

# A LEXICAL STUDY ON NON STANDARD EXPRESSIONS IN STUDENTS' FACEBOOK

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## **Abstract**

It's a qualitative descriptive approach dealing with mostly words in statuses as its main concern to find out the kinds of non standard expressions used by the students of Language Studies and non Language Studies. There are 350 statuses and were found 447 words of non standard expressions which were based non standard guideline expressions and lexical categories. The findings show that in using the non standard expression between the university students in language faculty and non language faculty are not too distinctive, whereas the major and minor lexical categories occurred in each status of students' face book. The frequencies of the occurrence of the non standard expressions are 36.69 % for the language faculty, 36.47 % economics, 16.11 % technology and information technology, and 8.28 % law faculty.

**Key words:** *non standard, variety, frequency, face book, lexical categories*

## **INTRODUCTION**

In daily activities people need communication which concern with their relation either written or oral communication. In communication they use a certain language with can be variety of possible relationship between a language and society. One is that social structure may either influence or determine linguistic structure or behavior. Certain evidence may be presented to support people's view. Spolsky (1998:79) states that: "The age-grading phenomenon whereby young children speak differently from older children, and in turn, the children speak differently from mature adults." In other words the teenagers or adults will also speak differently in their speech community. In general linguistics, a speech community is all the people who speak a single language and so share notions of what is same or different, wherever they might be of their being able to communicate with each other, all using the same language, they use different varieties of the same language. The varieties can be either standard or non standard. The language variety used is affected by some factors in the social context, such as status, age, topic, purpose and gender (Josefa cited in Alwi, H. Dardjowidjoyo, S., Lapoliwa, H., & Moeliono, A., 2003, p.5) People who come from different social status, age, purpose, and gender use different varieties. The different use of language variety is usually indicated in the vocabularies and the language structure.

The use of different language varieties can be seen in daily activities, in the spoken form and in the written ones. Written language can be in the forms of media electronics, such as statuses in face book and other forms of media communication, such as magazine, newspapers, booklet, etc. Among those kinds of written forms of language, statuses in face book are ones of the interesting written forms to be taken as the object of the study. Statuses in face book are media in which several language varieties can be used. The language of statuses may be informal as the language should be as friendly as possible to the recipients. It should be communicative as it is more effective to achieve the target. The communicative style of language that is used by face bookers is almost the same as the spoken style, which is usually less formal.

Concerning its purpose as the mean of communication among students, in his book Kridalaksana (1978) states that in practice there are two kinds of “Bahasa Indonesia”. The first one is standard “Bahasa Indonesia” which holds a prestige as it is not spoken in daily conversations. This variety is used by educated people. The second kind is the non-standard “Bahasa Indonesia” which is used in informal situation like daily conversations among friends. It is clearly seen that actually the variety of “Bahasa Indonesia” which serves as the national Language is the standard one for the reason of its prestige. The standard “Bahasa Indonesia” is considered the good and correct variety. That is why in this article tries to find out: (1) What are the non standard Indonesian expressions and the lexical categories realized in Face-book by the university students?; (2) Which non standard expressions used among the university students have the most occurrences?

Therefore, this study analyzes the statuses of Unisbank students in using the non – standard Indonesian language in Face-book when they communicate to each other using face book as one of the social networking.

## **Face book**

Face-book is a social networking website that was originally designed for college students but is now open to anyone 13 years of age or older. Face-book users can create and customize their own profiles with photos, videos, and information about themselves. Friends can browse the profiles of other friends and write messages on their pages. (<http://www.techterms.com/definition/facebook>). Face-book offers a wide range of privacy options to its members. A member can make all his communications visible to everyone, he can

stop specific connections or he can keep all his communications private. The users of face-book hope to communicate privately and there is a message feature which closely resembles email. They communicate with the variety of language, depends on the user.

### **Lexical Categories**

A lexical category is a syntactic category for elements that are parts of the lexicon of a language. These elements are at the word level, such as parts of speech, word class, and so forth. There are major and minor lexical categories. In every language it has at least two major lexical categories or content words; those are noun, verb, adjective and adverb. The minor lexical categories or function word are conjunctions and particles.

### **Language Varieties**

In daily lives people use different varieties of the same language for their means of communication. The varieties can be standard or non standard languages. The languages people speak identify who they are. Through social relationships they establish making communication and corresponding to each other through a certain media. They mutually give information if they have known each other well. They will use the language that makes them become at ease and look intimate. This may show their social backgrounds and they use a certain language variety.

The language variations are also related with social network. Social networks refer to the pattern of informal relationship in which people are involved in on regular basis. Schools or community organizations are social networks. In university students also use language variation in communicating to each other in face-book., as one of the social networks.

### **Standard and Non Standard Language**

In general definition, standard language is the selected variety of a language where codes have been set through a process of development in some of its language elements like grammar. In standard “Bahasa Indonesia”, codes have been set as they can be seen in some references like Tata Bahasa Baku Bahasa Indonesia, Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia. Those references are used to determine the differences between standard and words like nggak (no); kayak (like); bikin (make). Those are some examples of non standard Bahasa Indonesia.

Standard languages should also serve pedagogical functions. It means that the languages are the means of communication at schools, universities and other higher education or institutions. They should be the effective means of communications among the experts of any scientific fields in any scientific meeting or seminar (Kridalaksana, 1978)

On the other hand, non standard languages refer to any unstandardized varieties used in communities and which do not have any social status (Holmes, 1992). In Indonesia, non standard language may refer to any ethnic languages, such as Javanese, Balinese, Sundanese, and so on. A non-standard variety is a language variety which has not been standardized and does not have official status. A language variety that does not match the standard language norms is a non-standard language. Generally, it can be said that a dialect is a non-standard language (Tampubolon, 1978 p. 21). Non-standard language is usually the first language that is learned by people in multilingual community, and the use of this kind of language is limited. This kind of language is usually used by people to show solidarity among those who come from the same group. The language is sometimes used for everyday interaction of communication (Holmes, 1992, p.81). The examples of non-standard expressions that can be found in one of the variety languages is Javanese, such as *kalo* (if); *merem* (close eyes), etc

Unlike the standard languages which serve some important functions, non standard languages do not. They are often used for a relatively narrow range of informal functions. The non standard languages are spoken among friends and acquaintances. Further, they are used in informal daily communications. People tend to use these varieties to show intimacy and use them when they write to their friends.

This study is analyzed using Riasa's study (2002) entitled "Bahasa ABG dalam Cerpen Remaja: Implikasi dan Pengajarannya bagi Siswa/i Sekolah Menengah di Australia. " ("Teenagers language in Adolescent Short Story: Its Implication and Teaching to High School Students in Australia") showed the characteristics of the non standard Indonesian, which were categorized into nine types as follows:

1. An active verb + in to form an active transitive verbs

Instead of using affixes 'meN-kan' or " meN-i, people tend to use a simpler affix, which is meN-in. For examples: *ambil – ambilin* (take); *ngajar – ngajarin* (teach).

2. Passive Form 1: *di + simple verb + in*

The passive verb is formed by adding prefix 'di' and suffix "-in" into the simple verb.  
For examples: tunggu – ditungguin ( be waited); batal – dibatalin (be cancelled)

3. Passive Form 2: ke + simple verb

This passive verb refers to passive form 'ter' in standard Indonesian. For examples:  
peleset – kepeleset (slip) ; tangkap – ketangkap (catch)

4. Deletion of one or more letters. It can be verbs or other parts of speech

This can be in forms of deletion of the first letters or phonemes or the deletion of the first letter 'h'. For examples: sudah – udah (already); habis – abis (ended), tahu – tau (know)

5. Simplification or contraction of two different words

The examples are: terima kasih – makasih (thank); bagaimana – gimana (how)

6. The use of other non-standard terms. It can be dialects of a certain region.

The examples are: sahabat – sohib (closed friend); mati – koit (die)

7. Substitution of one or more letters. The substitution is usually on the letter " a " to "e " .

For examples: benar – bener (true); pintar – pinter (smart).

The substitution can also be in the forms of the changing of the diphthong "au' with "o" and "ai" with "e". For example: pakai – pake (use) ; sampai – sampe.

8. Adaptation of Foreign language

For examples: Sorry – sori; low battery – lobet; swear – suer

9. The use of foreign language

For examples: sorry, thank you

Those nine types are used as the guideline for analyzing this study.

This guideline is applied in this study to analyze the students' usage the language in their communication in face book as one of the social network.

## METHODOLOGY

In conducting this study, the writer used a qualitative descriptive approach dealing mostly words as its main concerns to find out the kind of non standard Indonesian expressions used by the students of Language faculty and non language faculties : Economics faculty, Information Technology faculty, Technology faculty and Law faculty at STIKUBANK University. The students chosen as the object of this study were taken by random.

The data source of this study is Face-book statuses that were used by the students of the language faculty and non language faculty. The data that were really recorded for 125 face-book statuses used by the students of language department and 225 face-book statuses used by the students of non language department. There were 350 statuses and were analyzed. It was found out that there were 447 words used as the non standard expressions

### **Data Collection and Data Analysis**

The data were collected by identifying the expressions in the face-book statuses that were non standard Indonesian expressions based on the non standard guideline of Indonesian expressions. The steps of data collection: first, identifying the non standard word found and put into the table of non standard features. Then, identifying the content words and function words and put into tables of each lexical category. The table was used to count the number of non standard words used and divided by the total numbers of the use of non standard words in face-book statuses of each student. Each non standard expression collected was analyzed to determine its type based on linguistic forms and non standard Indonesian features using Riasa' classification as a guideline. Next, finding the occurrence of the non standard Indonesian expressions in the data that were counted based on the number of words in statuses/sentences containing non standard expressions using the formula:

$$\frac{N}{n} \times 100 \%$$

N = numbers of non standard Indonesian words

n = total numbers of the use of non standard words

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **The occurrences of the Features of Non Standard Expression**

The students' face book statuses of the language faculty mostly used the ninth features of non standard expression. The most occurrences were on feature no 6 (The use of other non standard terms), there are 55 words. The students of non language faculties, Economy faculty students used the most occurrences on feature no 6, there were 61 words. The students of information technology and technology apply the feature number 6; there are 48 words and the

students of law faculty apply 33 words. The other features that the students used are shown on table 1.

Table 1. The occurrence of the Features of non Standard Expression

Feature of non-standard Faculty	An active verb + -in 1.	Di- + simple verb + -in 2.	Ke- + simple verb 3.	Deletion of one or more letters 4.	Simplification or contraction of two different words 5.	The use of other non-standard terms 6.	Substitution of one or more letters 7.	Adaptation of foreign language 8.	The use of foreign language 9.
Language	7	2		23	4	55	11	1	57
Economics	16	6	-	22	5	61	17	16	20
Information Technology technology	-	-	-	9	-	48	2	2	3
Law	-	-	-	1	-	33	2	1	-

The numbers show the total of words that each student use in his/her statuses. The dash (-) symbolizes that no word is used in face book statuses

### The realization of lexical Categories

The realization of lexical categories is in term of identifying words, such as verb, noun, adjective, adverb, and function word. Each table below shows the occurrences in term of lexical category. The following table (Table 2) shows the kinds of non standard expression used by the students of five faculties concerning with lexical categories. For example, It was found out that the language faculty (LF) students apply 7 verbs in non standard feature number 1; 2 verbs in non standard feature number 2; 8 verbs in non standard feature number 4; 2 verbs in non standard feature number 5; 14 verbs in non standard feature no 6; 8 verbs in non standard feature number 7, and 11 verbs in standard feature number 9. It means that the students realize nearly all features in non standard expression guideline. (See Table 2)

Table 2. The Occurrences of Lexical Categories

Fac	Feature of non-standard	An active verb + -in 1.	Di- + simple verb + -in 2.	Ke- + simple verb 3.	Deletion of one or more letters 4.	Simplification or contraction of two different words 5.	The use of other non-standard terms 6.	Substitution of one or more letters 7.	Adaptation of foreign language 8.	The use of foreign language 9.
Lexical categories										

L. F	Word:									
	Verb	7	2		8	2	14	8		11
	Noun						3	3		26
	Adject				1		4	3		4
	Adverb				6		20	2		
	FW				8	2	14		1	16
Ec. F	Word:									
	Verb	16	6		14	1	8	3		4
	Noun				2	2	10	3	8	10
	Adject						9	6	1	5
	Adverb						3		1	1
	FW				16	2	31	5		
I. T, T F	Word:									
	Verb				1		8			
	Noun				1		7		1	3
	Adject				1		3	1	1	
	Adverb							1		
	FW				6		37			
La. F	Word:									
	Verb				1		8		1	
	Noun						4	1		
	Adject									
	Adverb									
	FW						21	1		

**Note: L. F is language faculty, Ec. F is Economics faculty; I.T. is Information Technology, T. F is Technology faculty and La. F is law faculty**

Based on lexical categories and the non standard Indonesian expressions guideline used, the writer comprised words- verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and function words. The non standard features found in students in language faculty were categorized into eight types as follows:

- a. active verb +in (Feature no 1)

The non standard suffix-in is usually used to form a verb. It was found in *bilangin*, *kirain*, etc

- b. Di + simple verb + in (Feature no 2)



The confix consisting of the prefix *di* – used in the standard Indonesian and the non standard suffix *-in* was attached to the stem *bikin* (make) forming the non standard passive verb form *dibikin* (be made), instead of using the standard Indonesian *dibuatkan*.

c. Deletion (Feature no 4 )

The element deleted can be a prefix or a letter used in the standard form which existed in verb, adjective, adverb, and function word as presented in the following examples: *ngaku* (admit) it should be *mengaku*, *udah* (already) it should be *sudah*.

d. Simplification of two different words (Feature no 5)

The simplification happens as a verb because it meant to make efficient as presented in the following example: *makasih* (thank you) , it should be *terima kasih*

e. Non standard term (Feature no 6 )

This type of non standard feature occurs as verb, noun, adjective, adverb, and function word, as seen in the following: *ngetike* (type), *duit* (money), *medeni* (frightening), *pie/piye* (how). All those examples do not occur in Indonesian.

f. Substitution (Feature no 7 )

Substitution happens when a certain letter used and is replaced by another letter. This type of non standard feature typically happens in Javanese in verb, noun, adjective, and adverb as the following examples: *bales- balas* (reply), *malem- malam* (night), *bullet-bulat* (round), *kalo-kalau* (if).

g. Adaptation of foreign language (Feature no 8)

The adaptation occurs from English. It happens without being translated into the language used as the following examples: *koment*, *tissu*, *dobel*, *privasi*

Those words were just taken like the original words; comment, tissue, double, privacy.

h. Foreign language (Feature no 9)

This type of non standard expressions happens due to the use of foreign language in this case English is used instead of standard Indonesian expressions. It comprised word functioning as verb, noun, adjective, function word, phrase and sentence as the following:

Verb: translate, want, know, ask, have, need, pray, cry

Noun: topic, bus way, chapter, headache, technique, shoulder

Adjective: happy, angry, and sweet.

Function word: any way, if, to, about, a.

Phrase: happy birthday, up date please

Sentence: God bless you, wish you all the best

The students from economics, information technology and technology faculties used the non standard expressions similar to the students from the language faculty who apply eight features. Only the students of law faculty did not use English. The most frequency of using foreign language was the students from language, economics and information technology faculties and the least was from law faculty.

The feature number 3 of non standard expressions “*Ke + simple verb*” did not occur in the face book statuses of the students from all faculties. Feature number 9 of non standard expression was not realized in law faculty.

The findings on non standard features revealed that totally there were nine types of non standard features, but those nine types did not occur in the students’ statuses. All students did not use the feature ‘ke + simple verb’(3). The features of “active verb + in’(1); “di + simple verb + in” (2), and ‘simplification of two different words” (5) did not occur in statuses of the students in three faculties of non language department. Actually, it could be said that there were no differences in using the non standard Indonesian expressions between the students of language faculty and non language faculties.

### **The Occurrence of non standard expression**

Using the numbers indicating the total occurrence of non standard words, the percentage of the occurrence of non standard words in each statuses of the students’ face book is calculated. The total usage of non standard words is 447 words. Seeing the total frequencies of non standard words, the students of language and economics faculties realized almost the same number of words used; 164 words and 163 words. Information technology and technology faculties used 72 words and law faculty used 37 words.

The percentage of non standard words used by the students from language faculty:

$$\frac{N}{n} \times 100 \% = \frac{164}{447} = 36.69 \%$$

The percentage of non standard words used by the students from economics faculty:

$$\frac{N}{n} \times 100 \% = \frac{163}{447} = 36.47 \%$$

The percentage of non standard words used by the students from information technology faculty and technology faculty:

$$\frac{N}{n} \times 100 \% = \frac{72}{447} = 16.11 \%$$

The percentage of non standard words used by the students from law faculty:

$$\frac{N}{n} \times 100 \% = \frac{37}{447} = 8.28 \%$$

Table 3. The Frequencies of the use of non standard Expressions

Lexical categories	Language F.	Economics F.	Information T.F and Technology F	Law F.	Total
Verb	52	42	9	10	113
Noun	32	35	12	5	86
Adjective	11	21	7	-	40
Adverb	28	5	-	-	36
Function Word	41	60	44	22	172
Total	164	163	72	37	447
%	36.69 %	36.47 %	16.11 %	8.28 %	100 %

From the percentage, it can be concluded that the students in language faculty and economics faculty used more non standard Indonesian expressions that is Javanese compared with the other faculties. The students of language and economics faculties used 36.69 % and 36.47 % non standard expressions from the total words in sentences/statuses they made during their communication in their face book. While the students of information technology, law and technology faculties produced fewer words in their statuses when they communicate in face book. Information Technology and Technology faculties used non standard expression 16.11 % while law faculty used 8.28 %.

## CONCLUSION

1. The result shows that the non standard expressions are mostly used by all the students in Stikubank University in their communication with each other in face book. It is also found out that they mix their standard Indonesian language with the non standard

varieties of Indonesian vernacular that is Javanese. In some cases, the coach switching also occurs that is English expressions.

2. The students realize the usage of lexical words of non standard expressions such as verb, noun, adjective, adverb and function word which are comprised in their statuses in words, phrases or sentences.
3. Based on the frequency counted on the occurrences of the statuses having non standard expressions used by the students, it was revealed that the language students and economics students used more non standard expressions than the other three non language students.

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