

**THE MEANING AND MORAL VALUES OF SYMBOL  
IN ENGLISH AND INDONESIAN PROVERBS**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor  
Degree of Education in English Department**

**By :**

**IKRAMA PRASETYA**

**A 320150147**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**

**2019**

**APPROVAL**

**THE MEANING AND MORAL VALUES OF SYMBOL IN ENGLISH AND  
INDONESIAN PROVERBS**

**PUBLICATION ARTICLE**

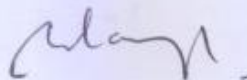
**By:**

**IKRAMA PRASETYA**

**A 320 150 147**

**Approval to be Examined by consultant:**

**Consultant**



**Dr. Maryadi, M.A**

**NIP. 1958003041986031001**

ACCEPTANCE

THE MEANING AND MORAL VALUES OF SYMBOL IN ENGLISH AND  
INDONESIAN PROVERBS

PUBLICATION ARTICLE

By:


**IKRAMA PRASETYA**

A 320150147

Accepted and Approved by The Board Examiners School of Teacher Training  
and Education  
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta  
On October xx, 2019

The board examiners :

1. Dr. Maryadi. M.A  
(Head of Exminer)
2. Agus Wijayanto, Ph.D  
(Member I of examiner)
3. Dr. Malikatul Laila, M.Hum  
(Member II of examiner)

()  
()  
()

Dean



Dr. Hariyanto Prayitno, M.hum  
NIP. 19650428 199303 1 001

## TESTIMONY

Herewith, I testify that there is no plagiarism in this article publication. There is no other work that has been submitted to obtain the bachelor degree and as far as I concerned there is no opinion that has been written or published before, except the written reference which are referred in this paper and mentioned in the bibliography.

If any incorrectness is proven in the future dealing with my statement above, I will be fully responsible.

Surakarta, October 26<sup>th</sup> 2019 2019  
Writer,



**Ikrama Prasetya**  
**A320150147**

## THE MEANING AND MORAL VALUES OF SYMBOL IN ENGLISH AND INDONESIAN PROVERBS

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tipe meaning symbol dalam proverbs dan (2) untuk menggolongkan tipe moral values yang terkandung dalam proverbs. Penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan data yang diambil dari kamus proverbs oleh A. Spears untuk Bahasa Inggris dan buku majas pribahasa Indonesia untuk Bahasa Indonesia. Peneliti ini mengumpulkan data dengan teknik memilih sesuai konteks dan mengambil proverbs yang familiar dan sering digunakan dalam sehari-hari untuk mengumpulkan data. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori dari Geoffrey Leech (1974), teori Hornby (2010), dan Neuschel (2008) untuk menyajikan tipe meaning dan tipe moral values. Hasilnya, studi ini menemukan bahwa ada empat jenis arti simbol dalam pribahasa (connotative meaning 55%, denotative meaning 20%, social meaning 10%, dan affective atau emotive meaning 15%) dengan tipe yang paling dominan dari keempat tipe meaning of symbols yang ditemukan yaitu connotative meaning 55% dan peneliti juga menemukan delapan tipe moral values (steadfastness 15%, kind-hearted 10%, bravery 10%, cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness 15%, thankfulness 15%, humbleness 15% dan honesty 5%) dengan cooperativeness, trustworthiness, thankfulness, humbleness yang merupakan tipe moral values yang dominan dari delapan tipe moral values yang ditemukan.

**Kata kunci:** pribahasa, tipe meaning, tipe moral values.

### Abstract

This study aims to identify the types of the meaning of symbols and to classify types of moral values in English and Indonesian proverbs. This research is a qualitative descriptive study with the data taken from the proverbs dictionary by A. Spears for the English proverbs and Indonesian pre-written books for the Indonesian proverbs. This research uses contextual selection techniques and picks familiar proverbs that are often used in everyday life to collect the data. This study uses theories from Geoffrey Leech (1974), Hornby's theory (2010), and Neuschel (2008) to present the types of meaning and types of moral values. The result of this research is that there are four types of the meaning of symbols in the proverbs (connotative meaning 55%, denotative meaning 20%, social meaning 10%, and affective or emotive meaning 15%) with the most dominant of these four types of the meaning found were connotative meaning 55% and there are also eight types of moral values (steadfastness 15%, kind-hearted 10%, bravery 10%, cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness 15%, thankfulness 15%, humbleness 15%, and honesty 5%) with cooperativeness, trustworthiness, thankfulness, and humbleness that become the dominant type of moral values from the eight types of moral values found in this research.

**Keywords:** proverbs, types of meaning, types of moral values.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is the most important part of communication and to express something, language has various ways to explain the others. Language can make it easier for people to interact, share, and get any information with others. In Indonesia, English is a foreign language where English is very rarely used in daily conversations and therefore English is an international language which is currently being very intensively loved to be studied and as a language in everyday life.

Language is tool for a communication between human consist of two part, namely form and meaning, and language, hearing or seeing for namely form and meaning consists or comes from the perspective or understanding in depth of various things from a reader and listener.

Learning English one way to communicate using language is to use proverbs, in various countries there are several terms or expressions where it is an proverbs, namely a word or sentence that has other meanings in the proverbs, there are various meanings and the terms with one another have their own meaning. in various countries there are different proverbs. in Indonesia proverbs are usually used as advice or advice which is very giving more meaning in each sentence. in an proverbs there are symbols or signs where one symbol in one country is different from another. symbols in European countries use symbols that are different from Asian proverbs but have the same meaning and there are also some proverbs who use similar symbols even though different cultures and countries.

Abroad proverbs are used as neat words or sentences as figures or words, even in cursing proverbs can be inserted in one sentence, every day proverbs are also used to communicate daily as a means of expressing indirectly or implicitly to other people or readers it could even be an proverbs expression as a description of sarcasm or something more satirical. Proverbs is combination According Yule (2006: 192) mentions that language variations can be traced diachronically (at different times) and synchronically (seeing differences in one language at different places and groups at the same time).

Proverbs formed, based on (Badudu, 1986:29). Proverbs are a form of language that is often used in everyday chats in the past, foreigners who have first heard and who have not mastered the language will certainly find it difficult to understand, proverbs are very difficult to translate literally in many cases, a particular characteristic found in the language in proverbs, proverbs is a series of words which are semantically or cannot be deduced from the elements of arrangement and syntactically.

Symbol In a literary sense, says William Harmon, "a symbol combines a literal and sensuous quality with an abstract or suggestive aspect" (*A Handbook to Literature*, 2006). Many symbols are found in human daily life as symbols are used to show something or interpret something, in this case the researcher raised "signs or symbols" as the topic of discussion. in an international journal based on (Richard Nordquist : 2019) A symbol is a person, place, action, word, or thing that represents something other than itself.

Nowadays symbols or signs are very easy to find anywhere, even in sentences where in this discussion proverb sentences have many signs or symbols, in a few sentences there are many meanings. in this study the researchers tried to show differences in culture or language in proverbs. That's where researchers are very interested in the differences of symbols or signs used in proverbs sentences in one country to another. The researcher takes the focus of Indonesian proverbs with foreign proverbs who literally and understand very different things about symbols or signs used in proverbs sentences.

Researchers use the English proverbs dictionary by Richard A. Spears as a guide in choosing vocabulary or proverbs sentences to be compared with Indonesian proverbs sentences. symbols or signs that will be compared and interpreted in this study and use semantic meaning as a basic theory of research development. a symbol in a European country to present a danger is fire and in Indonesia a symbol for presenting a danger is a wild animal, from which researchers are interested in examining an oddity or more insights applied in this study

The analyze of proverbs used symbol example :

English :

Indonesia :

It's no use crying over spilt milk

Nasi sudah menjadi bubur

Symbol : Milk and Rice (Nasi)

Context of symbol : Food

Related of symbol : Life (rice and milk)

**Food** related to **life**, this context is **milk** is food from foreign people and **rice** is the staple food of Indonesian people by connecting various symbols that the two proverbs have the same meaning that life or events that have occurred need not be regretted.

From the example above interpret a symbol of life that is represented from two different cultures by taking food as an example. and connects with a meaning that something that has spilled or which has become porridge is something that should not be regretted.

From the example above it can be interpreted that there are many differences in the culture of proverbs symbols in each sentence or expression. In addition, why researchers use the Richard A. Spears dictionary because of the complex and interesting selection to be discussed in research.

## 2. METHOD

This study uses descriptive qualitative method, it means the data are explained in word, table, and sentence and then it will be interpreted into a paragraph. The researcher uses the theories from Geoffrey Leech (1974), to find out the type of meaning and the researcher also take Hornby's (2010) & Neuschel (2008) theory. The data was taken from the proverbs dictionary by A. Spears for English proverbs and Indonesian pre-written books for Indonesian proverbs. This researcher using contextual selection techniques and picks familiar proverbs that are often used in everyday life to collect data. The technique of collecting data are reading the book, choosing the familiar proverbs in Indonesia, take notes to ease in categorizeing the data, transcript the data and then choose proverbs that contain



proverbs that are often used and encountered. The researcher analyses the data by theories from Geoffrey Leech (1974) to identify types of meaning and uses Hornby's (2010) & Neuschel (2008) theory to classify types of moral values.

### 3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Findings

This study aims (1) to analyzed the type of meaning and moral values from popular proverbs that are often used, the researcher found 4 types of meaning and 8 types of moral values. This researcher is descriptive qualitative with data taken from dictionary proverbs from A. Spears and book of Indonesian proverbs. This study uses documentation techniques to collect data. In analyzing the researcher used Geoffrey Leech's (1974) for a meaning theory and Hornby's (2010) & Neuschel (2008) theory to classify types of moral values. The result can be shown in the table below:

##### 3.1.1 Type of Meaning

Table 1. Type of Meaning

No	Functions of Overlapping	Percentage (%)
1	Connotative Meaning	55
2	Denotative	20
3	Social Meaning	10
4	Affective or Emotive	15
	Total	100

##### 3.1.2 Type of Moral Values

Table 2. Type of Moral Values

No	Functions of Overlapping	Percentage (%)
1	Steadfastness	15
2	Kind-hearted	10

No	Functions of Overlapping	Percentage (%)
3	Bravery	10
4	Trustworthiness	15
5	Thankfulness	15
6	Humbleness	15
7	Honesty	5
8	Cooperativeness	15
	Total	100

Based on the finding of data analysis that has been done by the researcher above, it can be concluded that the dominant type of meaning in proverbs is Connotative meaning and the type of moral values is Cooperativeness, Humbleness, Thankfulness, Trustworthiness and Steadfastness the dominant finding in this study.

### 3.2 Discussion

This discussion mentions about type of meaning in semantic theory. In analyzing of the data, researcher used theory by Geoffrey Leech in “his study of meaning” (1974) for conclude and divided with percent so that it is easy to presenting. As a resulted the researcher found 4 types of meaning (connotative meaning 55%, denotative meaning 20%, social meaning 10%, affective or emotive meaning 15%) and connotative were the most dominant of the 4 from 8 types of meaning found. The most dominant types of meaning found in this study is Connotative with 55% from the data contains word or phrase with meaning related beyond the reference to a word that implies something else.

The similarity of the first previous study or both of the object research is proverbs as object. The second research has similarity using semantics theory. The third research has similarities in compere the language from one language to other language. The fourth research has similarities in the analysis in proverbs

form. The last research was similarities using proverbs. The difference of the first researcher is the subject specific Khofiana (2015) used Novel to his research and the researcher used dictionary to putting the data. The difference second research is the subject specific, Davlatova (2017) uses the subject of traditional Uzbek craft and this research uses dictionary to choose the data. The third difference research uses translating Dr.Elfaki (2017) Meanwhile this research uses comparative in language. The fourth difference of the research is the object uses of song (2016) and this research uses data from dictionary and more proverbs books. The last research differences in uses subject again Cunha (2018) the researcher uses movie and this research putting data analyze with dictionary from A spears to English proverbs and *Pribahasa* to Indonesian proverbs.

Type of Moral Values this discussion mentions about the type of moral values. In analyzing the data, researcher used theory, by Hornby (2010) for presenting. As a resulted the researcher found 8 type of moral values (steadfastness 15%, kind-hearted 10%, bravery 10%, cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness 15%, thankfulness 15%, humbleness 15%, honesty 5%) and the dominant type of moral values were cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness 15%, thankfulness 15%, humbleness 15%, that has been found and the contains fact suitability obtained from everyday life and doing something together in types of moral values which has meaning in the values interpreted in everyday life.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings and discussions that have been explained before, the conclusions can be showed as follows. The research question of this study is to found are several types of meaning used in English and Indonesian proverbs, such as Conceptual or Denotative Meaning, Connotative Meaning, Thematic Meaning, Affective or Emotive Meaning, Social Meaning, and Reflected Meaning. And from several type of meaning, Connotative, Denotative or Conceptual Meaning and social meaning are the most dominant in this research or study. The research also found 4 type of meaning Connotative Meaning 55%, Denotative meaning 20%, Social Meaning 10%, and Affective or Emotive Meaning 15 %. The

dominant of type meaning is Connotative Meaning 55% that has been found and contains that proverbs composer convey words not directly, and beyond purely conceptual content.

After analyzing and discussion the meaning of symbol proverbs, the research can conclude that there are many type or kind of moral values found in are several type of moral values, component has namely steadfastness, kind-hearted, bravery, cooperativeness, trustworthiness, thankfulness, humbleness and honesty, the research found 8 type of moral values (steadfastness 15%, kind-hearted 10%, bravery10%, cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness15%, thankfulness15%, humbleness 15% and honesty 5%). The dominant type of moral values were cooperativeness 15%, trustworthiness 15%, thankfulness 15%, humbleness 15%, that has been found and the contains fact suitability obtained from everyday life and doing something together in types of moral values which has meaning in the values interpreted in everyday life.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Avivah, 2016. *The Proverbsatic Forms in Christiana Perri's Song*, Palangkaraya  
Ball, W. J. 1968. *A Practical Guide to Colloquial Proverbs*. London: Longman  
Group Ltd.

Bertens,(1993).*Etika*,Jakarta:GramediaPustakaUtama.

Bradley, 2016 , Archived in [Web Design](#) **An Introduction To Semiotics — Signifier And Signified.**

Cambridge Dictionary online (2019) Retrieved from  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/proverbs>

Cooper, C.R. Greenbaum. 1998. *Studying Writing: Linguistic Approaches*.  
Beverly Hills/London/New Delhi:Sage Publications

Cunha, 2018, *Proverbs in Movie Inferno by Ron Howard*, Manado

Davlatova, 2017, Semantic of Symbols in Traditional National Uzbek Craft,  
International Journal of Development Research, The Institute of History  
under the National University of Uzbekistan.

- Dr. Elfaki, *Understanding Proverbs and The Process of Translating Them From English into Arabic*, International Journal of English Language, Literature in Humanities, Majmaah University, Saudi Arabia
- Hornby, A. S. 2006. *Oxford advanced Learner's Dictionary 7th Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hornby, A S. (2010). *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Khofiana, 2015, *An Analysis of Proverbs and Their Problems Found in the Novel the Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain*, Journal of Literature, Linguistic and Cultural Studies.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1974), *Semantic*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York :Penguin
- Makkai, A. 1972. *Proverbs Structure in English*. The Hague: Mouton.
- Mc Carthy, M. & O'Dell, F. 2003. *English Proverbs in Use*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Moon, R. 1996. *Fixed Expressions and Proverbs in English: A Corpus Based Approach*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Redman, Stuart. 1997. *English Vocabulary in Use*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Webster.(1981). *Third New International Dictionary*, Encyclopedia Britania, MeriamWebsterInc.