

# The Meaning of Words in the Building Structures Field: A Case Study of Comparing Conceptual Meanings with Lexical Meanings

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**Abstract:** This research aims to identify by exposing differences in meaning in words/terms used in the field of civil engineering, especially in building structures field, between existing meanings according to civil engineering field and in general meaning words (based on KBBI). The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. This research was preceded by a literature study to obtain research data. The data source of research is a list of words / terms in in SNI 032847 reinforced concrete, SNI 1729 steel, SNI 1726 earthquake, and SNI 1727 loading. Each word / term on SNI is equipped by its meaning based on the meaning in the civil engineering field. The outcomes of this study, obtained several terms in the field of building structures that have conceptual meaning and lexical meaning, such as base words tendon, diafragma, partisi, and suffixes words like, tulangan, kebakaran, sambungan. The conceptual meaning of these terms has more specific meaning towards the subject of building structure than its lexical meaning. Yet, both conceptual meaning and lexical meaning have similarities to the concepts it is used for. Thus, it can be noted that the use of vocabulary /term in a field has a special meaning according to the field, initially refers to a common concept first before being interpreted in a more particular field.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The language that continues to develop will continue to live on. A living language is a dynamic language (Afjalurrahmansyah, 2018). Dynamic means to practice changes according to times development. The evolution of today's times follows the development of science as well as technology in all areas of life. The language used today will always adapt in line with the life development and human needs as a speaker (Afjalurrahmansyah, 2018).

Indonesian language is able to adapt and according to the needs of language speakers. Indonesian language is dynamic. The vocabularies in Indonesian language is always growing and increasing. The vocabularies have the diferente meaning on each field. Use of vocabulary on certain fields have different meaning lexically. However, the conceptual meaning still refers to a similar concept.

The building structure field is a branch of civil engineering expertise. That is the oldest field of civil engineering. The things of building structure is among others, such as, pembebanan 'loading', beton

bertulang 'reinforced concrete', gempa 'earthquake', and baja 'steel'. All of it is arranged by Badan Standarisasi Nasional (BSN) 'National Standardization Agency'. BSN had made Indonesian National Standard (Standar Nasional Indonesia (SNI)) containing list of the terms and meaning based on field of civil engineering.

Explained meanings on SNI is conceptual meaning. Conceptual meaning on SNI is different with lexical meaning on KBBI. Therefore, formulation of the problem on this research: (1) How is the difference between conceptual meaning and lexical meaning (based on KBBI) of words on the structures building field of civil engineering? (2) What is conceptual meaning and lexical meaning (based on KBBI) of the words on the structures building field of civil engineering refers to same concept? Then, the aims of this research are identifying conceptual meaning and lexical meaning of the same words on SNI.

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## 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Word was language unit having a meaning; or word was row of alphabets between two spaces having a meaning (Chaer, 1994). A word had a concept. Along with development of science and technology, concept on a word can refer to more meanings. Meaning has connection between form and thing (what it refers to) (Soedjito, 1988). As previously explained, a word has meaning, is a relation between word and meaning also connected with a concept it refers to that meaning. Meaning on the word can be seen from point of view or some criterias so that the meanings are different with some type of meanings, such as lexical meaning and grammatical meaning, denotative meaning and connotative meaning, conceptual meaning and assosiative meaning, idiom and proverb (Chaer, 2009). Focus of this research is conceptual meaning.

Conceptual meaning on this research refers to meaning of the word on terms in Indonesian National Standard (SNI) of building structure field.

Conceptual meaning is meaning refers to referent (Chaer, 2009). Therefore, conceptual meaning is meaning on the word having not connected with other words. Conceptual meaning same as referential meaning, lexical meaning, and denotative meaning. As example, *sawah* word has meaning 'field'. Nevertheless, this research will explain conceptual meaning on the same word, but can be interpreted as conceptual meaning on civil engineering field and general meaning of the word (based on lexical meaning of KBBI).

## 3 METHODS

This research used qualitative descriptive method. The result of this research will describe the data. Qualitative method using in this research was supported with the other of methods and techniques for collecting and analyzing the data. The process of collecting data was done using the literature review. The data source of research is a list of words / terms in in SNI 032847 reinforced concrete, SNI 1729 steel, SNI 1726 earthquake, and SNI 1727 loading. Each word/term on SNI is equipped by its meaning based on the meaning in the civil engineering field.

Authors were scrutinizing and taking note for collecting the data. The authors were scrutinizing all words/ terms on SNI and then continues with taking notes. The data using in this research are words having conceptual meaning. Then, the authors were

analyzing the data. The data were analyzed with the referential equivalent technique.

The referential equivalent technique is using for finding the rule step of the data analyzing with its determinant tools outside and apart of the language (langue) concerned (Sudaryanto, 1993). This method was used for analyzing the meaning of words in SNI concerned with the structures of building so that its conceptual meaning can be known. After its meaning had been known, the authors also checked its words on KBBI so that lexical meaning of the word could be known. After that, the authors compared the two meanings, the conceptual and lexical meaning. Finally, the authors conclude the result of comparing these meanings.

## 4 ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Words/Terms in the Field of Building Structures That Have Conceptual Meaning and Lexical Meaning

The words/terms used in the field of building structures contain conceptual meanings. Conceptual meaning, which is the meaning possessed by a word/term that is independent of any context or association. Actually, the conceptual meaning is the same as the lexical meaning. However, in this study, the term lexical meaning is used to refer to the meaning of words / terms that are in accordance with meanings outside the field of building structures. Therefore, the lexical meaning is more precise on the results of the meaning based on the KBBI.

This study will only describe the results of comparing word meanings, namely the conceptual meaning according to the meaning contained in SNI with its lexical meaning in KBBI. The comparing word meaning is carried out on the words tendon 'tendon', diafragma 'diaphragm', tulangan 'reinforcement', partisi 'partition', kebakaran 'wildfire', and sambungan 'connection'. The six words were chosen as research data because they have different meanings between the meaning in SNI and the meaning in KBBI.

The words, tendon 'tendon', diafragma 'diaphragm', tulangan 'reinforcement', partisi 'partition', kebakaran 'wildfire', and sambungan 'connection' already have a conceptual meaning in the field of civil engineering, but in general these words also have a lexical meaning (according to KBBI) which is different from the conceptual meaning in the field of building structures. The

difference between the conceptual meaning in the field of building structure and the lexical meaning in KBBI in these words is explained as follows.

#### **Data 1: Tendon**

The word tendon 'tendon' is a part of noun category. The tendon has a conceptual meaning and a lexical meaning. Tendon is a concrete noun. According to SNI 032847 regarding reinforced concrete, a tendon is a steel element such as steel wire, cable rod, strand wire or a bundle of these elements which is used to provide a prestress force to the concrete. The lexical meaning contained in KBBI (2016), tendons are hard veins that connect muscles to bones.

The meaning of tendon which is taken from SNI 032847 is in the word wire. In KBBI (2016), wire is a rope made of metal. The lexical meaning of the word tendon in KBBI (2016) is contained in the word veins. Vein means the part of the body that resembles a thread or rope. So, the word tendon in the term of building structure with tendon in the lexical meaning has a conceptual meaning that is related through the word rope.

#### **Data 2: Diafragma**

The word diafragma 'diaphragm' is a part of noun category. The diaphragm is a concrete noun. In the field of civil engineering building structures through SNI 1727 concerning loading, the word diaphragm means roof, floor, membrane or bracing system which functions to transmit lateral forces to vertical retaining elements. The lexical meaning taken from KBBI (2016), diaphragm is a noun which means a partition between the chest cavity and the abdominal cavity (on the body).

The meaning of the word diaphragm contained in SNI 1727 concerning loading, is found in the word membrane. A membrane is thin skin, or thin sheet of material that is a separator. The lexical meaning of the word diaphragm in KBBI (2016) is contained in the word bulkhead. A partition is something like a wall, blinds, etc. to limit or separate the space (into checkers). When the meaning is examined more deeply, the word diaphragm has a conceptual meaning that is related through the same root word, namely separation in the word divider and separating in the word membrane. So, the word diaphragm has a conceptual meaning through the words, bulkhead and membrane.

#### **Data 3: Tulangan**

The word tulangan 'reinforcement' is a concrete noun in the structure of a building. According to SNI 032847 regarding reinforced concrete, reinforcement means steel rods in plain form or in the form of threads or in the form of pipes which function to withstand the tensile forces on the components of a concrete structure, excluding prestressed tendons, unless specifically included. The lexical meaning in KBBI (2016), reinforcement has the root word bone which means skeleton or part of the human or animal body.

From SNI 032847, the meaning of the word reinforcement is in the word stem. Trunk means bicycle frame except wheels. The word stem means frame. In the lexical meaning, the word reinforcement, which has the root word bone, means frame. Thus, the word reinforcement in the term of building structure with a lexical meaning has a conceptual meaning that is related through the word framework.

#### **Data 4: Partisi**

The word partisi 'partition' is a part of noun category. Partition is a concrete noun. According to SNI 1726 regarding earthquakes, partition means a non-structural interior wall that stretches horizontally and vertically from one pedestal to another. The lexical meaning in KBBI (2016), partition has a dividing wall; bulkhead.

According to SNI 1726, the meaning of the word partition is in the word wall. In the lexical meaning, the word partition means the word wall. So, the word partition in the term of a building structure with a lexical meaning has a conceptual meaning related to the word wall.

#### **Data 5: Kebakaran**

The word kebakaran 'wildfire' has the basic form of burn from the verb category, which means to scorch (ignite/destroy) with fire (KBBI). Fire gets into a concrete noun. According to SNI 1729 regarding steel, fire is combustion which is destructive in nature, as indicated by one or all of the following: light, flames, heat or smoke. The lexical meaning of the word concrete contained in KBBI (2016), fire is fire coverage (about burning houses and so on); danger of fire.

The meaning of the word fire which is taken from SNI 1729 is found in the basic word burn through the words burning and fire. The lexical meaning of the word fire in the KBBI is found in the root word burn

from the words fire and burning and fire. So, the word fire in the term of the building structure with fire in the lexical meaning has a conceptual meaning related to the word burning with wildfire and burned and the word fire.

#### **Data 6: Sambungan**

The word sambungan 'connection' is a part of noun category. Connection is a concrete noun. In the field of civil engineering building structures through SNI 1729 on steel, the word connection has a meaning between two structural elements which are joined at their ends to form a single, longer element.

The lexical meaning taken from KBBI (2016), connection is a noun which means additional to elongate. The meaning of the connection contained in SNI 1729 regarding steel is in the long word. The lexical meaning of the connection in KBBI is found in the verb to elongate. The word lengthen has a long root. So, the word connection has conceptual meaning through long and elongate words.

#### **4.2 The Same Concept Result of Comparing between Conceptual Meanings and Lexical Meanings**

Based on the discussion of the six data above, namely the words tendon 'tendon', diafragma 'diaphragm', tulangan 'reinforcement', partisi 'partition', kebakaran 'wildfire', and sambungan 'connection', it can be seen that the conceptual meaning of each term is based on the meaning in the field of building structure refers to the same concept as word meaning based on lexical meaning in KBBI.

The word tendon 'tendon' in the field of building structure refers to the concept of wire, whereas in KBBI it refers to the concept of veins, although wire and vein are two different things, wire and vein still have the same function, namely to strengthen the structure. Furthermore, there is also the word diafragma 'diaphragm', the word diaphragm in the field of building structure refers to the word membrane, while in KBBI it refers to the word barrier, between membrane and bulkhead also has a relationship in meaning, namely this membrane functions as a barrier. Then, there is the word partisi 'partition', the word partition in the field of building structure referring to the concept of a wall. The concept of this wall is referred to by the conceptual and lexical meaning of the word partition.

The word tulangan 'reinforcement' in the field of building structure refers to the concept of rods, while in KBBI it refers to the concept of a frame. Both the trunk

and the frame, in fact, both have similar functions, namely they are both used as supports. Then, the word kebakaran 'wildfire' in the field of building structure refers to the concept of damage due to fire, this concept is used both in the field of structure and in the lexical meaning in KBBI.

Likewise, with the word sambungan 'connection', the word connection in the field of building structure refers to the concept of uniting two elements. This concept is also the same as the lexical meaning in KBBI, namely the concept of uniting, adding, or making length.

Based on the explanation above, it can be seen that the words used in the field of building structures-civil engineering, even though the conceptual meaning corresponds to the field show differences, after further analysis it turns out that the meaning of the words contained therein refers to the same concept as lexical meaning based on KBBI. So, based on the results of this analysis it can be seen that the use of terms/words in the field of building structures, in particular, words/terms tendon, diaphragm, reinforcement, partition, wildfire, and connection, are words that have conceptual meanings based on their fields with still refers to the same concept with its lexical meaning (meaning that can be understood by public). It's just that, the conceptual meaning in accordance with the field makes it clearer the meaning of the words contained in each of the terms in accordance with their function in the field of civil engineering, in particular, regarding building structures.

## **5 CONCLUSION**

Words or terms found in the field of civil-engineering structures that contain conceptual meanings in this study include basic words, such as tendon 'tendon', diafragma 'diaphragm', tulangan 'reinforcement', partisi 'partition', kebakaran 'wildfire', and sambungan 'connection'. These terms contain conceptual meanings based on the field of civil engineering building structures as well as lexical meanings based on KBBI. Lexical meanings based on KBBI in these terms are more common, while conceptual meanings based on the meaning according to the subject of building structure are more specific to the field of building structure. Even so, the concept referred to in conceptual meaning based on the field of structure of the building refers to the same concepts as the meaning contained in the lexical meaning based on KBBI, only the concept of conceptual meaning is more specific towards the field of building

structure. Thus, it can be concluded that the use of words or terms in a field held special meaning according to the field, initially refers to a common concept before being interpreted into a more particular field.

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