THE LEXICAL SYNONYMY BASED IN CNN ARTICLES: BREAKING U.S & WORLD NEWS

SINONIM LEKSIKAL BERDASARKAN ARTIKEL CNN: BERITA TERKINI AS & DUNIA

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Abstract

This research was intended to describe the types of lexical synonymy in CNN Articles: Breaking US & World News. The study of lexical synonymy is a branch of semantics that focuses on the meaning of words. This research used Alan Cruse's theory. Lexical synonymy is words with very closely related meanings. There are three types of lexical synonymy namely absolute synonymy, propositional synonymy, and near-synonymy. The design of this research was a qualitative method. The researcher got the source of data from CNN articles. The researcher analyzed lexical synonymy from four articles in CNN. Then, the researcher categorized the types of lexical synonymy. The result of this research shows that in CNN Articles: Breaking US & World News consist of 27 samples of lexical synonymy. The samples are 7 of absolute synonymy, 10 of propositional synonymy, and 10 of near-synonymy.

Keywords: *Semantics, Lexical Synonymy, CNN Articles, Clauses*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan jenis-jenis sinonim leksikal dalam Artikel CNN: Breaking US & World News. Studi sinonim leksikal merupakan cabang ilmu semantik yang berfokus pada makna kata. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Alan Cruse. Sinonim leksikal adalah kata-kata yang memiliki makna yang sangat erat kaitannya. Terdapat tiga jenis sinonim leksikal yaitu sinonim absolut, sinonim proposisional, dan sinonim mendekati. Desain penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Peneliti memperoleh sumber data dari artikel CNN. Peneliti menganalisis sinonim leksikal dari empat artikel di CNN. Kemudian, peneliti mengkategorikan jenis-jenis sinonim leksikal. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam Artikel CNN: Breaking US & World News terdapat 27 sampel sinonim leksikal. Sampel tersebut adalah 7 sinonim absolut, 10 sinonim proposisional, dan 10 sinonim mendekati.

Kata kunci: *Semantik, Sinonim Leksikal, Artikel CNN, Klausa*

Introduction

In journalism, lexical synonymy, using different words with similar meanings plays a crucial role in effective communication. Schlenker (2022) and Yule (2020) emphasize that semantics, the study of meaning in language, is vital for understanding how synonyms shape truth conditions in news reporting.

Murphy and Koskela (2020) explain that synonyms can be substituted for each other without altering a sentence's meaning, underscoring their importance in varied and precise expression.

Cruse (2000) defines lexical synonymy as words with nearly identical meanings that can be interchangeably used in certain contexts. This phenomenon enhances language by offering multiple ways to express the same idea, affecting style, tone, readability, and comprehensibility in news articles. Research into CNN's use of lexical synonyms aims to reveal their impact on reader understanding and to explore how their use varies with different topics and audiences.

Previous studies have investigated lexical cohesion and synonymy in news texts but have focused on different aspects. Made et al. (2023) analyzed lexical cohesion types in CNN news, including synonymy, while this study focuses specifically on types of lexical synonymy. Nurmayana et al. (2022) and Habibah et al. (2018) examined lexical meaning and cohesion in different newspapers, respectively, but also with distinct focuses and theoretical frameworks. Yusanti et al. (2019) explored synonymy in online media, highlighting differences in terminology and application.

Cotter (2010) notes that lexical choices, including synonyms, are critical for crafting narratives that resonate with diverse audiences. Understanding synonym usage in journalism can inform language teaching strategies, making them more relevant and engaging for students.

Method

The researcher examined lexical synonymy in clauses extracted from four CNN articles: "Kinds of Kindness," "D-Day and the Normandy Landings," "Red Food and Juneteenth," and "5 Things to Know for June 19." The analysis aimed to identify and understand the use of lexical synonyms and their implications in journalism.

The process began with selecting relevant articles, reading them to identify significant clauses, and numbering these clauses. Data was collected by reading and analyzing the articles for instances of synonymy. The researcher then grouped synonyms into three types: absolute synonymy, propositional synonymy, and near-synonymy. The qualitative research method analysis involved interpreting these synonyms to understand their meanings and relationships. Finally, conclusions were drawn based on the analysis to address the research questions.

Result and Discussion

Data 1
"Jesse Plemons is thrilled."
Analysis:
Word Pair: "thrilled" = "excited"
Original Clause: "Jesse Plemons is thrilled."
Replacement Clause: "Jesse Plemons is excited."
From the analysis Data 1 above, it can be seen that the word "thrilled" has similarities with the word "excited" which is included in the absolute synonymy type. as they both express a high level of enthusiasm or pleasure.

Data 3
"…the actor says <u>eagerly</u>, eyes lighting up."
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>eagerly</u>" = "<u>keenly</u>"
Original Clause: "…the actor says <u>eagerly</u>, eyes lighting up."
Replacement Clause: "…the actor says <u>keenly</u>, eyes lighting up".
From the analysis Data 3 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>eagerly</u>" has similarities with the word "<u>keenly</u>" which is included in the <u>propositional synonymy</u> type because they share similar meaning, expressing strong interest or enthusiasm, but they carry slightly different connotations and nuances.

Data 6
"…in the Greek filmmaker's <u>prickliest</u> and most transgressive work since "Dogtooth,""
Analysis:
Word Pair: "<u>prickliest</u>" = "<u>most challenging</u>"
Original Clause: "…in the Greek filmmaker's <u>prickliest</u> and most transgressive work since "Dogtooth,""
Replacement Clause: "…in the Greek filmmaker's <u>most challenging</u> and most transgressive work since "Dogtooth,""
From the analysis Data 6 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>prickliest</u>" has similarities with the word "<u>most challenging</u>" which is included in the <u>absolute synonymy</u> type as both words convey the idea of something being difficult or uncomfortable.

Data 10
"The Allies carried out <u>substantial</u> military deception…"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>substantial</u>" = "<u>considerable</u>"
Original Clause: "The Allies carried out <u>substantial</u> military deception..."
Replacement Clause: "The Allies carried out <u>considerable</u> military deception..."
From the analysis Data 10 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>substantial</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>considerable</u>" which is included in <u>near-synonymy</u> type because Both "<u>substantial</u>" and "<u>considerable</u>" describe a large extent or degree, but they differ slightly in their emphasis.

Data 11
"…to <u>confuse</u> the Germans as to when and where the invasion would take place."
Analysis:
word pair: "<u>confuse</u>" = "<u>mislead</u>"
Original Clause: "…to <u>confuse</u> the Germans as to when and where the invasion would take place."
Replacement Clause: "…to <u>mislead</u> the Germans as to when and where the invasion would take place."
From the analysis Data 11 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>confuse</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>mislead</u>" which is included in the <u>propositional synonymy</u> type because both words imply causing someone to be uncertain or misinformed. "confuse" suggests causing someone to be unclear, while "mislead" involves directing someone away from truth. They are similar but have slightly different connotations.

Data 16
"…an important <u>homage</u> to the African diaspora"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>homage</u>" = "<u>tribute</u>"
Original Clause: "…an important <u>homage</u> to the African diaspora"
Replacement Clause: "an important <u>tribute</u> to the African diaspora"
From the analysis Data 16 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>Homage</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>tribute</u>" which is included in the <u>absolute synonymy</u> type because both words refer to an act or statement showing respect and admiration. These terms can be used interchangeably without changing the sentence's meaning or tone.

Data 18
"Miller also <u>noted</u> that red is a royal color in African society"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>noted</u>" = "<u>mentioned</u>"
Original Clause: "Miller also <u>noted</u> that red is a royal color in African society"
Replacement Clause: "Miller also <u>mentioned</u> that red is a royal color in African society"
From the analysis Data 18 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>Noted</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>mentioned</u>" which is included in the <u>absolute synonymy</u> type because both words mean to remark upon or highlight a point. They are interchangeable without altering the sentence's meaning or emphasis.

Data 23
"A tropical storm warning is in <u>effect</u> for parts of Texas and Mexico"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>effect</u>" = "<u>impact</u>"
Original Clause: "A tropical storm warning is in <u>effect</u> for parts of Texas and Mexico"
Replacement Clause: "A tropical storm warning is in <u>impact</u> for parts of Texas and Mexico"
From the analysis Data 23 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>effect</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>impact</u>" which is included in the <u>near-synonymy</u> type because both words refer to the result or influence of an event. However, "<u>effect</u>" is more neutral and commonly used in official warnings, while "<u>impact</u>" suggests a stronger and more immediate influence.

Data 24
"A level 3 of 4 <u>risk</u> of flooding is in place for much of South Texas today"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>risk</u>" = "<u>danger</u>"
Original Clause: "A level 3 of 4 <u>risk</u> of flooding is in place for much of South Texas today"
Replacement Clause: "A level 3 of 4 <u>danger</u> of flooding is in place for much of South Texas today"
From the analysis Data 24 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>risk</u>" has the similarities with the word "<u>danger</u>" which is included in the <u>near-synonymy</u> type as both words indicate potential harm or adverse outcomes. However, "<u>risk</u>" is more commonly used in technical or probabilistic contexts, while "<u>danger</u>" conveys a more immediate and perceptible threat.

Data 26
"The Biden administration on Tuesday <u>announced</u> an executive action"
Analysis:
Word pair: "<u>announced</u>" = "<u>revealed</u>"
Original Clause: "The Biden administration on Tuesday <u>announced</u> an executive action"
Replacement Clause: "The Biden administration on Tuesday <u>revealed</u> an executive action"
From the analysis Data 26 above, it can be seen that the word "<u>announced</u>" and "<u>revealed</u>" are <u>near-synonymy</u> type as they both mean making something known to the public. "<u>announced</u>" is more formal and official, often used in the context of public statements, while "revealed" can imply uncovering something previously hidden.

Table 1. Types of Lexical Synonymy Based in CNN Articles: Breaking US & World News.

No. Data	Clause	Line	Types of Lexical Synonymy			Article's Title
			Abs. Syn	Pro. Syn.	near-syn.	
1.	"Jesse Plemons is <u>thrilled</u>."	1st line	✓			The 'Kinds of Kindness' cast explain the cruel, violent and sexy imagination of Yorgos Lanthimos: 'He's actually a nice guy'
3.	"…the actor says <u>eagerly</u>, eyes lighting up."	5th line		✓		
6.	"…in the Greek filmmaker's <u>prickliest</u> and most transgressive work since "Dogtooth,"	13th line	✓			
10.	"The Allies carried out <u>substantial</u> military deception…"	7th line			✓	What is D-Day? How the Normandy landings led to Germany's defeat in World War II
11.	"…to <u>confuse</u> the Germans as to when and where the invasion would take place."	8th line		✓		

16.	" …an important <u>homage</u> to the African diaspora"	2nd line	✓		Why red food and drinks have become powerful symbols on Juneteenth.
18.	"Miller also <u>noted</u> that red is a royal color in African society. "	6th line	✓		
23.	"A tropical storm warning is in <u>effect</u> for parts of Texas and Mexico."	4th line		✓	5 things to know for June 19: Hurricane season, Immigration, Middle East, Willie Mays, Starliner.
24.	"A level 3 of 4 <u>risk</u> of flooding is in place for much of South Texas today"	7th line		✓	
26.	"The Biden administration on Tuesday <u>announced</u> an executive action"	12th line		✓	

Notes:

*Abs. Syn. = Absolute Synonymy

*Pro. Syn. = Propositional Synonymy

*Near-Syn. = Near-Synonymy

Conclusion

   After analyzing the data, the researcher found that CNN articles titled "Breaking U.S & World News" exhibited three types of lexical synonymy: absolute synonymy, propositional synonymy, and near-synonymy. Absolute synonymy was used to add variety and prevent repetition while retaining the same meaning. Propositional synonymy enhanced flexibility in sentence construction by allowing the selection of contextually appropriate or stylistically preferred prepositions. Near-synonymy enriched the language with subtle distinctions, facilitating more precise expression of ideas and emotions. The researcher concluded that propositional synonymy and near-synonymy were the most commonly employed types in these articles, suggesting that their usage aims to provide readers with fresh information about various groups, types, or categories, thereby making the content more engaging.

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