

## CONCEPTUAL CORRESPONDENCE THROUGH MENTAL SPACE IN CREATING WORDS AT THE NOVEL "HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE"

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### **Abstract**

*The aim of the research was to find out the process of conceptual correspondence of the mental space J. K. Rowling has when producing new words in "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's stone". The research applied a qualitative descriptive method by using the productivity and creativity theory by Aronoff & Fudeman and Kridalaksana, the mental space theory by Saeed, and the theory of conceptual correspondence by Lee. The observation was applied by focusing on the words in Chapter I – III. Analysis was done by applying the theory of David Lee (2001) concerning conceptual correspondence of the mental space. The results indicate that there are 7 new words and phrases as the result of J. K. Rowling's creativity. The aspects found can be influenced by the physical environment such as the nature and location as well as the linguistic aspects such as the derivation process, purpose of use, and meaning.*

**Keywords:** *productivity, creativity, mental space*

### **Abstrak**

Tujuan penelitian ini yaitu mengetahui korespondensi konseptual ruang mental yang dimiliki J. K. Rowling saat memproduksi kata-kata baru dalam "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone". Penelitian ini menerapkan metode kualitatif deskriptif dengan mengaplikasikan teori produktivitas dan kreativitas yang diusung oleh Aronoff & Fudeman dan Kridalaksana, teori ruang mental oleh Saeed dan teori korespondensi konseptual oleh Lee. Metode simak diaplikasikan dengan berfokus pada analisis bab I – III dari novel tersebut. Analisis dilakukan dengan menerapkan teori David Lee (2001) yang berkaitan dengan korespondensi konseptual ruang mental. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 7 kata dan frasa baru sebagai wujud kreativitas dari J. K. Rowling. Unsur-unsur yang muncul pada korespondensi konseptual dapat dipengaruhi oleh lingkungan fisik seperti sifat dan lokasi serta juga dari aspek linguistik seperti proses derivasi, tujuan penggunaan dan makna yang menyertai.

**Kata kunci:** produktivitas, kreativitas, ruang mental

### **Introduction**

Language is a tool used by humans to convey their ideas in both oral and written forms. According to Ferdinand de Saussure, the language delivered by humans consists of *langue* and *parole*. *Langue* is an abstract rule in language that belongs to a particular group while *parole* is a real manifestation of *langue*.

According to Saeed (2003), humans experience many things in their lives that make them form certain abstract experiences in their mind. These experiences formed in the abstract realm affect humans in language. Since experiences formed in the space of abstraction of the human mind are influenced by the physical and social environment, automatically, the things behind the language of a community group will vary according to the experience of the different physical environments. Therefore, it may cause the various

meaning of a word in each language. For example, in English, "goosebumps" is used by a person who is scared. This kind of expression is different from the expression of Indonesian speakers who use the clause "bulu kuduk berdiri". In this case, Indonesian speakers do not use words that refer to animals as English speakers do. This is because the experience of the two speakers on the physical environment is not the same.

In expressing experiences in the form of language, humans generally show a lot of creativity. Creativity which is a result of human language productivity is usually found in fictional works such as novels, short stories, etc. (Aronoff and Fudeman: 2005). A novel that was once very well known and might be a source for humans in creating language is the Harry Potter novel written by J. K. Rowling. According to Lee (2001), one of the main mechanisms of language creativity includes the perception

and construction of conceptual correspondence through mental space. Therefore, in this paper, the writer will discuss the conceptual correspondence of J. K. Rowling's mental space in words that show her creativity in her novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone".

### **Research Problem**

The formulation of the problem in this paper is:

How is the process of conceptual correspondence of the mental space that J. K. Rowling has when producing new words in "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's stone"?

### **Research Purpose**

The purpose of this study is to find out the conceptual correspondence of the mental space J. K. Rowling has when producing new words in "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone".

### **Productivity and Creativity**

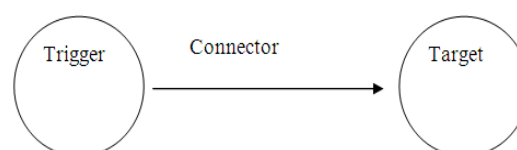
Productivity is the possibility of a pattern in words received in a language (Aronoff and Fudeman: 2005). Aronoff is a linguist who focuses at the level of morphology. Concerning the definition that he built, it can be seen that productivity is the possibility of a pattern in words, phrases and clauses to be accepted in a language. For example, the word "mini-burger" is more common than "burgerlet". These two words have similarity at which they contain the word burger and suffix -let and mini- which have the same meaning namely small. However, the word "mini-burger" is more acceptable than the word "burgerlet". It implies that the first pattern "mini-burger" is more productive than the second pattern "burgerlet". In composing productive words, speakers usually consider the creativity of doing construction in language. Another example is the suffix -th. This suffix has the same function as the suffix -ness namely creating nouns from adjectives. However, the suffix -ness is the one that can be admitted as the productive one. There are some words built from this suffix such as depth, width, length, etc. Many other new words formed by embedding the suffix -th was proposed to the speakers of standard English but they do not accept new coinages in -th.

According to Kridalaksana (2008), creativity is the nature of language that gives the possibility for speakers to produce and understand sentences indefinitely. Creativity allows speakers to produce new words that have never been used or heard before. Creativity in language can be recognized from the efforts of writers to create new words so that the intent of the writer can be conveyed in an interesting way (Aronoff and Fudeman: 2005).

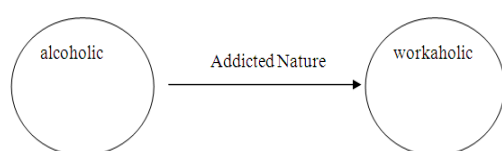
This is certainly not only done by writers but also by the community in general. For example, in his book "Cognitive Linguistics", Lee (2001) gives an example of a noun phrase "rumour mill" as a form of the creativity of English speakers in language. Rumour mill is a phrase that contains the word "rumour" and "mill". Rumour means an unofficial interesting story or piece of news that might be true or invented, which quickly spreads from person to person while mill means a factory where a particular substance is produced. Creativity occurs in constructing a new word "rumour mill". There is a situation at which rumours are produced continuously. This situation can be compared with a mill that also produces something continually. Hence, the nature of mill is transferred to a situation in which a number of people spread rumours about something. Then, that situation has been called "rumour mill". The process of creativity happens mostly in the morphological aspect. However, this process cannot be separated from semantics field. It involves the mental space concept.

### **Mental Space**

Mental space is a structural concept that can describe how speakers can produce and manipulate a word or phrase from the source domain to the target area (Saeed: 2003). Mental space is a concept that shows how meaning is formed in cognitive area of humans by using triggers when pronouncing or writing a notion. This is a discourse-based process that includes linguistics structures. Many linguists concerns on the management of reference at which the way of speakers and hearers to keep track something they refer to in a conversation. The notion appears that both speakers and hearers keep creating and maintaining domains in the conversation. This mental space can be seen in an example at which two people talk about Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar can be the historical person or the one in the play. Therefore, mental space is a concept that is included in the discourse study because the meaning contained in it cannot be explored by looking at just one sentence. Hence, the speaker has to notice the relationship between one sentence and another. In order to manipulate a word or phrase from the source domain into the target realm that has two different mental spaces, a link is needed to establish a connection between the trigger area and the target area illustrated in the following diagram.



According to Lee (2001), one of the basic mechanisms of creativity in language encompasses the perception and construction of conceptual correspondence through mental space. For example, the word "workaholic" was first triggered due to the process of human creativity. At first, an existing word is the word "alcoholic" which means an alcoholic addict. After that, the speaker creates a new word with the intention of transferring meaning from the source domain to the target realm.



From the diagram above, it can be seen that speakers who become new word creators have the word "alcoholic" in the source domain. Alcoholic means a person who gets addicted to drink alcohol. Therefore, the nature of the source that can be transferred is the nature of addiction. After that, speakers found that there were people who were of the same addictive nature but not in alcoholic beverages, but in their jobs. Therefore, speakers transfer the nature of the addiction to lexeme "work" so that a new word appears, namely "workaholic". In his book entitled "Cognitive Linguistics", Lee (2001), makes conceptual correspondence through mental space as follows:

1. X is the activity of work and Y is the activity of consuming alcoholic beverages.
2. People who do X can be connected to people who do Y.
3. The X process can be likened to the Y process.
4. Frequency X can be equated with the frequency Y.
5. The duration of X can be compared with the duration of Y.
6. The harmful effects produced by X can be compared to the harmful effects produced by Y.

Therefore, according to Lee (2001), it is not only addictive nature that can be the connector between the source and target domain. It is also influenced by the process, frequency, and duration of the activity.

### **Related Studies**

In the study, Dam-Jensen (2006) used the application of mental space theory in analyzing definite and indefinite noun phrase. The role-value relation was applied in her research. Dam-Jensen (2006) said that "In general terms, language provides information for creating mental spaces, mental objects, called elements, in such spaces, and connections between them". One of connections used in the

research is role-value relation. The element can refer to either the role or the value. Dam-Jensen applied this theory in analyzing English sentences specifically the noun phrases. The result showed that by applying the role-value distinction, it will be easier to differentiate the definite and indefinite noun phrases in a sentence.

Hui & Yueqin (2010) had a study on misunderstanding (MIS) focusing on the deep cause of it by applying mental space theory in analyzing a text. According to Hui & Yueqin (2010), "Mental space theory focuses on people's psychological operation in meaning construction". In communication, people use language to convey a domain resulted from context and linguistics information. This domain is called spaces by Fauconnier. The author analyzed three kinds of data namely conversation between close friends, scripts and some examples from other researchers' studies. Applying the mental space theory, the result showed that the cause of MIS can be revealed by using mental space theory. However, some factors might influence the people's psychological operation at the same time. Logic manner even is difficult to be used to describe this phenomenon.

The mental space theory by Fauconnier was used by Gawronska, Antilla and Jacobsson in their study. The study aims to deliver the general structure of an experimental system for English-Swedish written and spoken summarization of news reports, specifically focusing on the information extraction and structure. The theory of mental space became the fundamental frame in analyzing the text. Gawronska, Antilla and Jacobsson (1999) said that "Mental spaces are to be understood as cognitive 'worlds' that differ from logical possible worlds. In the communication process, different mental spaces are continuously established by various linguistic means, and the communication is successful if the receiver manages to identify the mental spaces constructed by the sender and to place appropriate discourse objects and relations in right mental spaces". The result showed that by analyzing recent experiments with Newspeak, it proved that the improvement of generated summaries' quality and speech synthesis' quality can be obtained by differentiating the various mental spaces.

### **Research Method**

This research is a semantic research that is related to meaning. However, the theory concerning productivity and creativity in morphology is applied since the word creation occurs in the morphological field. This research was conducted by applying the observation method. According to Mahsun (2012), the observation method is a method used to obtain data by observing to the use of a language, both oral

and written. The thing studied in the study is a novel by J. K. Rowling entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone". This study focuses on new words written by the author in chapters 1-3 in the novel. The writer collected data by reading thoroughly chapters 1-3 of JK Rowling's novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" while making a list of the new words listed in those chapters. The writer applied the theory described by David Lee (2001) concerning the analysis of conceptual correspondence of the mental space and examining physical experience that constructs abstract concepts in making new words.

## Discussions

After listing the new words produced by the authors in chapters 1-3 of the novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone", the writer found that the results of the J.K. Rowling's language creativity were in the following words. The new words and phrases found in the novel are undursleyish, you-know-who, muggle, Mrs. Next Door, put-outer, dinky duddydums and man-crushing.

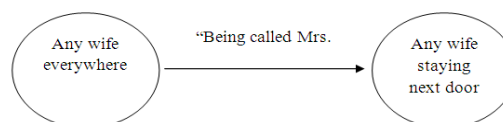
No.	The Findings	Aspect
1.	UnDursleyish	Word
2.	You-know-who	Phrase
3.	Muggle	Word
4.	Mrs. Next Door	Phrase
5.	Put-outer	Word
6.	Dinky Duddydums	Phrase
7.	Man-crushing	Word

The words and phrases in the table above are generated through a cognition process that involves the author's experience of the physical environment. The process occurs in the mental space by involving the source domain, connector and target domain. In this case, there is also conceptual correspondence through mental space (Lee, 2001). The writer will present conceptual correspondence from several words in a representative list.

### Mrs. Next Door

Mrs. Next Door is a new phrase used by J. K. Rowling on her novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone". This word consists of the noun "Mrs" and "next door". Next door means in the next room, house or building while Mrs. means a title used before the family name or full name of a married woman who has no other title. For example, Mrs. Wood is the wife of Thomas Wood. The word Mrs. is usually followed by a family name or full name but in the novel, it is followed by a noun "next door". This phrase is used in the sentence "Mrs. Dursley had had a nice, normal day. She told him

over dinner all about Mrs Next Door's problems with her daughter and how Dudley had learned a new word ("Won't!"). Mr. Dursley tried to act normally. When Dudley had been put to bed, he went into the living room in time to catch the last report on the evening news". In the text, Mrs Next Door means "mistress of the next door neighbour". This phrase is not a vocabulary list in the dictionary and this phrase is the result of language creation from the author by involving conceptual correspondence through mental space with the diagram as follows.



The diagram above shows that the source of the author's language creation is any wife everywhere such as a married woman on the street, in the office, etc. On the other hand, the target of the creation is a wife of a man staying at the next to the speaker's house. In composing a new word, this "being called Mrs." nature is transferred by the author to the realm of the target. This is a language creation since the word "next door" is usually used as an adjective, adverb or a noun without any preceding title such as Mrs. Conceptual correspondence through mental space that occurs in the formation of the above phrases is as follows.

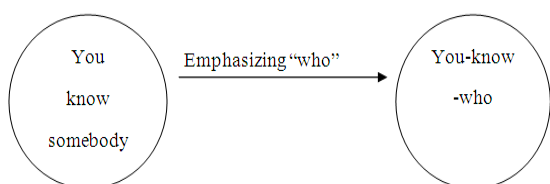
1. X is any wife staying next door and Y is any wife everywhere
2. Location X cannot be equated with location Y.
3. The nature of X can be equated with the nature of Y.

### You-know-who

This phrase is a phrase that is not in the dictionary so this word is one form of creativity in language. You-know-who is a new word used to refer to Voldemort. The author uses this word, because it is told that in general, the characters in the novel do not dare to mention Voldemort's name directly. One of the utterances using this phrase is, "My dear Professor, surely a sensible person like yourself can call him by his name? All this 'You-Know-Who' nonsense -- for eleven years I have been trying to persuade people to call him by his proper name: Voldemort." It can be seen from the sentence, that most people do not call Voldemort by his name. They choose to address him as "You-know-who". In English, usually the word "somebody" and "who" used in the question form refers to an entity that is not yet clear even though "who" in the adjective clause refers to an entity that is clear because it is used to modify a noun. The use of the phrase "who" is different in the phrase you-know-



who. The word "who" in the novel is not used in an adjective clause and it contains the clear reference namely Voldemort. The conceptual correspondence that occurs in the formation of this phrase can be described through the following figure.

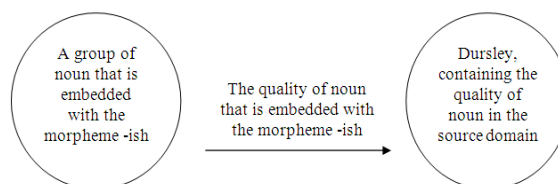


In the process of forming the phrase, the meaning of the word "you" and "know" do not change. The use of the word "who" in the target domain is different from the use of the word "who" in the source domain. The word "who" in the source domain has the same meaning as the word "somebody" in which the intended object is unclear. The use of the word "who" in the source domain is transferred through the link "emphasizing who" with the intention to refer to "who" to an entity that is clear even though in the target area the word "who" is not converted into a word that represents the object in question. Conceptual correspondence through mental space that might appear on the author's mind is as follows.

1. X is in the target area and Y is in the source domain.
2. The X can be connected to the Y sign.
3. Reference from X is different from reference from Y.
4. The purpose of using X is different from the purpose of using Y.

### UnDursleyish

In J. K. Rowling's novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone", the author produces a new word which is the result of a combination of two morphemes and a name of character in the novel, namely the word unDursleyish. UnDursleyish is formed by the surname of a character, Dursley and the morpheme "un" and "ish". The morpheme un- is a prefix used to add the meaning 'not', 'lacking' or 'the opposite of' before adjectives, adverbs, verbs and nouns while the morpheme -ish is a suffix used to form adjectives which say what a person, thing or action is like. The use of this word is seen in the sentence, "Mrs. Potter was Mrs. Dursley's sister, but they hadn't met for several years; in fact, Mrs. Dursley pretended she didn't have a sister, because her sister and her good-for-nothing husband were as **unDursleyish** as it was possible to be". Conceptual correspondence through mental space on the formation of this word can be illustrated through the following diagram.

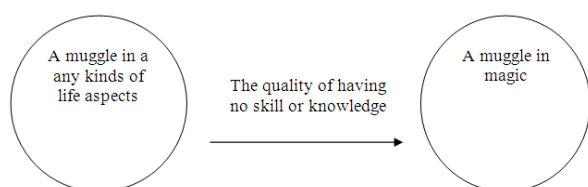


From the diagram above, the quality of a noun that can be attached to the -ish morpheme is transferred from the collection of nouns to the Dursley. Therefore, the word "Dursley" is not just a family name but has also changed its quality to a noun that has certain qualities, namely the quality of being Dursleys. Thus, when the word UnDursleyish is formed, this word has the meaning of not being like one of the Dursley family. Conceptual correspondence through the mental space of the formation of this word is as follows.

1. X is a Dursley and Y is a collection of nouns.
2. The nature of X can be equated with the nature of Y.
3. The process of X derivation can be likened to the process of derivation Y.
4. The meaning carried by X can be likened to the meaning carried by Y.

### Muggle

The author produced a new word namely "muggle" in her novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone". Although the word "muggle" has already existed in English dictionary, the meaning carried in the novel is different. In the English dictionary, the word "muggle" is used in an informal way. It means a person who does not have a particular type of skill or knowledge. For example, "He is a total muggle in sewing". The sentence contains a meaning that the person has no sewing skill. However, this word is used by the characters in the novel to address a person who does not have magical powers. This word is used in the sentence "A **Muggle**," said Hagrid, "it's what we call nonmagic folk like them. An' it's your bad luck you grew up in a family o' the biggest **Muggles** I ever laid eyes on". In the sentence, it is obvious that Hagrid describes about the use of the word "muggle" which is to call anyone who does not have magical power like them. It also appears in the other sentence, "They had reached the station. There was a train to London in five minutes' time. Hagrid, who didn't understand "**Muggle** money," as he called it, gave the bills to Harry so he could buy their tickets". The author used her creativity to compose this new word in the novel by applying the mental space theory. The conceptual correspondence that occurs in the formation of this phrase can be described through the following figure.



The author created a new word “muggle” in her novel by transferring the nature of having no skill or knowledge from any types of life aspects to magic. Therefore, in her novel, the word “muggle” was only used to call somebody who does not have skill or knowledge in magic. The nature of muggle of both domains is alike but the reference is different. The reference of the source domain can be taken from any life aspect such as running, swimming, reading, etc. However, the target realm only has magic as its reference. Conceptual correspondence through the mental space of the formation of this word is as follows.

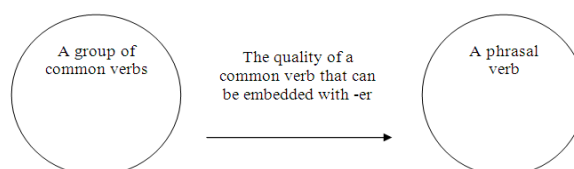
1. X is a anyone who lives in a world consisting of magical and non-magical world and Y is a anyone who lives in a normal world.
2. The nature of X can be equated with the nature of Y.
3. Reference from X is different from reference from Y.

### Put-outer

This word is one of J. K. Rowling’s creations in her novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone". This word consists of a phrasal verb “put out” and a free morpheme “-er”. The phrasal verb “put sth out” means “to make a light stop shining by pressing a switch”. For example, it can be used in the sentence “You should put the lights out in the bedroom before you sleep”. It means that before sleeping, the person should turn off the lamps in the bedroom. In addition, the free morpheme “-er” has a function to change a verb to be a noun. For example, the word teach as a verb can be changed into a noun by adding “-er” and it create the word teacher which means someone who teaches something. The derivation process commonly occurs on the common verbs. However, in the novel, the derivation process is used for a phrasal verb.

From the combination of the phrase and free morpheme, a new meaning can be created namely something to make a light stop shining by pressing a switch. However, the word “put-outer” cannot be found in a dictionary. This word is created by J. K. Rowling in her novel to refer to a magical tool used by Albus Dumbledore to remove light sources from surroundings. The word is used in the sentence “*He clicked it again — the next lamp flickered into darkness. Twelve times he clicked the Put-Outer, until the only lights left on the whole street were two*

*tiny pinpricks in the distance, which were the eyes of the cat watching him*”. From the sentence, the person in the sentence used the Put-Outer to take the light sources on the street. J. K. Rowling created a new noun referring to a magical tool by applying the correspondence conceptual process. Conceptual correspondence through the mental space of the formation of this word is as follows.



The diagram above shows that the source domain is a group of common verbs such as run, write, and many others. On the other hand, the target domain is a phrasal verb namely put out. The author transferred the nature of common verbs to a phrasal verb. The nature is being able to be embedded with the free morpheme –er and form a noun. Therefore, the phrasal verb “put-out” is embedded by –er to form a new word namely “put-outer”. Conceptual correspondence through the mental space of the formation of this word is as follows.

1. X is a phrasal verb and Y is a collection of common verbs.
2. The nature of X can be equated with the nature of Y.
3. The process of X derivation can be likened to the process of derivation Y.
4. The meaning carried by X can be likened to the meaning carried by Y.

### Conclusion and Recommendation

Based on the analysis of the data obtained it can be concluded that J. K. Rowling in his novel entitled "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer 's Stone, especially in chapter I-III, produces many new words namely undursleyish,you-know-who, muggle, Mrs. Next Door, put-outer, dinky duddydums and man-crushing. In addition, the elements that appear in conceptual correspondence can be aspects of the physical environment such as the nature and location as well as the linguistic aspects such as the derivation process, purpose of use, meaning, etc.

This research is a semantic research on a small scale. The author assumes that there are still shortcomings in this paper. Therefore, further research needs to be done by listing new words in the entire novel so that better generalizations can be made. In addition, further research can also discuss the characterization of the realm of resources and linkages in the mental space that exists when forming a word.

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