	what	I	like
MIM	NOM	DET	CONJ	FAM	ADJ

[Data 2]

baju batik	pelanggaran
batik shirt	offence
NOM	NOM

'Someone agreed to change from batik clothes to koko clothes.'
 'Seseorang *setuju* untuk mengganti baju batik ke baju koko.'



Figure 2. Someone agrees to change from batik clothes to koko clothes

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 2 relates to a rule or prohibition related to wearing batik clothes. Then, someone replacing batik clothes with *koko* can be considered as a compliment to their appearance or choice of clothing. The *nahhhhh* expression is an expression that shows agreement or agreement with someone who is wearing a koko shirt. Figure 2 is a subtle suggestion for someone to wear a koko shirt. Figure 2 is a social criticism of a certain phenomenon or policy related to the use of batik clothes. Figure 2 aims to convey a message about the importance of following the rules or norms related to the use of batik clothes. Figure 2 satirizes the policy of wearing batik and satirizes a politician who uses identity politics to replace batik clothes.

The verb *nahhhhh* 'agree' refers to the entity of replaceable clothes. The verb occurs due to the influence of another agent (Y), which can be another person or entity. The process of changing batik clothes to koko

clothes is approved by someone in authority. The semantic component mapping of the verb is ‘X becomes something else’. As a result of the activity performed by Y, there is a change in X. The verb *nahhhh* ‘agree’ is paraphrased with the following semantic structure.

nahhhh ‘setuju/agree’
 at that time something happened to X (batik shirt)
 because Y does something to X
 X to change
 because of this, X cannot do something
 X became like that

Kapan	Kesejahteraan	Rakyat	diperhatikan
when	Welfare	people’s	considered
INT	NOM	NOM	VERB

[Data 3]

<i>nyam nyam</i>	isu politik
<i>nyam nyam</i> MIM	political issues NOM

‘Seseorang *kenyang* isu politik, tetapi tidak memperhatikan kesejahteraan rakyat.’
 ‘Someone who is full of political issues, but does not pay attention to the welfare of the people.’



Figure 3. A person fed up with political issues

Source: <https://geotimes.id/opini/pilpres-dan-hilangnya-budaya-politik-kita/>

Figure 3 presents a sharp social critique of the current political situation. A large figure sitting at the end of the balance represents the ruling group or political elite. His high position at the end of the balance shows unbalanced dominance and power. His act of feeding the little people shows how power is often used for personal or group interests.

A small figure sitting at the other end of the balance represents the small people or the general public. His low position and difficulty in balancing shows the powerlessness and injustice experienced by the people. The question “When will that one be paid attention to?” uttered by this character shows dissatisfaction and a demand for more attention to the problems of the people. Unbalanced scales, scales tilted towards the big figures show an imbalance of power and interests. One side is very heavy (the political elite) while the other side is very light (the people). This is a criticism of a political system that is unfair and tends to favor certain groups. Small fish fed by big figures can be interpreted as bait or sweet promises given by politicians to the people to gain support. However, these promises are often not kept. The word POLITICS written in large and conspicuous letters shows that the problem depicted in picture 3 is a political problem. Picture 3 is criticizing the unequal and unfair political conditions.

The verb *nyam nyam* ‘full’ describes the change that occurs in an entity from hungry to full. This happens because X receives treatment from Y. Entity X is a political issue. The mapping of the semantic component of the verb is “X becomes full”. As a result of Y’s activity, there is a change in X. Based on this explanation, the verb

nyam nyam ‘full’ can be paraphrased as follows:

nyam nyam ‘full’

at that time something happened to X

because Y did something to X

X became something good

X became like that

[Data 4]

President	akan	cek	Ke	daerah	tersebut	tak	lama	kemudian	<i>cling...</i>
president	will	check	To	area	the	not	long ago	afterward	cling...
NOM	ASP	VERB	PREP	NOM	FAM	NEG	ADV	CONJ	MIM

‘Presiden akan mengecek jalan rusak ke daerah tersebut, tak lama kemudian jalan *menjadi bagus*.’

‘The President will check the damaged road in the area, and soon the road will be good.’



Figure 4. The President makes the road good

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 4 is a social criticism of the government or related officials who are slow in responding to the problem of road damage. The phrase *viral damaged roads* shows that this problem has become a public concern. The word *Cling...* that appears after the president will check the area could be a satire or satire of government actions that are considered only ceremonial or imaging. The word *Cling...* with the connotation of the sound of metal clashing contains an element of humor to satirize the condition of the road that is very damaged.

The verb *cling...* ‘to be good’ describes an event that happens to an inanimate entity, namely the damaged road around becomes good. The verb is caused by another agent (Y), a person or persons. The semantic component mapping of the verb is “X becomes good”. The verb *cling...* ‘becomes good’ can be paraphrased as follows:

cling... ‘to be good’

at that time something happened to X

because Y did something to X

X became something good

X became like that

[Data 5]

Lhooo...	sudah	waktunya	gajian	ya	<i>cring!</i>
Lhooo...	it's	time	payday	ya	cring!
MIM	ASP	NOM	NOM	PAR	MIM

‘Seseorang *mendapatkan gaji* tanpa mengerjakan apa-apa.’

‘Someone earns a salary without doing anything.’



Figure 5. Someone getting a blind paycheck
 Source: https://images.kontan.co.id/kartun_benny/572/Makan+Gaji+Buta

Figure 5 expresses people’s dissatisfaction with a system that is considered unfair. The large salaries for members of the House of Representatives, while many people are still living in difficulties, symbolize this injustice. The sentence I haven’t done anything yet is sarcasm directed at members of the House of Representatives. It is a criticism of the common perception that DPR members often get large salaries without doing comparable work. The word salary, which is usually associated with hard work and achievement, is instead associated with something earned without significant effort. The word cring shows an emotional reaction to a situation that is deemed inappropriate. It can be interpreted as embarrassment, anger, or disbelief.

The verb cring ‘to get a blind salary’ describes an event that happens to something due to the influence of another agent (Y). The inanimate entity is the salary (X), while the animate entity is the DPR member (Y). This can happen because Y gets something good, namely getting a blind salary. The semantic component mapping of the verb is “Y gets something good”. As a result of X, there is a change in Y. The implication of the verb cring ‘getting a blind salary’` can be paraphrased as follows:

cring ‘get a blind paycheck’
 at that time something happened to Y
 because X did something to Y
 Y became good
 Y became like that cring

[Data 6]				
kita	bikin	tambang	dan	kebun sawit
we	make	mines	and	palm oil plantations
FAM	VERB	NOM	CONJ	NOM
Kok	dibilang	bikin	banjir	
kok	said	to make	flooding	
MIM	VERB	VERB	NOM	

‘Kita membuat tambang dan kebun sawit, tetapi dampaknya membuat banjir.’
 ‘We create mines and palm oil plantations, but the impact is flooding.’



Figure 6. Flooding due to forest land conversion to mining and oil palm plantations
 Source: <https://magz.tempo.co/read/cartoon/37474/blame-it-on-the-rain>

Figure 6 criticizes mining activities and oil palm plantations that are often associated with environmental damage and natural disasters such as floods. The irony between actions and consequences is that the perpetrators (officials or businessmen) sit comfortably on top of the heavy equipment while blaming the rain as the cause of flooding, while small communities suffer from the disaster. The perpetrators are depicted as serious-faced people, sitting on heavy mining equipment with expressions as if they are not responsible for the disaster that occurred. The victims are depicted as ordinary people struggling to cope with the flood, showing concern and suffering. The heavy equipment is symbolic of the environmentally destructive activities carried out by powerful parties. The bare forest shows a forest that has been deforested due to logging, reinforcing the message of environmental destruction. Flood is a natural disaster caused by human activity. The sentence What makes the floods rain is an irony that highlights the efforts of certain parties to blame natural factors alone, even though human activities have a major role in the occurrence of disasters.

Figure 5.28 is saying that those responsible for environmental damage are trying to cover up their mistakes by blaming natural factors. Asserting that human activities, especially mining and palm oil plantations, are the main cause of floods. Invite the public to be more critically concerned about the environment and encourage those in authority to take responsibility for their actions.

The verb *deru* 'water that overflows in a flood' shows a change in the entity of a forest into flood water. The verb occurs due to the influence of another agent (Y), namely people who change forest land into mines and oil palm plantations, causing flooding. The semantic component mapping of the two verbs is "X becomes flood". As a result of Y's activity, there is a change in X. The implication of the verb is paraphrased with the following semantic structure.

deru 'water overflowing in a flood'
 at that time something happened to X (forest)
 because Y did something to X
 X became deformed
 because of this, X could not do something
 X became like that

[Data 7]			
Konflik horizontal	bisa	bahaya	nih...
Horizontal conflict	can be	dangerous...	nih...
NOM	ASP	ADJ	MIM



Figure 7. Two people in conflict

Source: <https://www.penasultan.co.id/2023/10/konflik-sengketa-lahan-antara-pemkot.html>

Figure 7 shows a claim over an area. The phrase could be dangerous... implies a potential conflict or threat in the area. The picture shows someone lighting a fuse to escalate the argument. The act of lighting the wick aims to increase tension and make the situation worse. The fire produced by the wick symbolizes damage or destruction. Thus, the dominant speech act is directive (command or threat) aimed at the other group to stay away from the area.

Take a look at Figure 7, where someone is deliberately blowing on the wick to make the flames come out. HUUU's expression depicts a stronger blowing sound, as if he wants to make the fire bigger. The man's action of lighting the wick aggravates the situation and shows an intention to prolong the conflict.

The verb huuu 'to make the fire grow bigger' describes the change that happens to animate and inanimate entities that sparkle. This happens because X receives treatment from Y. Entity X in the verb huuu 'make the fire grow bigger' is an inanimate object, namely fire. The semantic component mapping of the verb is "X becomes bigger". As a result of Y's activity, there is a change in X. Based on this explanation, the explication of the verb huuu 'to make the fire bigger' can be paraphrased as follows:

huuu 'make the fire grow'
 at that time something happened to X
 because Y did something to X
 X became something good
 X became like that

B. Self-inflicted Event Type

This event-type process verb expresses an event caused by one's own actions. Therefore, it has two polysemies, namely HAPPENING and DOING.

[Data 9]

Hmmm	suhunya	naik	turun	panas	adem!?	hihihi
hmmm	the temperature	goes up	down	hot	cold	hihihi
MIM	NOM	NOM	NOM	ADJ	ADJ	MIM

'Seseorang *sakit* suhu badannya naik turun, panas dingin karena akan direshuffle.'

'Someone is sick, his body temperature fluctuates, he is hot and cold because he will be reshuffled.'



Figure 9. Someone is sick because they will be reshuffled

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 9 illustrates the psychological impact of the uncertainty one experiences ahead of the reshuffle. The words "Temperature Up and Down, Hot and Cold!" indicate abnormal fluctuations in body temperature. This is a metaphor to describe the emotional fluctuations and high levels of stress due to the uncertainty of the reshuffle outcome. the word RESHUFFLE? shows a deep sense of worry and uncertainty about the reshuffle outcome. The sarcastic HI HI HI laughter is a way for people to cope with anxiety in an unhealthy way or a self-defense mechanism. Figure 9 criticizes a work system or culture that is full of uncertainty and high competition that negatively affects the mental health of workers.

The verb *brrr...brrr* 'feverish pain' shows that a person has a feverish pain that makes their body temperature go up and down hot and cold. The process that X experienced lasted for a long time and made X feel uncomfortable. The person feels unhappy because of this bad event. This event happened because X thought about something too much. Based on this explanation, the verb *brrr...brrr* 'sick' can be paraphrased as follows.

brrr...brrr ‘pain’

at that time something happened to X

because X did (thought/had/felt) something bad

for some time, X was like this

X can’t do anything about it

X doesn’t want this

X became like that

[Data 10]

Sst...	gabung	sini	aja deh	geser	anak	pak lurah	jadi	cawapres
Sst...	join	here	just deh	slide	son	pak lurah’s	to become	vice president
MIM	VERB	FAM	PAR	VERB	NOM	NOM	VERB	NOM

‘Seseorang *membisikan* kepada anaknya bahwa mereka akan berpindah ke koalisi partai lain.’

‘Someone whispered to his son that they would move to another party coalition.’



Figure 10 Someone switching party coalitions

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

The act of whispering in figure 10 indicates an attempt to keep the information secret. This indicates that the coalition shift has not been officially announced or is considered a strategic move that needs to be hidden. The statement “just join the side” shows the political calculation underlying the decision to switch coalitions. The father and son parties saw political benefits in joining the new coalition, in the form of votes or access to certain resources.

The verb *shhh...* ‘secret coalition move’ expresses an event that happens to someone who feels happy because of something. The reason why X was happy was because someone whispered a secret plan that benefited him. The process that X experienced lasted a long time and made X feel comfortable. This good event is desired by the person. Based on this explanation, the explication of *shhh...* ‘the secret of moving coalitions’ can be paraphrased as follows:

Shh... ‘secret coalition switch’

at that time something happened to X

because X did something good (switching)

For some time, X was like this

X can’t do something

X wanted this

X became like that

[Data 11]

Semoga	Hasil	Sidang	MK MK	Tidak	menjadi	WK WK
Hopefully	the result	hearing	Constitutional Court	not	become	WK WK
ASP	VERB	NOM	NOM	NEG	VERB	MIM

‘Semoga sidang Mahkamah Konstitusi berhasil tidak menjadi lelucon’

‘Hopefully the Constitutional Court hearing will succeed and not become a joke’



Figure 11 A person fighting for the outcome of the Constitutional Court hearing

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 11 expresses the hope that the outcome of the Constitutional Court (MK) hearing will not be as desired. The use of WK WK (which is interpreted as cynical laughter or an expression of joy) shows that someone does not want the outcome of the trial. The figure of a man with his mouth wide open and his hands clenched into fists, his body position and facial expression show euphoria or great joy. His assertive gestures reinforce the message he is trying to convey, which is a rejection of the possible outcome of the trial. Figure 11 is an indirect request through an expression of excessive joy, as if someone is asking for his wish to come true, namely the result of the Constitutional Court hearing which is not as feared.

The verb *wk wk* ‘laugh sarcastically’ describes a bad event that happens to someone because they get bad news or something unwanted happens. This can be because the person gets something bad from themselves or from other people (Y). As a result, X feels cynical about it. The process experienced by X lasts for a long time. The verb *wk wk* ‘to laugh sarcastically’ can be explained as follows:

wk wk `cynical laugh`
 at that time something happened to X
 because X did something bad
 for some time, X was like this
 X wanted this
 X became like that

[Data 12]

Gemoy	itu	pencitraan	aslinya	Ndasmu
Gemoy	is the	image	original of	Ndasmu
ADJ	DET	NOM	ADJ	NOM

‘Pencitraannya *menggemaskan* aslinya berkata kasar.’

‘His adorable image originally said harsh words.’



Figure 12. A person who is adorable

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

The word *gemoy* describes someone who is very funny, cute, or adorable. Figure 12 is sarcasm or satire. The word *gemoy* is used ironically to describe something that is not actually funny or interesting. The original sentence *ndakmu* shows disagreement with the judgment of others who think something is *gemoy*. Figure 12 contains directive speech acts that aim to influence the reader. In this case, the speaker seems to be insinuating by saying that something or someone who is considered *gemoy* by others is actually not so.

The verb *gemoy* ‘adorable’ describes an event that happens to someone who looks cute because they attract the attention of others by dancing. This can happen because the person gets something good out of themselves. The verb *gemoy* ‘adorable’ can be paraphrased as follows:

gemoy ‘adorable’
 at that time something happened to X
 because X did something good
 for some time, X was like this
 X wants others to know
 X wants this
 X became like that
 [Data 13]

Ohhh	Chaos	Politik
ohhh	Chaos	Political
MIM	VERB	NOM

‘Seseorang bernyanyi menghibur diri karena situasi politik kacau.’

‘Someone is singing to cheer themselves up because the political situation is chaotic.’



Figure 13. Someone entertaining themselves

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

The phrase political chaos in Figure 13 refers to a chaotic or unstable political situation. The sentence *Yahh ... Nyanyi Lagi Dah?* is interpreted as an expression of disappointment or fatigue towards the constantly chaotic political situation. The word *nyanyi* here is metaphorically a repetition of the same situation or the inability to solve the problem. Figure 13 is a criticism of the current political situation. The use of the word *chaos* and the sentence *nyanyi lagi dah* show dissatisfaction with the political conditions that are considered stagnant or no improvement.

Figure 13 shows a citizen singing with a tired face while listening to news about politics. Picture 13 expresses a feeling of frustration and fatigue towards the political situation. The verb *ohhh* ‘entertain oneself’ describes a bad event that is happening so someone sings because they want to entertain themselves who are in turmoil. Entity X feels troubled by the political situation that is not in line with his expectations. X entertains himself. This is done because the person gets something good out of himself. As a result, X feels happy about it. The process experienced by X lasts for a long time. The verb *ohhh* ‘entertain oneself’ can be explained as follows:

ohhh ‘comfort yourself’

at that time something happened to X
 because X did something good
 for some time, X was like this
 X wanted this
 X menjadi seperti itu

[Data 14]

seseorang	sedang	bermimpi	G	atau	E	Zzzz
NOM	ASP	VERB	NOM	CONJ	NOM	MIM



Figure 14. Someone is dreaming

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 14 shows a person sleeping and dreaming. In his dream he thinks of G or E. In this context, G means Gibran and E means Erick. G or E is an option to choose one to be his vice-presidential candidate. This dreaming process shows how important these two names are that they carry over into his subconscious.

The verb zzzz ‘to dream’ expresses an event that happens to someone who feels confused because of something. The cause of X’s dilemma can be due to lack of sleep, tiredness, and so on. The process experienced by X lasts a long time and makes X feel uncomfortable. This event is not desired by the person. Based on this explanation, the explication of the verb zzzz ‘to dream’ can be paraphrased as follows:

zzzz ‘dream’

at that time something happened to X
 because X did something bad (lack of sleep, tired)
 for some time, X was like this
 X can’t do something
 X didn’t want this
 X became like that

boss	saya	mau	nyaleg	nih
boss	I	Want to	nyaleg	nih
NOM	FAM	VERB	VERB	MIM

[Data 15]

aku	mundur	alon-alon
I	retreat	alon-alon
FAM	VERB	ADJ

‘Saya ingin menyalon legislatif, tetapi mundur pelan-pelan karena mahar 500 juta.’

‘I wanted to run for the legislature, but I backed out slowly because of the 500 million dowry.’



Figure 15 A person who plans to run for office suddenly backs down

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/komikkitaig/>

Figure 15 satirizes the political or business practice of someone asking for a large sum of money with a certain lure. The figure of 500 million and the word *nyaleg* (which stands for running for legislative office) reinforce this allegation. The request for 500 million can directly be interpreted as a form of bribery or corruption. Boss's position indicates the abuse of power for personal gain. The sentence I retreat *alon-alon* contradicts the act of asking for money. This creates irony and satire towards people who want to gain benefits without working hard. Figure 15 is an action performed through speech, such as a request for money, a veiled threat (backing off), and negotiation. Figure 15 presents a critique of corrupt practices and abuse of power.

The verb *nih* 'upset' expresses an event that happens to someone who feels upset about something. The reason why X is upset is due to frustration, anger, and other life pressures. The process experienced by X lasts for a long time and makes X feel uncomfortable. This bad event is unwanted by the person. Based on this explanation, the explication of the verb *nih* 'upset' can be paraphrased as follows:

nih 'upset'
 at that time something happened to X
 because X did something bad (frustrated, angry)
 for some time, X was like this
 X can't do something
 X doesn't want this
 X became like that

IV. CONCLUSION

The use of mimetic in memes serves to help illustrate a concept or idea and can also add humour or emotion. Indonesian mimetic process verbs refer to the universal lexicon of the roots TERJADI and MELAKAN. The semantic structure of Indonesian mimetic process verbs has 1) event subtypes with occurrence sub-subtypes (*oops* 'mistaken', *nabhbbh* 'agree', *cling...* 'be good', roar 'water overflowing the flood', *huuuu* 'make the fire bigger', *sstt...* 'secret switch coalition', *gemoy* 'adorable', *ohhh* 'amuse yourself') event subtype with bodily process subtypes (*nyam nyam* 'full', *brrr...brrr* 'pain', *wk wk* 'cynical laugh', *zzzz* "dream", *nih* "annoyed"); 2) non-agentive movement subtype (*cring* "got a blind salary"). Indonesian mimetic process verbs *ups* 'mistaken', *deru* 'water overflowing the flood', *huuuu* "make the fire grow" have purposive factors and no desirability. Indonesian mimetic process verbs *nabhbbh* 'agree', *cling* 'be good', *sstt* 'secret', *gemoy* 'adorable', *ohhh* 'entertain yourself', *nyam-nyam* 'full', *wkwk* 'laugh sarcastically', *zzzz* "dream", *cring* "get a blind salary" have purposive factors and no desire. The Indonesian mimetic process verb *brrr...brrr* 'pain' has no purposive factor and no desire.

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