

Indonesian Language Destroyers Applied by Public Figures Through Social Media

Ali Amran¹

¹Department of English Teaching, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara
email: aliamran@umsu.ac.id (correspondence email)

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to investigate why Indonesian public figures mix some English words or phrases into the Indonesian language when they are having some conversations on social media, like on TV, and YouTube channels. The researcher also wants to professionally discover some negative effects of the grammar, and meanings of those mixing (Indonesian-English) statements conducted by public figures. All language experts agree that every language has its own standard rules to follow. For example, when we write, “*There are three problems in this statement*”. It is grammatically non-standard English. The verb “*is*” must be changed with “*are*” and the word “*problem*” must be plus “*s*”. It becomes “*There are three problems in this statement*”. Let alone when we mix some English words or phrases into the Indonesian language. One example, “*Saya hanya mau sharing--haring informasi*”. The questions are, 1). Does this sentence make any sense? 2). Does the user know the meaning of the word sharing? 3). Does this sentence produce the standard grammar either in English or in the Indonesian language? The standard one is “*Saya hanya mau berbagi informasi*”. Besides, the words “*sharing-sharing*” are not available and applicable in English. The researcher’s opinion is mixing words into different languages is called a “*language destroyer*”. It is expected that this study will be beneficial for those language teachers, lecturers, and public figures, and also hoped that in the future language “destroyers” less and less.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Many linguists and language philosophers in the world keep reading, investigating, and making some comparisons, and they are even very keen on conducting more and more research on languages. It is true that languages in the world also keep developing as human beings do. More and more new vocabularies keep appearing in those languages. Some universities in this world, through their faculties, also provide some foreign languages as of elective subjects so students can choose which foreign language they can take and learn as their non-mandatory subject. Many university students in many different universities overseas decide to learn Indonesian as either a mandatory or a non-mandatory subject. Then once they graduate and master Indonesian, later on, they can apply for a job in the Indonesian embassy or Indonesian general consulates in overseas as either as an interpreter or as a

translator. That is the very reason why immigration offices in overseas do need several Indonesian speaking experts to be interpreter as well as translator when Indonesian travellers who do not speak the spoken language in that immigration office there.

The question related to this study is that, first, why do some people need to learn and master another language? In Indonesia, for example, there are some great reasons why several foreign people learn to master another language. 1). They want to manage and do some local trading, and find more customers. 2). They have to move and stay in that local place for the sake of job activities. 3). They want to know the local language and local culture for their study. 4). They want to get married to the local people and stay there so they need the local language and so forth. Second, why do some people in the world try to learn another foreign language? There are several great reasons that the researcher finds out, they are as the following, 1). Some students find their further and related studies in foreign country. 2). Some workers apply for a job and accepted by the company in overseas. 3). Some researchers are conducting their research in overseas. 4). Some travellers learn foreign language just for fun.

As we know that there are tremendous number of Indonesian students continue their studies in foreign countries and even millions of legal and illegal Indonesian workers are making money to earn living in overseas. This fact can drive the researcher to temporarily conclude that nowadays Indonesian language is spoken by more and more speakers worldwide. Besides, there are tremendous number of foreign travellers, foreign business players, international researchers, and even more foreign language professors, lecturers and teachers are learning Indonesian language in their countries. When the researcher visited Saudi Arabia, particularly Medina and Mecca cities, the researcher met lots of foreign people speak Indonesian. Most of them were running their business activities there. One of them claimed that he learned Indonesian since millions of Indonesians visit those two main cities for special holly programs called Umrah and Haj pilgrim. The researcher found that these people speak Indonesian, but grammatically far away from being standard. Sometimes misunderstanding takes place, because they sometimes mix the words Indonesian and English. Example “tidak expensive”

When the researcher applied for the visa in the American Embassy in Jakarta, he found some American employees used Indonesian standardly. Then when the researcher arrived in the immigration office in LA, one of the officers said *“don’t worry gentleman, if you do not speak English well here in our office, we have prepared somebody who can speak Indonesian because we do need real and true information from you”*. Another professional and pleasure speaking experience when the researcher arrived in the International Airport in Taipei, Taiwan. The researcher did not speak Mandarin at all, but most of the airport officers used Mandarin. Since the researcher could speak standard English so the conversation ran smoothly.

This study tries to identify and investigate those mixing (Indonesian and English) words or phrases produced by Indonesian public figures through social medias, like televisions and You Tube channels, that create some notorious matters toward those Indonesian language experts, it can be a bad lesson for the future generation of Indonesian in terms of using standard Indonesian language grammar, since those Indonesian public figures keep producing without having any control from the state government. In this study, the researcher also tries to identify those broken and unaccepted language structures produced by Indonesian public figures. The matters that the researcher wants to investigate is mainly why those public figures enjoy mixing English words or phrases into one Indonesian sentence. One great example, “... aku cuma mau sharing-sharing ... “ (Kick Andy Program on Metro TV, with the title, Unik tapi Cantik. *“Aku cuma mau sharing-*

sharing...”: *Aku Cuma mau* is in Indonesian sentence. While “*Sharing-sharing*” is an English phrase? In English we merely use the word “share” into five forms of the words which bring different functions and meanings. For example, ... *share... shares.... Shared.... And sharing...* No sharing-sharing. Let’s take a close look at the following examples below;

- 1). I will always **share** any ideas with them. [future tense],
- 2). I **share** the information to the students before the class. [present tense]
- 2). She **shares** her knowledge with us every day. [present tense, third singular subject]
- 3). He **shared** some great solutions with me yesterday evening. [past tense],
- 4). They enjoyed **sharing** those bright ideas in the meeting. [Gerund],
- 5). We **will be sharing** some great ideas with us soon. [future progressive tense].

Also let’s seriously examine the following statements;

1. Aku cuma mau *sharing-sharing* pendapatku. [I just want to share my opinion]
2. Bagaiman dengan tingkat *electability* nya sebagai calon presiden? [How about his level of electability as a candidate for president?]
3. Keluarga anda sudah *supporting*? 3). [Have your family members supported?]
4. Dia tidak memiliki *credibility* untuk posisi itu. [He has no credibility on that position]

In the process of learning or practicing a new language you are learning, making mistakes is not a big deal, you still can make some great efforts to make it standard, but when you make poor mistakes (un-grammatical language) public is not wise as public figures. The researcher believes that not all local people have the same language knowledge as you pretend to. In English, for example, if we want to have standard English grammar, we can do the huge number of exercises through TOEFL, particularly through structure and written expressions. These parts of exercises can help learners improve their standard English grammar.

The following statements may drive Indonesian people to misunderstand, especially people who know nothing about English;

1. Kemana kamu pergi yesterday subuh? [Where did you go yesterday early morning?]
2. Saya tidak banyak time berbicara sama kamu. [I don’t have much time to talk with you]
3. Suruh dia take obat dari doktor itu sekarang. [Ask him to take the pain killers prescribed by his doctor]

Misunderstanding, when you are communicating with foreign people, can appear when you mispronounce the words either in English or in Indonesian. Then, it is advised that we must learn the standard pronunciation before we produce the words or phrases to avoid misunderstanding.

1. Why those public figures can easily mix some Indonesian - English words or phrases when they are having some Indonesian dialogues, debates, interviews, and other speaking activities throughout social media, like televisions and you tube channels.
2. After mixing those English words or phrases into Indonesian language by those public figures, will the real statements still make any sense?

3. What are the very negative effects of mixing those English words or phrases into Indonesian language, especially dealing with the implementation of using Indonesian language “*pergunakanlah bahasa Indonesia yang baik dan benar*”?

Language and Rules

What is language? Again, different language experts in this world may scientifically define language differently. They can define language based on their scientific knowledge and professional working experience. Julia S at all, claim that language reflects both the individual characteristics of a person, as well as the beliefs and practices of his or her community. They further agreed that languages are rule-governed systems made up of signs, so for an outsider to learn the language of the community. In conjunction with language and rules, then Yehonatan Givati, asks a question, can language be centrally planned and controlled? Then Friedrich Hayek considered language the archetypal example of spontaneous order, yet many countries adopt a planned order approach to language, attempting to centrally plan and control it through language academies.

In this case, the researcher agrees that to master a language, learners have to learn it through its set-up rules, sounds and signs, too. Besides, the learners have to know the characteristics of the language, including the rules and the systems so that they can walk and run in it. Indonesian and English both have many different characteristics. Say for instance, in terms of their grammar and their meanings; In English: “*I cat my little finger*”, while in Indonesian: “*Jari kecil saya tersayat*”. Both speakers have no intention of cutting their little fingers. Now let’s mix the rules or the grammar of these two sentences. “*I cat my little jari*” ... in English and “*Jari little saya tersayat*”, another great example; in English, “*I will not pay that cicil*”, and in Indonesian ... “*Saya akan bayar cash*”. In this case, foreign learners and foreign speakers will feel confused. While most Indonesians are already familiar with the term “cash”. Language rule is crucial in applying a language. Azizah Nurzika R at all, in their article agree that a scientific article should include and discuss a certain case about scientific rules (Ghufron, 2014). The problem is that what will happen when we damage the rules of a certain language by mixing the words or phrases of several languages when we use it? For example, “*Come come lah to my house!*”. “*Why our salary no up up?*” we do agree that both languages (Indonesian and English) have rules to follow, the followings are the examples standard and non-standard Indonesian and English:

Table 1. Standard Indonesian and English

No.	The Standard Indonesian	The Standard English
1.	Kami butuh beberapa <i>orang pintar</i> .	We do need some <i>smart people</i>
2.	Dia tidak memiliki <i>kredibilitas</i>	He has no <i>credibility</i>
3.	Apa ada <i>suport</i> dari keluarga?	Do you have any <i>support</i> from family?
4.	Saya hanya <i>mau berbagi</i> infomasi	I just wanted <i>to share</i> some information

Table 2. Non- Standard Indonesian and English

No.	The Non-standard Indonesian	The non-standard English
1.	Kami butuh beberapa <i>pintar orang</i> .	We do some need <i>people smart</i>
2.	Dia tidak memiliki <i>kredibility</i>	He no has <i>credibility</i>
3.	Apa ada <i>suport</i> dari keluarga?	From your family you <i>support</i> any?
4.	Saya hanya infomasi <i>mau berbagi</i>	I wanted just <i>to sharing</i> information

Generally speaking, the researcher believes that, both new English and Indonesian learners could understand the meaning of the standard and non-standard statements printed above. Anyway, the native speakers of each language can predict and understand the meanings of those statements even they are not grammatically arranged.

Language and Meanings

Talking about meaning, meaning is a complex translation and interpretation activities. To gain the real meaning of some particular words or phrases in a certain language, the translator and interpreter have to have such huge information, knowledge, experience both in first language and in the target language. The meaning can be disconnected when the translator and interpreter do not have these three categories. In another words, both the speaker and the listener cannot run the conversation smoothly. Further, Jesus Martinez, at al, explains that the meaning constitutes the series of contents making up the linguistic world human subjects can manage real things with. That is one of the reasons why the real things are not described with meanings but merely represented and designated. Meanings represent the essence of things thus making them members of a category, Jesus Martinez further explains, in this sense, meaning is the base to create things in as much as they constitute entities. Only through the operation of determination can meanings designate individual real things. Since meaningful categories are intended to particular purposes, meaning is intentional and inclusive. Jesus Marinez, at al, further clarify that meaning as the original function of language is the arrangement of internal things on the part of the creative and historical individual subject who speaks a particular language. Even one word in the same language may have diverse meaning, too. In English for example, the word “run” may carry several different meanings. It depends very much on the context. The word “run” in the following statements carry different meanings. 1). Uncle Clinton *runs* a few business activities in Indonesia. [run means manages], 2). Blue colour *runs* well with white colour. [run mean suitable], 3). My nose is *running* in every rainy season. [running means having flue], 4). Bukit Lawang river is long and *running* very fast. [running means flowing], 5). That lady cannot *run* very fast. [run means move].

The meaning of one word in one language may have different meaning in another language. For example, the word “*utuh*” in Indonesian means something which is *still useful*. While the word “*utuh*” in Gayonese, spoken language in central Aceh, means “*penis*”. The very contrary one is that the word “*nggih*”. This word means “*yes*” in Javanese, but “*no*” in Gayonese. Now what will happen when, first, some says one word in English repeatedly. For example, sharing-sharing, little-little, and second, what is going on when one mixes words or phrases from different language into two different languages? As an example, 1). *Saya hanya mau sharing-sharing*, 2). *Saya bisa berbahasa Inggris tapi little-little*. 3). *I don't want to pay it cicil*, 4). *Kamu bisa pay mobil baru itu cash?* Do they make sense for those native and non-native speakers? Are they grammatically acceptable? And are they naturally and structurally standard languages? The airplane can crash in the air when the pilot misunderstands about the information, he gets from the speaker in the tower building. The officer in the tower says, “OK. Pilot, due to bad weather, instruct the pilot to fly the airplane about **70.000** above sea level, but the pilot misunderstands the info, he flies the plane above **17.000**. Finally the plane hits the mountain and crash. All these examples are related to what Jesus Martinez, at al, explains that the meaning constitutes the series of contents making up the linguistic world human subjects can manage real things with. Real things are not described with meanings but merely represented and designated. Meanings represent the essence of things thus making them members of a category. In this sense,

meaning is the base to create things in as much as they constitute entities. Only through the operation of determination can meanings designate individual real things.

Since meaningful categories are intended to particular purposes, meaning is intentional and inclusive. And also the above examples are really related to what Radika S, at al, write that, Halliday convinces the three factors namely 1). Textual, namely the context form of the speech that represents the meaning of the speech; 2). Ideational, namely the content of the message to be conveyed; 3). Interpersonal, namely the meaning that is present in the speech event by the user. There is no consensus on a theory that can be used for all situation. In English, for instance, the words “*Stay*” and “*Live*” carry different meanings, “*Where do you stay?*” (asking for temporary address), while “*Where do you live?*” (asking for permanent address). Truly speaking, Indonesian also carries different meanings when talking about words and their meanings. For examples, the Indonesian words, “*tinggal, meninggal, tertinggal, bertinggalan, ketinggalan, ditinggalkan*”. Indonesians may think twice to gain the meaning of the following statement, “*Berapa lama bapak meninggal di Amerika?*” From these examples, the researcher concludes that, when we speak a language, no matter even in the same language, applying the wrong words then we may have disconnected meanings.

Language Destroyers

Discussing about languages and their destroyers, the researcher keeps thinking and asking who the best language destroyers are? Are they public figures, educated people or those who are un-educated once? It is expected that by conducting this study research, the researcher could find the right answers. In fact, he agrees that when new language learners make some errors in processing as well as learning in order for them to master that new language. But the researcher really does not agree when they keep making and repeating the same stupid mistakes after leaning a language such in long time, let alone when they pick up some words from other language then, when they speak, mix them with the other different words from the other language. As an example; “*Dalam kasus itu kita gak bisa down play, kita tidak bisa lupa*”. [Mata Najwa Program, August 6, 2023.<http://youtu.be/vuoPiRVVfk>]. The question is how many indonesian can understand it? It is difficult to predict and understand its meaning since one sentence consists of some words in Indonesian and others in English. Perhaps even the speaker does not know its real meaning.

The problems and the questions are, what can happen in the future if we do not do any professional efforts to prevent those notorious public figures who freely mix Indonesian and English words when they talking in public event. As what, Aziza Nurizka R, at al, Indonesian Lecturer, FKIP Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, clarify that, if a published paper has many spelling errors, of course, in the future, more errors will be found. In fact, the worst possibility is that the correct and incorrect Indonesian language will be even more difficult to distinguish. As said by (Farhani 2013: 1) the accuracy of the use of spelling can be used as a measure of the extent to which a person's "language understanding", can even be a measure of a person's "language literacy".

Public Figures

Who are the right persons to be intitled or classified as public figures? People who still alive or those people who already passed away? When and why do people name them public figures? Are they due to super rich? Super strong? Super genius? Super sexy? The researcher agrees that to become a public figure anywhere and anytime one has to face the following steps. First thing to have in mind is that one has to begin with what his real dream is. Second, he has to possess some great deal of talent, he has to convince himself about what

he is talented about. Then he has to spend huge amount of time and energy seeking, reading and understanding any related news and information toward what his real dream and his great talent is. Also, he has to manage some routine activities like attending any related seminar, workshop, conference, debates and discussion in order for him to know what to do and what not to do. Finally, he has to manage much time conducting and practicing those great activities to make his dream and talent come true, just like when grow a star-fruit tree, to become a giant star-fruit tree, it will take years and this growing-up star-fruit tree really needs some best services and treatments, like watering it every time, giving some related fertilizers, cutting down some broken and dying leaves. It takes some years in order to be a giant star-fruit tree. When the tree is getting old and strong enough, then it will produce some flowers. These flowers produce some star fruits finally give some great benefit for the owner. So become a public figure is not like eating red hot chili.

Social Media

Social Media (SM) now is needed by any communication researcher to ease their activities in line with the information. As what Mulugeta Deribe Damota, Madda Walabu Uninversity, clarifies that social media as "information sources" and we give answer to the question. In this research study the researcher tries to find out some definitions of media social. Furthermore, Mulugeta explains that social media is generally used as an umbrella term that describes a variety of online platforms, including blogs, business networks, collaborative projects, enterprise social networks, forums, microblogs, photo sharing, products review, social bookmarking, social gaming, SN, video sharing, and virtual worlds.⁴ Given this broad spectrum of social media platforms, the applications of social media are quite diverse and not limited to sharing holiday snapshots or advertising and promotion.

II. METHODS

This research study applies the qualitative methods of research which explains and clarifies why those public figures can easily produce ungrammatical English, in another word, they can smoothly destroy English while they are having conversations, dialogues, debates in Indonesian language through those social medias, particularly TV Stations and You Tube Channels. The objects of this research study are the broken English (English which is destroyed by those public figures while they are having conversations, dialogues, debates in Indonesian language through those social medias.

Data Collection

The data of this study are derived from the conversations, dialogue, debates, interviews of those public figures live either on televisions or other social media like you tube channels. The processes of collecting the data are as the following

1. Searching, the researcher searches those conversations, dialogues, debates, interviews of those public figures live either on televisions or other social media like you tube channels.
2. Watching, the researcher watches them repeatedly till he is convinced that he finds out those un-grammatical, non-standard, and broken English which produced by those public figures.

3. Making List, Finally, the researcher writes down those un-grammatical, non-standard, and broken English which produced by those public figures into the tables, like the following.

Data Analysis

The researcher, throughout the listed and stated information above, finally tries to do some strong and very careful analysis why they are grammatically broken and how the speakers destroy Indonesian language.

Table 3. List of Program

No	Name of Program	Name/ Speaker Codes	Date/ Month/ Year	Statements	Link
1.	Mata Najwa	M.A.	06/08/23	Mungkin kita nanti <i>reveal</i> nya	https://youtu.be/c0-4kWWU94Q
2.	Mata Najwa	N.S.	06/08/23	Kamu apply nya Pendidikan?	https://youtu.be/c0-4kWWU94Q
3.	Mata Najwa	N.S.	06/08/23	Cuman <i>at least</i> kamu bisa melakukan itu	https://youtu.be/b-JteSHbhks
4.	Jassica Jane	J.J.	06/08/23	Sedih banget ternyata sudah <i>sold out</i> .	https://youtu.be/NS9AK9v30FI

Table 4. Non-Standard and Standard

Non-Standard in Indonesian	The Standard ones in Indonesian
1). Mungkin kita nanti <i>reveal</i> nya	Mungkin kita mengungkapnya nanti
2). Kamu <i>apply</i> nya Pendidikan?	Kamu melamarnya bidang Pendidikan?
3). Cuman <i>at least</i> kamu bisa.	Paling tidak kamu harus bisa
4). Sedih banget ternyata sudah <i>sold out</i>	Sangat sedih ternyata tiket sudah terjual habis

The English words, like, *reveal*, *apply*, and *sell* can be used in four different word functions. Namely, reveal, reveals, revealed, revealing. apply, applies, applied, applying, sell, sells, sold selling.

Deeper analysis;

1. She *will reveal* it soon
2. She *reveals* it every morning
3. She *has revealed* it last night
4. She *will be revealing* it when she arrives in the office

1. *Will you apply* in Education?
 2. *Do you apply* in Education every year?
 3. *Did you apply* in Education last time?
 4. *Have you applied* in Education yet?
 5. *Have you been applying* in Education?
- Will you be applying* in Education next time?

The question is that, do the users above realize that they make a big mistake when they mix some words which are derived from two different languages, Indonesian and English? It is agreeable and acceptable when those foreign words have officially been adopted into Indonesian language. Say for example, The word **advice** in English has been adopted into Indonesian as ... *advis*, The word **research** in English has been adopted into Indonesian as *riset*. These two adopted words then have different pronunciation too.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The findings reveal that there are two big sins that these people make in this study. First, they destroy the grammar of both Indonesian and English. The second they also sometimes use non-standard English pronunciation. It is believable that those educated people can predict and understand the meanings of the following statements. But who can guarantee that those uneducated people in Indonesia can easily understand the statements that they have produced. The followings are the findings.

Bagaimana kita di **brought up** oleh hubungan kita dengan orang tua”
 The word **brought** is derived from: **bring, brings, brought, brought, bringing**.
 It is not clear that if the sentence is past tense or passive one.

Dalam proses itu kita gak bisa **downplay**, kita gak bisa lupa bahwa kita sangat dipengaruhi”.
 The word **downplay** is derived from: **downplay, downplays, downplayed, downplayed, downplaying**.

Dulu laki-laki memakai sarung juga bahkan ada yang memakai **dress** juga”
 The word **dress** is derived from: **dress, dresses, dressed, dressed, dressing**.

Gak tanggung tanggung dalam menyatakan **statement statement** yang kontroversial”
 The word **statement** is derived from: **state, states, stated, stated, stating, statement**.

Aku kan ini ya agak agak **hopeless romantic**
 The word **hopeless** is derived from: **hope, hopes, hoped, hoped, hoping, hopeless**.

IV. CONCLUSION

After conducting the research, the conclusion is that language destroyers take place in some languages. They destroy that language since they mix the words or phrases from one language into another different language without realizing that they also destroy the grammar of the language. There is no guarantee that all people can easily understand the meanings of some certain mixed-words or mixed-phrases of particular language. The researcher believes that those broken language grammars can drive listeners or readers misunderstand or misinterpret in understanding the truth. Every language expert agrees that

any language [spoken – written] has rules to follow, not just by mixing words or phrases from one and into another language without caring the language rules itself.

After conducting this study then the researcher can drive some great conclusions. First of all, it is not wise to mix directly some words or phrases from another language into Indonesian language grammar. They can all, realized or not, damage Indonesian language grammar. If you do so you have to be extra careful in pronouncing those mixing words or phrases, since they can drive Indonesian listeners misunderstand in terms of meanings, and this can lead listeners feel confused, which finally misunderstanding will certainly take place.

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