Semantic Analysis of Hyponymy in the Short Story "The Voyage"

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Abstract

The research was aimed at discovering the most dominant type of hyponymy category and the least dominant type of hyponymy in short story of The Voyage published by the Penguin Book of English Short Stories written by Christopher Dolley. The nature of this research is descriptive qualitative. The data was analyzed by analyzing the content and subsequently investigating types of hyponymy and classifying the categories of hyponymy. It was discovered that there are 22 types of hyponymy in the short story of the Voyage. Those hyponymy are Number, Animal, Bird, Color, Food, Sex, Male, Women, Room, Clothes, Feather, Finger, Drink, Fruit, Occupation, Size, Distance, sense, Age, Part of body, Appearance. Based on the objective of the research that is to find out the dominant type of hyponymy category and the least dominant type of hyponymy category, it was revealed that the most dominant type of hyponymy is "part of body" with a total of 14 words and the least dominant type of hyponymy category are "bird, sex, drink, fruit, occupation" with a total of 2 words in each category. The research concluded that for EFL learners, it is best to remember words through hyponymy. In so doing, students can enrich their vocabulary and can write and speak in English confidently.

Keywords: Semantic analysis, hyponymy, short story.

1. Introduction:

1.1. Background of the Study

Communication is an indispensable element in life. Hence, every single human being is required to establish communication with one another in order to reach the goal of a dynamic society. Communication can be delivered orally, in written, and by gestures. Oral communication is represented by languages as inherited by the ancestors. Languages are comprised of some unique words which are sometimes confusing to non-

native speakers of it. Different languages have different structures and grammar as well as context. . Language is systematic means of communicating ideas or feelings by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meaning. Cruse (1986: 3) stated that" Language is a vehicle for communication between people ". Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for communication of humans. This means that language plays pivotal role in a society and has an impact of the society itself. One introduced method of acquiring a certain language is through the process of memorizing list of vocabularies under one specific category. This is called as hyponymy. Through hyponymy, a language learner has the ease of mastering a group of words which will eventually lead to the success in speaking the language.

1.2 Research Questions:
1) Which category of hyponymy is dominantly found in the short story of the voyage?
2) Which category of hyponymy is least dominantly found in the short story of of the voyage?

1.3 Objectives of Study
1. To find out the dominant category of hyponymy in short story of the voyage.
2. To find out the least dominant category of hyponymy in short story of the voyage.

1.4 Significance of Study
The finding will help students of English to know more about hyponymy and the types of hyponymy category so that they can use the range of vocabulary in written on in spoken. The finding of this research is also expected to be benefitial for an English teacher in teaching structure and vocabulary so that beginner language learners might improve in their language learning. This study will useful to solve the problem faced in learning and teaching structure, for the teacher, students, and readers. Theory related to hyponymy and semantic analysis is described in the following section.

2. Literature Review
2.1 Definition of Hyponomy
A hyponym (from Greek hupó, "under" and ónoma, "name") is defined as a word or phrase whose semantic field is included within that of another word, its hyperonym or hypernym (from Greek hupér, "over" and ónoma, "name"). In simpler terms, a hyponym shares a type-

of relationship with its hypernym. For example, pigeon, crow, eagle and seagull are all hyponyms of bird (their hyperonym); which, in turn, is a hyponym of animal. ("Hyponymy and hypernymy,". (n.d.)

In linguistics and lexicography, hyponym is a term used to designate a particular member of a broader class. For instance, daisy and rose are hyponyms of flower also called a subtype or a subordinate term and its adjective is hyponymic. (Nordquist, 2017)

Words that are hyponyms of the same broader term (that is, a hypernym) are called co-hyponyms. The semantic relationship between each of the more specific words (such as daisy and rose) and the broader term (flower) is called hyponymy or inclusion. (Nordquist, 2017)

Hyponymy is not restricted to nouns. The verb to see, for example, has several hyponyms—glimpse, stare, gaze, ogle, and so on. Edward Finnegan points out that although "hyponymy is found in all languages, the concepts that have words in hyponymic relationships vary from one language to the next" (Finegan, 2008).

Hyponymy is a less familiar term to most people than either synonymy or antonymy, but it refers to a much more important sense relation. It describes what happens when we say 'An X is a kind of Y'--A daffodil is a kind of flower, or simply, A daffodil is a flower." (Crystal, 2003). While Rowe and Levine (2016) state that "Hyponyms are more specific words that constitute a subclass of a more general word."

Semantics

Crystal (1997: 100) defines semantics as "the study of meaning in language". In the past, meaning was dealt with as a concept on its own right. In modern linguistics, however, new ways of exploring meanings emerged. Lyons (1977: 201) adopts a similar definition for semantics. In fact, what linguists disagree upon is not the definition but the interpretation of the term "meaning". Linguists view semantics in a wide range of considerations. Different techniques are followed to free the point of the interpretation of 'meaning' from controversy. Lyons (1977: 202) approves the technique of substitution; a word is alternated with an equivalent. The meanings of the two sentences are then tested i.e. whether they manifest the same interpretation or not.

Semantic analysis

In linguistics, semantic analysis is the process of relating syntactic structures, from the levels of phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraphs to the level of the writing as a whole, to their language-independent meanings. It also involves removing features specific to particular linguistic and cultural

contexts, to the extent that such a project is possible. The elements of idiom and figurative speech, being cultural, are often also converted into relatively invariant meanings in semantic analysis. ("Semantic analysis", nd). Semantics, although related to pragmatics, is distinct in that the former deals with word or sentence choice in any given context, while pragmatics considers the unique or particular meaning derived from context or tone. To reiterate in different terms, semantics is about universally coded meaning, and pragmatics the meaning encoded in words that is then interpreted by an audience. (Cliff, 2013).

Semantic analysis can begin with the relationship between individual words. This requires an understanding of lexical hierarchy, including hyponymy and hypernymy, meronomy, polysemy, synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms. (Manning and Scheutze, 1999). It also relates to concepts like connotation (semiotics) and collocation, which is the particular combination of words that can be or frequently are surrounding a single word. This can include idioms, metaphor, and simile, like, "white as a ghost."

With the availability of enough material to analyze, semantic analysis can be used to catalog and trace the style of writing of specific authors. (Antonio and Javier, 2012).

Previous Studies

In This sub section, some studies related to words group etc are discussed in order to find relevant research methods and findings and to compare the results. A study conducted by Rahman and Mirahayuni entitled "verbs of survival" in suzanne collins's the hunger games" discovered that semantic relations with the keyword survival that are found in Suzanne Collins"s The Hunger Games. The semantic relation types that are examined in the study are hyponymy, synonymy, antonymy and collocation. The findings of the study include: (1) thirty-four (34) data indicating hyponymy relations with the topic „survive' that are found in the novel. This paper adopted his research method in terms of data collection.

Another study conducted by Elhaj and Gawi (2015) entitled "Developing saudi students' lexical items through using synonymy and hyponymy-a case study of taif university students". Their study discovered that the meaning of the English lexical items is a difficulty that poses a problem in the teaching process. The use of synonyms and hyponyms in particular and sense relation in general facilitates recalling the meaning of English words. Saudi EFL learners find difficulty in learning the meaning of the English lexical items. Saudi EFL learners learn the meaning of English words quickly when words associations are used in presenting the meaning of the words. Saudi EFL learners easily recall words that have been introduced accompanied with their synonyms and / or hyponyms. Learning/teaching the

meaning of lexical items in lists is time consuming and less profitable. Using sense relations in the exercises and drills is helpful and beneficial for EFL teachers and learners respectively.

Research Methods

The nature of this research is descriptive qualitative. The object of the research is the short story of the Voyage written by Christopher Dolley.

Data Collection Method

The data are comprised of words or phrases that belong to certain group word category. The researcher scrutinize the short story book in order to find words or phrases that fall under certain type of hyponymy.

Data Analysis Method

The data are analyzed by classifying the category of each word groups and then they are tabulated according to each classification. Upon classifying each category, the total words or phrases on each category coloumn are then calculated in total so as to get the number of the dominant hyponymy category and the least dominant category of hyponymy.

Findings and Discussions

Upon identifying the data, the researcher analyzed the categories of hyponymy found in the short story of the Voyage and discovered that there are 22 types of hyponymy category in the book of the Voyages. These include Transportation, Number, Animal, Bird, Color, Food, Sex, Male, Women, Room, Clothes, Feather, Finger, Drink, Fruit, Occupation, Size, Distance, sense, Age, Part of body, Appearance.

Table 1. List of hyponymy category and its definition

Word	Definition in Longman Active Study Dictionary
Transportation	1) a system or method for carrying passengers or goods from one place to another, 2) when people, goods etc are moved from one place to another.
Number	a word or sign that shows an amount or quantity
Animal	any living creature, like a cow or dog, that is not a bird, insect, fish, or person, 2) any living creature that can move around.
Bird	an animal with wings and feathers that can usually fly.
Color	the quality of having colour.
Food	things that you eat
Sex	whether someone is male of female
Male	belonging to sex that cannot have babies
Women	an adult female person

Room	a space in a building that is separated from the rest by walls and a door
Clothes	things such as shirts, skirts, or trousers that people wear
Feather	one of the light soft things that cover a bird's body
Finger	one of the four long thin parts on your hand, not including your thumb.
Drink	liquid that people drink
Fruit	something such as an apple or orange, which grows on a plant, tree, or brush, and contains seeds
Occupation	a job or profession
Size	how big or small something is, a measurement for clothes, shoes, etc
Distance	the amount space between two places or things
Sense	one of the five physical abilities of sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.
Age	the number of years someone or something has existed.
body	physical structure of a person or animal.
Appearance	The way that someone or something looks or seems

Based on the above definitions, we then can classify the words that belong to each hyponymy category as listed above.

Table 1. The List of Hyponymy and its words in the short story of the Voyage

No	Category of Hyponymy	Words	Total
1	Transportation	Boat, Cab, Truck, Ship, Cart	5
2	Number	Eleven, One, Three, Two	4
3	Animal	Crane, Cattle, Horse, Cat, Camel, Bird, Gull	8
4	Bird	Crane, Gull	2
5	Color	Black, White, Green, Blue, Brown, Grey, Pink	7
6	Food	Mushroom, Sausage, Ham, Sandwich, Biscuit, Jelly	6
7	Sex	Men, Women	2
8	Male	Father, Boy, Grandpa	3
9	Women	Grandma, Mother, Granddaughter	3
10	Room	Cabins, Lounge, Sitting room, House, Saloon	5
11	Clothes	Coat, Skirt, Blouse, Crape, Bodice, Dressing-gown, Jersey	7
12	Feather	Eyebrow, Hair, Beard, Wool, Moustache, Fur	6
13	Finger	Ring finger, Toes, hooves	3
14	Drink	Ice, Tea	2
15	Fruit	Wine, Banana	2

16	Occupation	Sailor, Stewardess	2
17	Size	Small, Little, Wide, Large, Long, High, Short	7
18	Distance	Near, Far	2
19	Five sense	Nose, Eyes	2
20	Age	Baby, Child, Old	3
21	Part of body	Arm, Leg, Finger, Cheek, Shoulder, Lips, Face, Hand, Nose, Eyebrow, Eyes, Foot, Chin, Neck	14
22	Appearance	Beautiful, Sweet	2
Total			97

In order to distinctively spot the dominant and the least dominant type of hyponymy category found in the short story of the voyage, the following figure illustrates the accumulation of the whole data:
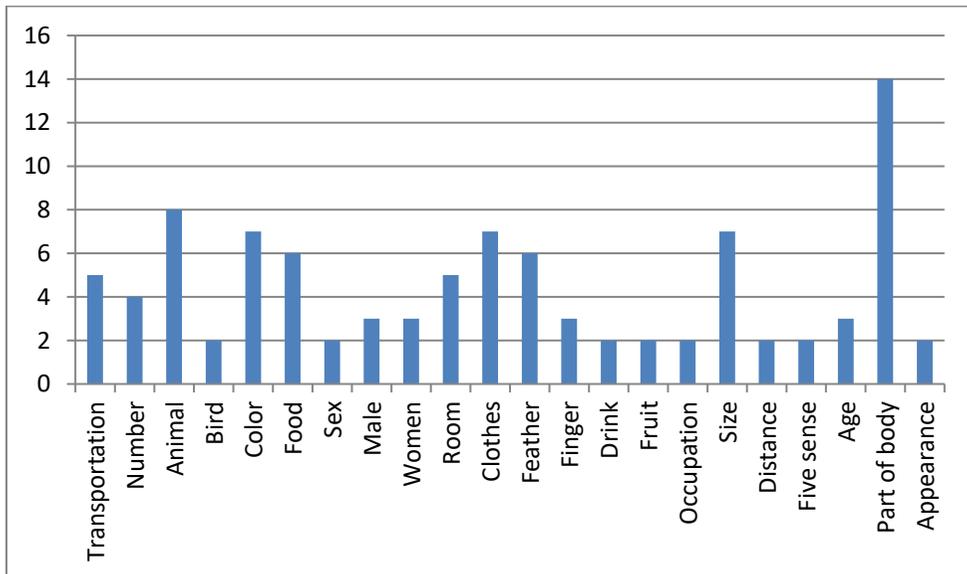

Figure 1. Recapitulation of hyponymy category

As can be seen, the hyponymy category of "parts of body" is dominantly found in the short story of the Voyage. Whereas the least dominant hyponymy category found is bird, sex, ordinal number, drink, fruit, occupation, gesture, distant, senses and looks.

Presented below are some example sentences extracted from the shot story of the Voyage,

1. Type of hyponymy : transportation
Example Sentence:

- The Picton boat was due to leave at half past eleven
- When they got out of the cab

According to Merriam Webster dictionary, a boat is defined as a small vessel for travel on water. Vessel is here synonymous to transport. While, cab is synonymous TAXICAB, which is without a doubt it a kind of a transportation. Hence, these two words are classified as transportation hyponymy.

2. Type of hyponymy : Animal
Example Sentence:
- The cranes standing up so high
- and a cart with a small drooping horse

According to Merriam Webster dictionary, a crane is any of a family (Gruidae of the order Gruiformes) of tall wading birds superficially resembling the herons but structurally more nearly related to the rails. Horse in the meantime is a large solid-hoofed herbivorous ungulate mammal (Equus caballus, family Equidae, the horse family) domesticated since prehistoric times and used as a beast of burden, a draft animal, or for riding. Birds and mammals as described in the definitions are two istinct characters of an animal. Therefore, these two words are classified as animal hyponymy.

3. Type of hyponymy: Clothes
Example Sentences:
- put on her flannel dressing-gown grandma was quite ready
- an old sailor in a jersey standing by gave her his dry

According to Merriam Webster dictionary, a dressing-gown is a robe worn especially while dressing or resting. While, a jersey is any of various close-fitting usually circular-knitted garments especially for the upper body. The word worn and the word close-fitting in the explanation mentioned are the characters of clothes. Hence, these words "dressing-gown" and "jersey" are classified as clothes hyponymy.

4. Type of hyponymy : Occupation
Example Sentence:
- and an old sailor in a jersey standing by gave her his dry
- Such a very nice stewardess came to meet them

According to Merriam Webster dictionary, a sailor is a traveler by water. While, a stewardess is a woman who performs the duties of a steward; *especially* **:** one who attends passengers (as on an airplane). The words "sailor" and "stewardess" are both types of occupation. Therefore, these two words are categorized as occupation hyponymy.

5. Type of hyponymy : Women
Example Sentences:
- Beside him her <u>grandma</u> bustled a long in her crackling black
- - your little <u>granddaughter's</u> in such a beautiful sleep
These two words are clear-cut in definition.

6. Type of hyponymy: Part of body
Example Sentences:
- only his little black <u>arms</u>
- She unclasped her <u>hand</u>

7. Type of hyponymy: Room
Example Sentences:
- and along a passage that had <u>cabins</u> on either side
- She pushed Fenella gently into a small dusky <u>sitting room</u>
        According to Merriam Webster dictionary, a cabin is a private room on a ship or boat and a compartment below deck on a boat used for living accommodation. While, a sitting room is synonomous to living room. Hence, these two words are classified as room hyponymy.

8. Type of hyponymy : Appearance
Example Sentences:
- it was a <u>beautiful</u> night
- but their <u>sweet</u> smell was part of the cold morning
        Both the words beautiful and sweet clearly indicates the state of quality of someone of something. Thus, these two words are classified as appearance hyponymy.

9. Type of hyponymy : Distance
Example Sentences:
-        am I <u>near</u> to ladder?
-        she could see <u>far</u> off some rocks
1.   The words "far" and "near" are obvious to have the meanings of a distance. Thus, These two words belong to distance hyponymy.

10. Type of hyponymy : Appearance
Example Sentences:
- your little <u>granddaughter's</u> in such a beautiful sleep
- but their <u>sweet</u> smell was part of the cold morning
        The above examples show how similar one word to another in terms of its hyponymy. However, they are used differently depending on the context

of the sentences.

4. Conclusions And Suggestions
4.1. Conclusions

Based on the findings, it is concluded that in the short story of the voyage, there are 22 types of hyponymy category. The most dominant type of hyponymy category is the "Parts of body" with 14 words under the headings, followed by "animal", while the least dominant type of hyponymy category which is 2 words in each category are "Bird, sex, drink, fruit, occupation,

This study supports the research done by Elhaj and Gawi (2015) that for EFL learners, it is best to remember words through hyponymy. In so doing, students can enrich their vocabulary and can write and speak in English confidently.

4.2. Recommendation for further research

Further research can be done on different data source such as novels, magazines, newspapers, etc so as to enrich the findings and thus create a collection of word category that belong to a certain word group. Corpus linguistics is suggested to be studied in the future to collect data on the words that are hyponymous.

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