THE ANALYSIS OF SYNONYM RELATION MEANING IN KERINCI LANGUAGE: A SEMANTIC STUDY

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Article Info	Abstract
	Synonyms are lexical variants that refer to the same meaning in expressing something in word form. In other cases, synonyms are lexical aspects that support cohesion in discourse which functions as a link between one lingual unit and another. This research explains the analysis of synonym meaning relation in Kerinci language through semantic study. The purpose of this research is to reveal the form of synonym meaning relation in its distribution in Kerinci area. The method used is qualitative, data obtained from oral and written sources, data collection is done by interview, and data analysis is done by semantic lexical technique. The results showed that 94 data concepts (lemma) produced 6-word classes, and 300 synonym data. The six-word classes are noun, verb, adjective, adverb, numeral, and pronoun. From the 300-synonym data, 82 data were found to belong to the TC category, 50 nTC, 138 TnC, and 30 nTnC. Geographically, it was found that the distribution of synonym data in KU was 190 data, 16 KT, 28 KM, and 66 KH. In general, Kerinci language synonyms are categorized as lexical relations because although they can be understood by Kerinci people in speech, they are also basically a form of lexical distribution that refers to vocabulary variants with similar meanings. This happens because of several factors, such as time factor, place/region factor, social factor, nuance factor of meaning. The results of the research are used as a reference and comparison. This research was conducted to reveal the diversity of lexical forms that refer to the same meaning. In other words, identifying the meaning contained in these lexical variants from the point of view of synonyms in semantic studies.

INTRODUCTION

The tool in everyday life which of course cannot be removed in the speaking communities is the local language. Without realizing it, every member of society in a place that has a certain regional language has a sense of need for the language which functions as a medium of communication in society (Altarriba & Basnight-Brown, 2022; Indriati, 2015; Saddhono & Kasim, 2016) . In addition, the local language is also a marker of identity and identity of the speakers wrapped in the frame of local wisdom and treasures of values and manners in establishing social life (Kardana et al., 2022; Rehayati et al., 2023; Simanjuntak et al., 2022).

In Indonesia, local languages are legally protected by the State. Law of the Republic of Indonesia number 24 of 2009 concerning flags, languages, and state symbols, article 42 paragraph (1) which reads "Local governments are obliged to develop, foster, and protect local languages and literature so that they continue to fulfil their position and function in social life in accordance with the times and so that they remain part of Indonesia's cultural wealth."(Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa, 2011). The law is the foundation of policy and the basis for efforts to protect, preserve, and develop regional languages and literature as assets of the nation's cultural wealth.

One way to revitalize local languages is by conducting studies and research. Local language research needs to be done, so that its role and function can be maintained (Fatria et al., 2023; Izar & Afria, 2020; Permatasari et al., 2019). Local language research is a form of preservation, development, and documentation to be saved and avoid extinction, although extinction itself is inevitable, but with documentation - local languages will still exist and be recognized.

The variety of regional languages owned by the Indonesian nation is 719 regional languages (Lewis et al., 2016). The language is spread in various parts of the archipelago used by its speakers. In Jambi province, for example, there are several regional languages (Malay language) that live and are used by the community as a medium of communication and identity characteristics. In line with this, based on research conducted by the Language Agency (2017), seven languages were found in Jambi province. The seven languages are Bajau Tungkal Satu language, Banjar language, Bugis language, Javanese language, Malay language, Kerinci language, and Minangkabau language. However, this is inversely proportional to what was found by (Simons & Fennig, 2018) that there are three languages in Jambi province, namely Kerinci language, Kubu language, and Malay language. From these two views, it can be explained that the results of research by the Language Agency (2017) inventoried languages that exist and are used and the number of speakers is relatively large, and has a settled area, such as ethnic Bajau in Kuala Tungkal, and others. Meanwhile, (Simons & Fennig, 2018) only inventoried indigenous ethnic languages in Jambi province and isolated four other ethnic languages. The results obtained by the language agency and Simon, et al. are temporary research results, but it does not rule out the possibility that there are more languages in Jambi province than that, considering that language studies and research in this area are still limited and have not been fully carried out.

Furthermore, Afria, (2017) states that Malay in Jambi province is one of the regional languages in the central Sumatra region which has various language variations within its geographical coverage. This coverage extends from the upstream area (Kerinci) to the downstream coastal area (Tanjung Jabung Barat). The language is used by each speaker, not only as a medium of communication but also as a marker of ethnicity, customs, and social identity.

Such is the case in Kerinci language, which is one of the unique languages in Jambi province. The uniqueness of this language lies in the characteristics of the dialect used by its speakers. This feature is called divergent phonological characteristic, which is a distinctive phonological feature that is diverse. Not only that, the uniqueness of Kerinci language is also found in the uniqueness of its lexical variants (Ernanda, 2021). The lexical variation can be understood between the speech community. These lexical variations form a common meaning that allows the phenomenon of lexicon diversity in language use (Afria, 2017a, 2019; Harmedianti et al., 2023). Therefore, it is interesting to study the variations in the similarity of lexical meanings that are synonymous in the language. In this regard, semantics is a scientific field that accommodates this. The study of synonymy needs to be done to inventory the distribution of lexical similarities whose meanings tend to be the same scattered in Kerinci district (Ernanda, 2021; Fatria et al., 2023).

The researcher examines one part of semantic studies, namely meaning relations. These meaning relations are synonyms, antonyms, hyponyms, metonymy, polysemy, homonymy, and so on. This research is limited to the concept of synonyms only. This is because the synonym data in Kerinci language is more numerous and unique compared to other meaning relations. This research was conducted with various considerations, such as; inventorying synonyms and describing synonymous meaning relations.

Semantics is the science of meaning. Thus, the study of semantics is meaning, especially the meaning of language. To understand the meaning of language, semantic analysts must understand two layers in language, namely the layers of form and meaning. The form layer is a symbol of language in the form of words or sentences. The layer of meaning is the reference or concepts that are in the human mind to understand the symbol. This layer reflects the material in semantic studies. The form layer is the symbol or symbol in the language and the meaning is the reference or reference and thought or thought in the form mentioned (Dara Mubshirah & Mulyadi, 2023; Kruawong & Phoocharoensil, 2022; Amalia & Anggraeni, 2017).

Synonymy is the relationship between two linguistic forms that have the same or almost the same meaning (D.A. et al., 2021). The similarity can be in the form of words, phrases, or sentences (Hurford, 1986; Parera, 2004; Saeed, 2000). Keraf (1991) categorizes synonyms into four forms, namely; 1) total and complete synonyms, 2) not total but complete synonyms, 3) total but incomplete synonyms, and 4) not total and incomplete synonyms. As an example of the data found in the initial survey of synonyms in Kerinci language, such as the word meaning 'see' can give rise to several variants of synonyms such as tilek, kimak, kelih, tingok, sambang. The four forms of synonyms can be identified by their geographical usage.

The synonym study has been researched by many other researchers. The previous research was presented in three scientific articles as a representative of other articles related to the title of this research. Oktami & Juita, (2018) researched about Indonesian Tasting Synonymy. This research results in that not all "rasa" words in Indonesia have identical pairs. There is only one type of synonymy in the synonymy pair of the word "taste" in Indonesia, which is incomplete and non-absolute synonymy. Third, the syntactic coupling tasting adjective pairs are identical to the shades of meaning in cognitive meaning and a small part of the shades of meaning in emotive meaning. Indonesian synonyms of "taste" that are identical in speech and writing can add color, sharpness, and accuracy to word choice. Haryati, (2020) examined the analysis of adjective meaning relations in Pontianak dialect Malay language. The results of the study obtained 10 synonyms and 10 antonyms of adjectives. Arifin, (2015) with the title of synonymy in Indonesian. The result of the research is synonymy. In addition, similar studies that focus on synonyms such as, Pehala et al., 2023, Luo, 2017, Alrasheed, 2021; D.A. et al., 2021; Huang et al., 2023; Jarunwaraphan & Mallikamas, 2020; Lertcharoenwanich, 2023; Luo, 2017; Shahzadi et al., 2022; Study & Synonyms, 2022; Sumonsriworakun, 2022.

From some of the research above, there are similarities and differences in this research. The basic equation is in some of the theories used, namely semantic synonym theory. While the difference is located in the object of study in the scope of language, namely in Kerinci language. The novelty found is some forms of lexical variants that are synonymous in Kerinci language which have the potential as a reference in the increase of local language vocabulary submitted to the dictionary as well as the richness of Kerinci cultural language treasures.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research focuses on synonyms in the level of semantic studies. The research area was conducted in Kerinci Regency. This research uses qualitative research through descriptive (Creswell, 2014), where, the researcher presents the research data using words, phrases, and sentences. Data in the form of transcripts or interview results, field notes through observation, pictures, recordings, and important notes (Muri, 2014). The data in this research will be obtained through primary and secondary data. Primary data are lexicons that are synonyms of Kerinci language, while secondary data are old records or manuscripts, songs, mantras, and dictionaries.

Data sources were obtained from oral and written sources. The oral sources obtained are living data sources derived from informants at each observation point. The data sources are in the form of oral and written sources in Kerinci language obtained from informants who fit the criteria (Sudaryanto, 2015; Mahsun, 2012). Thus, data will be obtained accurately and efficiently. Data was obtained in several stages, namely; Interview Observation; Record and recording; while interviewing informants, researchers recorded and recorded data information (Mahsun, 2012; Moleong, 2012; Satori & Komariah, 2010).

The analysis used to present the data in this research is lexical semantic data analysis, in which the synonym data that has been obtained in the field is interpreted by connecting synonymous data variants. The steps are to analysis data, such as; a. data was inventoried into a table and juxtaposed with synonyms; b. data is presented using the field of meaning technique; c. The meaning of synonyms will be tested for usage in sentences; d. Data with synonyms are sorted according to the elements of synonyms (TC, nTC, TnC, nTnC); e. Data is labeled according to the findings.

Analysis data represented into the table

No	concept	Word class	Synonym Data	Synonym Classification				Location
				TC	nTC	TnC	nTnC	

Description:
  TC   = Total and complete Synonym
  nTC   = non total and complete Synonym
  TnC   = Total and incomplete Synonym
  nTnC   = non total and incomplete Synonym (Keraf, 1991)
  KU   = Kerinci Generally
  KT   = Middle Kerinci
  KH   = Downstream Kerinci
  KM   = Upstream Kerinci

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
Research Findings
Synonyms are lexical variants that refer to the same meaning in expressing something in word form. In other cases, synonyms are lexical aspects that support cohesion in discourse which functions as a link between one lingual unit and another. From the results of data analysis, 94 data concepts, 6-word classes, and 300 data forms of synonymy were found in Kerinci language. The results are presented in the graph below.
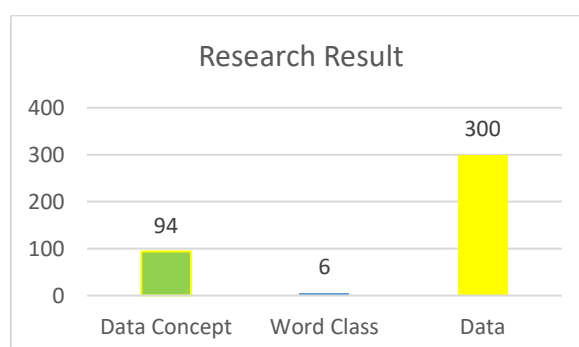

Figure 1. Research Result

The findings of the data analyzed based on the word class of the 300-synonym data resulted in 97 data classified into nouns, 76 verbs, 83 adjectives, 13 adverbs, 29 pronouns, and 3 numerals. The results are presented in the graph below.
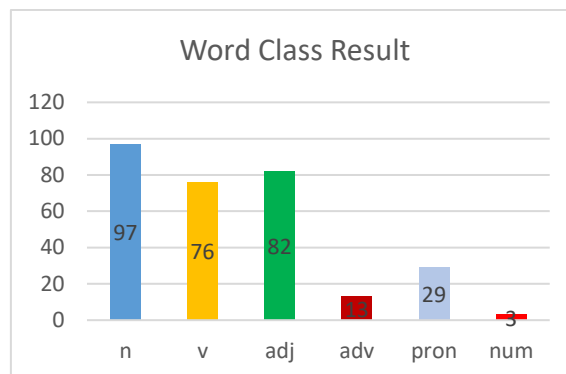

Figure 2. Word Class Result

In the use of synonyms in the geographical distribution usage of Kerinci Language from 300 synonym data identified that 190 data were used in KU, 16 KT, 28 KM, and 66 KH. The results are presented in the graph below.
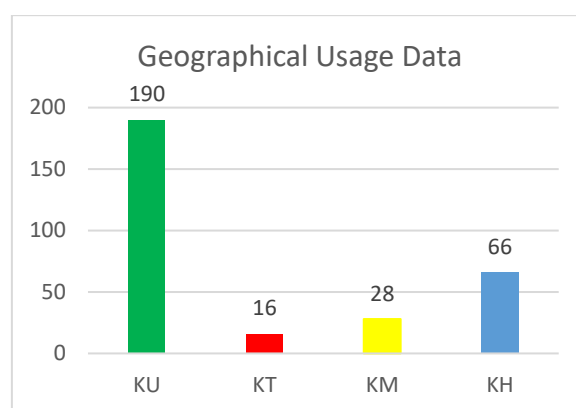

Figure 3. Geographical Usage Data

The field research conducted has yielded significant insights, particularly regarding the distribution of Kerinci language synonyms in various regions within the Kerinci territory. The findings reveal that KU, one of the regions studied, exhibits the highest prevalence of synonymous vocabulary in comparison to other Kerinci regions. This prominence can be attributed to the heightened prevalence of synonymous vocabulary, suggesting that the measure of mutual understanding between Kerinci communities is more prominently expressed through the similarity in meaning of words with synonymous connotations. The comprehensive analysis of the gathered data further enables the classification of Kerinci language synonyms based on distinct categories, as evident in the 300 data samples examined. This categorization delineates the synonym data into specific groups, including 82 instances falling under the category of Total Convergence (TC), 50 under non-Total Convergence (nTC), 138 under Total Non-Convergence (TnC), and 30 under non-Total Non-Convergence (nTnC). The elucidation of these categories serves to provide a nuanced understanding of the distribution and nature of synonyms within the Kerinci language. The graphical representation of these classifications is presented below, offering a visual depiction of the distribution

patterns and shedding further light on the nuanced characteristics of synonymous vocabulary within the Kerinci linguistic context.
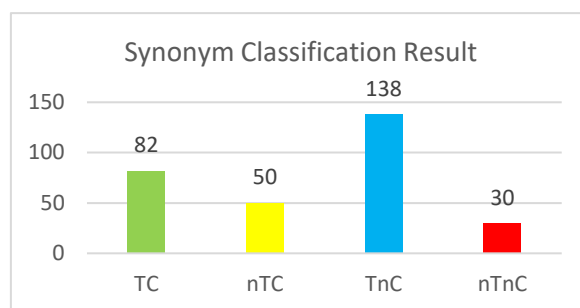

Figure 4. Synonym Classification Result

From the results of the study, some example data and analysis are explained, as follows.

Table 1
Bicara (talk)

No	concept	Word class	Synonym Data	Synonym Classification				Location
				TC	nTC	TnC	nTnC	
1	*bicara (talk)*	v, v, v, v, v, v	*nandai*	✓				KM
			babanco	✓				KT
			purago	✓				KU
			nguta			✓		KH
			ngicek	✓				KH
			cakap	✓				KU

*Saya ingin **bicara** dengannya*
I want to talk with him

*Aku ndak **nandai** dingan nyo* (total-complete)
*Aku ndak **babanco** dingan nyo* (total-complete)
*Aku ndak **purago** dingan nyo* (total-complete)
*Aku ndak **nguta** dingan nyo* (total-incomplete)
*Aku ndak **ngicek** dingan nyo* (total-complete)
*Aku ndak **cakap** dengan nyo* (total-complete)

The word talk has 6 synonym variants in Kerinci language, namely nandai, babanco, purago, nguta, ngicek, and cakap. The variants are classified into total-complete (TC) and total-incomplete (TnC) synonymy relations. The following are described in sentences.

Sentences (a), (b), (c), (e), and (f) above explain that the lexemes *nandai, babanco, purago, ngicek,* and *cakap* are categorized as total-complete synonyms because they can be exchanged in all contexts and have the same emotive and cognitive meanings that refer to the meaning of 'talk'. However, nguta lexemes are only categorized as total-incomplete synonyms because they do not have the same emotive and cognitive meanings. That is, sentences (a), (b), (c), (e), and (f) express the same meaning in the sense that they are only lexical variants with the same meaning, while sentence (d) can be in a position in the same sentence, but the meaning reference has a different sense value.In its geographical distribution, nandai is used in KM, *babanco* KT, *purago* KU, *ngicek* KH, and *cakap* KU**.**

Table 2
Pacar (girl/boy friend)

No	concept	Word class	Synonym Data	Synonym Classification				Location
				TC	nTC	TnC	nTnC	
2	*Pacar (girl/boy friend*	n	*sakire*			✓		KH
		n	*pamudo*	✓				KU
		n	*suson*			✓		KT
		n	*kasih*			✓		KM

*Dia adalah **pacar**ku*
She/he is my girl/boy friend

a. *nyo tuh **sakire** aku* (total-incomplete)
b. *nyo tuh **suson** aku* (total-incomplete)
c. *nyo tuh **kasih** aku* (total-incomplete)
d. *nyo tuh **pamudo** aku* (total-incomplete)

There are four synonym variants for the word *pacar* 'girlfriend'. *These variants are sakire, pamudo, suson, kasih.* The data can be classified into total-complete synonym relation (TC) and total-incomplete synonym relation (TnC). From the sentence above, it can be explained that *Pamudo* is used as a general term in the use of the word 'girlfriend' for both men and women, meaning that it is included in the total-complete classification because the lexemes can be exchanged in all contexts and have the same emotive and cognitive meanings. However, *sakire, suson*, *kasih* are words that only refer to women, meaning that these lexemes are included in the total-incomplete synonym classification because they only fulfil the same emotive and cognitive meaning elements.

Table 3
Renang (swim)

No	concept	Word class	Synonym Data	Synonym Classification				Location
				TC	nTC	TnC	nTnC	
3	*Renang (to swim)*	v	*berenea*	✓				KU
		v	*munaup*	✓				KH

Ayo kita berenang!
Let us swim!

Moh kito berenea! (total-complete)
Moh kito munaup! (total-complete)

Within the semantic realm of the Kerinci language, the term 'swimming' is encapsulated by two synonymous variants, specifically, 'berenea' and 'munaup.' These lexical units exhibit a total-complete (TC) synonymy relationship, as both terms can be interchangeably employed in a given context without altering the inherent meaning. In essence, the words 'berenea' and 'munaup' stand as linguistic equivalents, permitting a seamless substitution of one for the other within the structure of a sentence. This synonymy relation extends beyond mere interchangeability, as both terms not only occupy the same syntactic positions but also convey identical emotive and cognitive nuances, encapsulating the comprehensive meaning associated with the act of 'swimming.' The manifestation of this

synonymy relation exemplifies the linguistic richness and intricacies inherent in the Kerinci language, wherein synonymous vocabulary not only facilitates communicative flexibility but also encompasses a shared emotive and cognitive semantic domain.

Discussion

From the data that has been found, it is evident that in the Kerinci language there are often different forms of words (word variants) that lead to the expression of the same meaning. However, the unique variant of the word can be understood by the Kerinci community in general (Wulandari & Bahar, 2022). This means that synonyms in Kerinci language can be categorised as lexical relations because although they can be understood by Kerinci people in speech, but basically also as a form of lexical distribution that refers to vocabulary variants with similar meanings (Fatria et al., 2023).

As we know that Semantics is agreed to be a term used in the field of linguistics that studies linguistic signs and the things they signify. Semantics is referred to as a field of linguistics that studies the relationship between linguistic signs and the things they signify. In other words, semantics is a field of study in linguistics that studies the meanings contained in language units. Thus, semantics can clearly be said to be the study of meaning. Chaer's asserts that semantics has the same position as phonology, grammar, and syntax in one linguistic study (Chaer, 2009). More than that, semantics not only studies the meaning of language, but also the relationship of one meaning to another, and its influence on people and society. Therefore, semantics covers the meanings of words, their development and change (Tarigan, 2009). Based on this statement, semantics does not only study meaning, but the development and change of meaning over time.

Semantics, a foundational aspect of linguistic inquiry, assumes a paramount role in shaping the multifaceted landscape of language (Popov et al., 2020; Sukaton, 2019; Turahojaeva, 2022). The intricate interplay between language and meaning underpins various language activities, encompassing both oral and written modes of communication (Wahyuni, 2018). These language activities are inherently interpretive processes, wherein the selection and arrangement of linguistic elements serve as conduits for conveying meaning. The essence of language, and by extension, semantics, is encapsulated in the intricacies of every word woven into the fabric of sentences employed during communicative endeavors (Cummins, 2021). In the realm of linguistic theory, scholars acknowledge the fundamental significance of semantics as a pivotal determinant in the comprehension and expression of meaning within language systems. Drawing upon the insights of Popov et al. (2020), Sukaton (2019), Turahojaeva (2022), and Wahyuni (2018), the multifaceted nature of language activities is underscored, encompassing the diverse modes of oral and written communication. This acknowledgement extends to the understanding that semantics is not merely a theoretical construct but a practical and inherent facet of language use. As postulated by Cummins (2021), the meaning embedded in language is pervasive, permeating through every linguistic unit and syntactic structure employed during the intricate process of communication. Thus, semantics emerges as an indispensable lens through which the intricacies of language, meaning, and communication are comprehensively apprehended and scrutinized within the scholarly discourse.

The concept of meaning relations in semantics refers to the intricate web of connections existing between lexical items, characterized by either parallel or opposing meanings within a vocabulary (Amalia & Anggraeni, 2017). Beyond this, meaning relations extend their purview to encompass the broader semantic relationships that unfold between various language units, whether at the level of individual words, phrases, or entire sentences. In essence, meaning relations encapsulate the nuanced interplay between linguistic elements, delineating the semantic associations that underpin language structures. Within this semantic

framework, meaning relations serve as dynamic constructs that can manifest through diverse semantic relationships, elucidating the nature of connections between language units. These relationships span a spectrum of semantic nuances, including expressions of similarity, opposition, inclusion, multiplicity, or excess of meaning (Amalia & Anggraeni, 2017). This comprehensive categorization underscores the richness and complexity of meaning relations in semantics, showcasing their capacity to convey a spectrum of nuanced semantic relationships. The conceptualization of meaning relations not only navigates the terrain of individual words but also extends to the broader syntactic and semantic fabric of language, providing a holistic understanding of how meaning is intricately woven into the tapestry of linguistic expression. As posited by Amalia and Anggraeni (2017), the exploration of meaning relations within semantics serves as a key to unraveling the intricate mechanisms through which language units coalesce, diverge, and convey semantic nuances in diverse communicative contexts.

Meaning relations, within the purview of semantics, denote the intricate and nuanced connections that subsist between distinct language units. These language units encompass words, phrases, or sentences, constituting the fundamental elements through which semantic relationships are articulated. Within the semantic realm, these relationships can manifest in diverse forms, expressing the similarity, conflict, scope, or even excess of meaning between language units (Alrasheed, 2021; Huang et al., 2023; Jarunwaraphan & Mallikamas, 2020; Lertcharoenwanich, 2023; Luo, 2017; Sumonsriworakun, 2022). The discourse surrounding meaning relations often involves a comprehensive exploration of the notion of excess of meaning, a facet that is frequently deliberated upon in scholarly literature (Alrasheed, 2021; Huang et al., 2023; Jarunwaraphan & Mallikamas, 2020; Lertcharoenwanich, 2023; Luo, 2017; Sumonsriworakun, 2022). This discourse delves into the multifaceted ways in which a language unit can surpass conventional interpretations or encapsulate multiple layers of meaning, thereby enriching the semantic landscape. In tandem with discussions on meaning relations, various linguistic challenges are typically addressed, including synonymy, antonymy, polysemy, homonymy, ambiguity, and redundancy (Chaer, 2012). These issues represent intricate facets of language that warrant careful examination, shedding light on the intricacies and potential pitfalls inherent in the relationships between words and expressions. The comprehensive exploration of meaning relations and associated linguistic challenges encapsulates a nuanced understanding of semantics, providing a scholarly foundation for dissecting the intricate dynamics of meaning in language.

Synonymy is a semantic relationship that expresses the similarity of meaning between one speech unit and another speech unit (Arifin, 2015). Synonym used for sameness of meaning (Kurniasih, 2023; Oktami & Juita, 2018). A word is said to be perfectly synonymous if it contains the same descriptive, expressive, and social meanings, while a word is said to be synonymous if it has the same distribution and is perfectly meaningful in its presence in all contexts.

CONCLUSION

This research was conducted to describe and analyze the form of lingual units in the form of synonyms in Kerinci language studied through a semantic approach. In addition, this research also aims to collect linguistic corpus in the use of diverse lexicons between each region in Kerinci Regency, so that the richness of its linguistic treasures can be revitalized. The elaboration of the specific objectives of the research above gave birth to the urgency and primacy of the research conducted. Thus, the results of this research in addition to revitalizing the documentation of Kerinci language, can also be used as a reference in making student final assignments, curriculum development, lesson planning (RPS), and teaching materials for

lecturers teaching semantic courses. This research found scientific facts and phenomena in the form of descriptions of linguistic data obtained from the application of theories and methods. The findings are in the form of dialectal variations both phonologically and lexically and the impact of sound changes that occur in a language/dialect. The innovations obtained will have an impact on language/dialect revitalization, updating language/dialect maps, scientific publications, and specifically, as the development of teaching materials for semantic courses.

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