



The Relationship Meaning of Antonyms and Synonyms in the Gorontalo Language

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the forms and meanings of antonyms and synonyms verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the Gorontalo language. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method. data collection techniques, namely listening techniques, note-taking, recording, and interview. Data analysis conducted using the Miles and Huberman model, which includes data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The validity of the data in this study was tested through source triangulation. The results of the study indicate (1) antonyms forms in the Gorontalo language consist of absolute antonyms, relative antonyms, and relational antonyms. In the verb class, absolute antonyms are found as many as 6 data and relational antonyms as many as 3 data. In the adverb class, an absolute antonym is found to be 1 data and a relative antonym of 1 data. In the adjective class, absolute antonyms were found to be 11 data and relative antonyms were found to be 16 data. Furthermore, in the word class word circumstances, absolute antonyms were found to be 8 data and relative antonyms were found to be 3 data. (2) synonym forms in the Gorontalo language are found in the class of verbs as many as 6 data, adverbs as many as 5 data, adjectives as many as 17 data, and words circumstances as many as 10 data. Antonyms indicate a relationship of opposing meanings between words, while synonyms indicate a relationship of identical or similar meanings between words in the Gorontalo language.

Keywords: relationship meaning, antonyms, synonyms, Gorontalo language

Relasi Makna Antonim dan Sinonim dalam Bahasa Gorontalo

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan bentuk dan makna antonim kata kerja, kata keterangan, kata sifat, dan kata keadaan dalam bahasa Gorontalo. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Teknik pengumpulan data meliputi teknik simak, teknik catat, teknik rekam, dan teknik wawancara. Analisis data dilakukan dengan model Miles dan Huberman yang meliputi reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Keabsahan data dalam penelitian ini diuji melalui triangulasi sumber. Hasil penelitian menyatakan (1) bentuk antonim dalam bahasa Gorontalo terdiri atas antonim mutlak, antonim relatif (bergradasi), dan antonim relasional. Pada kelas kata kerja ditemukan antonim mutlak sebanyak 6 data dan antonim relasional sebanyak 3 data. Pada kelas kata keterangan ditemukan antonim mutlak sebanyak 1 data dan antonim relatif sebanyak 1 data. Pada kelas kata sifat ditemukan antonim mutlak sebanyak 11 data dan antonim relatif sebanyak 16 data. Selanjutnya, pada kelas kata keadaan ditemukan antonim mutlak sebanyak 8 data dan antonim relatif sebanyak 3 data. (2) bentuk sinonim dalam bahasa Gorontalo ditemukan pada kelas kata kerja sebanyak 6 data, kata keterangan sebanyak 5 data, kata sifat sebanyak 17 data, dan kata keadaan sebanyak 10 data. Makna antonim menunjukkan hubungan pertentangan makna antarkata, sedangkan sinonim menunjukkan hubungan kesamaan atau kemiripan makna antarkata dalam bahasa Gorontalo.

Keywords: relasi makna, antonim, sinonim, bahasa Gorontalo

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INTRODUCTION

Regional languages are an important element that reflects the cultural identity of a community. Regional languages not only function as a means of communication in daily life but also serve as markers of identity and a means of preserving cultural values from one generation to the next. Chapter XV, Article 36 of the 1945 Constitution states that regional languages still in use by their speaking communities are valued and preserved by the state because they are part of Indonesia's living culture. This demonstrates that regional languages hold an important position in maintaining the nation's cultural diversity. A regional language is one that has been passed down through generations by the people of a particular region. Regional languages serve as symbols of regional pride and identity, as a means of communication among family members, support the development of both regional culture and the Indonesian language, and contribute to the preservation of regional and national literature (Astawa, 2021:101). These functions demonstrate that regional languages not only serve as a tool for communication but also as a means of passing on cultural values to future generations. The use of regional languages is an important part of the language acquisition process from an early age. Furthermore, regional languages also serve as the first language acquired by individuals within the family environment (Djou et al., 2021:1360). Therefore, the existence of regional languages plays a crucial role in shaping the language abilities and identity of their speakers.

One regional language still used by the community is the Gorontalo language (BG). The Gorontalo language is used by the Gorontalo people in their daily lives, whether within the family, the community, or during traditional and religious activities. This language is used by people of all ages, from the elderly to the younger generation, although its use is more prevalent in informal communication within the local community. Historically, the Gorontalo language

has long been used as a mother tongue passed down from generation to generation by the community (Djou et al., 2021). This language has evolved alongside the social life of the community and has become an integral part of shaping the region's cultural identity. In its usage, the Gorontalo language possesses unique characteristics, particularly in terms of vocabulary and meaning. Additionally, the Gorontalo language has a distinctive feature in its sound system: the distinction between long and short vowels. In written Gorontalo, the glottal stop is transcribed exactly as it is pronounced and is not represented by a specific phoneme such as /q/ or /ʔ/. For example, the words {mona'o} and {wala'o} are written exactly as they are, not {monaʔo} or {mona?o}, nor {walaʔo} or {wala?o}. This distinction must be understood to prevent misunderstandings regarding word meanings in communication (Baruadi et al., 2017). However, in the practical use of the Gorontalo language, inaccuracies in word choice are still found, which can lead to differences in understanding during communication. Furthermore, many speakers still use the Gorontalo language in their daily lives without a deep understanding of the meanings and relationships between the words they use. This indicates that understanding of meaning in the Gorontalo language still needs to be improved.

This issue relates to the aspect of meaning in language, which is one of the subjects of study in the field of semantics. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies meaning and the relationships between linguistic units. According to Butar-butur (2021:2), semantics is the field of study that examines the meaning conveyed through language use. As a branch of linguistics, semantics investigates meaning within linguistic units as well as the relationship between linguistic signs and the objects they signify. One area of study within semantics is the relationship of meaning. Meaning relations are a topic that examines the semantic connections between linguistic units. These



linguistic units include words, phrases, and sentences (Chaer, 2018:83). These relations demonstrate how words are interconnected in terms of meaning-whether through similarities, differences, or connections within a specific context. Meaning relations generally encompass various types of word relationships, such as synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, polysemy, hyponyms, ambiguity, and redundancy. However, this study will focus on the antonym and synonym relationships in the Gorontalo language (BG).

Antonyms are the relationship of meaning between two words or units of speech that have opposite, contradictory, or contrasting meanings with each other. For example, in the Gorontalo language, the word {*olohu*} is 'diligent' and {*lantingo*} is 'lazy'. The two words have opposite meanings. The use of sentences such as *Ti Sasri mo'olohu da'a mo balajari*, the sentence explains that 'Sasri is very diligent in studying' and *Ti Ica lantingo da'a mo balajari*, the sentence explains that 'Ica is very lazy to learn'. From these two words, it is explained that the meanings are opposite to each other. While synonyms are words that have the same meaning. As for those who explain synonyms, they are words that have the same or almost the same meaning (similar). Although the words differ in form, they can be used interchangeably to convey the same meaning depending on the context in which they are used. For example, the words {*watiya*} 'me' and {*wa'u*} 'i'. The two words have the same meaning (synonyms). The use in sentences such as *watiya mamona'o de sikola* the sentence explains that 'I am going to school' and *wa'u mamona'o de sikola*, the sentence explains that 'I will go to school'. Thus, in the Gorontalo language, these two meanings can be found in various forms of vocabulary used by the community.

However, the use of synonyms and antonyms in the Gorontalo language is not always simple. Words that have the same meaning may not necessarily be used interchangeably in all contexts,

nor can words with opposite meanings always be absolute. This uniqueness shows that the relationship of meaning in the Gorontalo language is complex and contextual, so it is interesting to study further. In addition, the study of the relationship of meaning in the Gorontalo language, especially related to antonyms and synonyms, is still relatively limited. In fact, the study of the two meaning relationships is important to know the forms of meaning contained in the Gorontalo language and the relationship of meaning between these words in their use. Therefore, it is hoped that Gorontalo speakers will not only be able to use the language, but also understand the meaning and relationships between words in their use. This understanding is important so that the Gorontalo language can be used appropriately and its preservation is maintained as part of the regional cultural identity.

Based on this description, the researcher is interested in studying the form and meaning of antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language. This research focuses on the forms and meanings of antonyms and synonyms of verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the Gorontalo language. Thus, this research is expected to provide a clearer picture of the use of antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language.

Based on this description, the formulation of the problem in this study is (1) What are the forms and meanings of antonyms verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the Gorontalo language? (2) What are the forms and meanings of synonyms for verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the Gorontalo language?

This study aims to (1) describe the forms and meanings of antonyms of verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the Gorontalo language, and (2) describe the forms and meanings of synonyms of verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances in the

Gorontalo language. It is hoped that this study will benefit readers, help researchers broaden their knowledge and understanding of the semantic relationships between antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language, while also enhancing their experience in conducting linguistic research; provide a useful reference source for students studying or researching linguistics, particularly in the fields of semantics and regional languages; contribute to the preservation of the Gorontalo language through the documentation of the forms and usage of antonyms and synonyms; raise public awareness of the importance of preserving language as part of cultural heritage; and provide reference materials and scientific documentation to support the development of linguistic studies at the departmental level, particularly in the study of regional languages.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies meaning in language. According to Butarbutar (2021:2), semantics studies the meaning of language. Meanwhile, according to Raudatussolihah & Ritazhuhriah (2021:41), semantics is a branch of linguistics that examines meaning, including the origin of meaning, the process by which meaning is formed, and the essence of meaning. In line with the views of Kurniawan et al. (2023:9), semantics is a discipline that examines meaning, based on the perspective that meaning is one of the elements of language, making semantics a subfield of linguistics.

According to Arifianti (Nabilah et al., 2023:268), semantics is the science that examines the meaning or significance of language, encompassing the analysis of symbols or signs that convey meaning, as well as their development and changes. Therefore, it can be understood that semantics is a branch of linguistics that examines meaning or significance in the form of symbols or signs, with a scope related to language as a means of verbal communication produced by the human vocal apparatus. Semantics not only studies meaning but also the development and change of

meaning over time (Astuty, 2022:2). Thus, semantics also examines how meaning evolves and changes over time, not merely the meaning itself.

The relationship of meaning is a fundamental concept in semantics that describes how a word or linguistic form is connected to its intended meaning. In other words, this relationship explains how a word or linguistic element can be associated with a specific meaning the speaker intends to convey, thereby facilitating the understanding and analysis of meaning in cross-linguistic communication. According to Simorangkir et al. (2024:1298), the relationship of meaning is part of the study of semantics. A semantic relation refers to the connection between meanings, whether in the form of words, phrases, or sentences.

According to Sulastri (2020:152), the relationship of meaning can be interpreted as a relationship. This relationship shows how a word can be interrelated to another word in terms of meaning. Meanwhile, Chaer (2018:83) explained that meaning relations are one of the studies that discuss the semantic relationship between language units. The units here include various types of word relationships such as synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, hyponyms, polysememes, ambiguities, and redundancy. From these three opinions, it can be concluded that the relationship of meaning is part of a semantic study that discusses the relationship of meaning between language units, both words, phrases, and sentences. These relationships show how meanings are interconnected, such as similarity, opposition, expansion, and scope, which encompass different types of meaning relationships. Based on the understanding of meaning relations that have been explained earlier, the researcher focuses on the relationship between antonyms and synonyms meanings.

According to Chaer (2018:89), antonyms are semantic relationships between two utterances that have opposite, conflicting, or contrasting meanings. Meanwhile, according to Sukoco et al. (2024:524), antonyms can be defined as



oppositions based on their meanings. Antonyms can be distinguished into two main types, namely gradation antonyms and absolute antonyms. Gradation antonyms, such as hot and warm, show opposite meanings but on different levels. Meanwhile, absolute antonyms are words that are directly and absolutely opposite, such as life and death. Based on this view, antonyms can be seen not only as direct opposites, but also as changes in the intensity of meaning.

According to Pateda (2021:94), antonyms are two or more words with opposing meanings. In other words, antonyms describe opposing differences in meaning within a language, whether directly or in a specific context. In Indonesian language textbooks, antonyms are often explained as opposite words. However, it is not the words themselves that are opposites, but rather the meanings they convey. Units of speech that have antonyms are interrelated in two directions. For example, the word right is the antonym of left, so left is also the antonym of right, and the word day is the antonym of night, so night is the antonym of day. According to Tarigan (2021:29), antonyms are words that convey opposite or contradictory meanings. Thus, antonyms represent a semantic relationship where the meanings cannot be equated because they are opposite to one another. Based on their nature, Chaer (2018:90-93) classifies antonyms into several types: absolute antonyms, relative antonyms, relational antonyms, and hierarchical antonyms.

According to Nursida (2024:541), synonyms are a set of words that share the same meaning. Synonyms represent a semantic relationship indicating a similarity in meaning between one utterance and another. According to Chaer (2018:83), synonyms are words whose meanings are similar to those of other words. This aligns with the view of Saryono et al. (2021:3), who explain that synonyms are two or more words that have similar or nearly identical meanings. Furthermore, in a linguistic dictionary, a synonym is a linguistic

form whose meaning is similar to or the same as that of another form. According to Masfufah (2024:57), the study of synonyms focuses not only on similarities in meaning but also on the information conveyed by the words. In other words, even though two words may have similar meanings, differences in context and usage can affect those meanings.

Research relevant to this research has been conducted by Zelvina Anggraini et al. (2024) with the title *Meaning Relations in the Serawai Language of the "AU" Dialect (Synonyms, Antonyms, and Homonyms)* in Pasar Pino Village, Pino Raya District, South Bengkulu Regency. The results of the study show that the Serawai language has various forms of meaning relations, namely synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms. The similarity of the research with this study lies in the study of the relationship between meaning and the use of semantic approaches. The difference lies in the object of research, namely the Serawai language, while this study examines the Gorontalo language and focuses on antonyms and synonyms. The next relevant research was conducted by Pertiwi and Nurjanah (2023) with the title *Relation of Antonymic and Synonymous Meanings in the Short Story Collapse of Our Surau* by A.A. Navis. The results of the study showed that there were 20 synonymic data and 10 antonymic data in the short story. The similarity of the research with this study lies in the focus of the study, namely synonyms and antonyms. The difference lies in the source of the research data. Previous research used literary works as a data source, while this study used field data obtained from Gorontalo speakers.

Another study was conducted by Sibuea et al. (2023) with the title *Analysis of Meaning Relations in the Mandailing Language*. The results of the study show that there is a relationship of meaning in the form of synonyms, antonyms, and polysememes in the Mandailing language. The similarity of the research with this study lies in the use of a semantic approach and the object of

study in the form of regional languages. The difference lies in the focus of the research, because the previous research also examined polysemis, while this study only focused on antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language.

Based on these three studies, it can be seen that the study of meaning relations has been carried out in various regional languages and literary works. However, research that specifically describes the forms and meanings of antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language based on data obtained directly from native speakers is still limited. Therefore, this research was carried out to fill the gap in the study while enriching semantic research on regional languages, especially the Gorontalo language.

METHOD

This study uses a descriptive method. The descriptive method is used to describe the form and meaning of antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language in Bualemo village, Kwandang District, North Gorontalo Regency. According to Mardiana (2024:113), descriptive research is a research method that aims to describe the facts and characteristics of an object or phenomenon in a systematic, factual, and accurate manner based on data found in the field. The research data is in the form of words, expressions or speech that have antonyms and synonyms in the Gorontalo language. The data sources used include primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained from human informants who are native speakers of the Gorontalo language-ranging from adults to the elderly-who are fluent in using Gorontalo in their daily lives. Meanwhile, secondary data was sourced from existing references, such as dictionaries, books, journals, or other documents discussing the Gorontalo language. Data collection techniques in this study included listening, note-taking, recording, and interviews. Data analysis was then conducted using the Miles and Huberman model, which includes data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The

validity of the data in this study was tested through triangulation of data sources.

RESULTS

Based on research conducted in Bualemo Village, Kwandang District, North Gorontalo Regency, 87 data were obtained consisting of 179 vocabulary words in the Gorontalo language (BG) that have meaning relationships. The data consisted of 49 antonym data with a total of 98 vocabulary words and 38 synonym data with a total of 81 vocabulary words. All data is grouped based on word classes, namely verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and state words, then analyzed and described to find out the form and meaning of the meaning relationships contained in them. Absolute antonyms are found in verbs (6 data), adverbs (1 data), adjectives (11 data), and state words (8 data). Relative antonyms are found in adverbs (1 data), adjectives (16 data), and state words (3 data). Relational antonyms are found in verbs (3 data). While synonyms are found in verbs (6 data), adverbs (5 data), adjectives (17 data), and state words (10 data).

From what has been explained above, here are more detailed examples and explanations as well as the alignment between the research results that have been found in the field and the theories used by researchers.

1. Forms and Meanings of Antonyms in the Gorontalo Language

Based on the results of research conducted in Bualemo Village, Kwandang District, North Gorontalo Regency, a number of antonym data were found in the Gorontalo language which includes several classes of words, namely verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and state words. The data is then classified into several types of antonyms according to Chaer (2018:90-93), namely absolute antonyms, relative antonyms, relational antonyms, and hierarchical antonyms.



1.1 Absolute antonyms in the verb class

Absolute antonyms are pairs of words whose meanings are absolutely opposite to one another. Examples found based on the results of field research are presented in Table 1

Table 1
Absolute Antonyms in the Verb Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Hulo'o</i>	Sit
	<i>Tihulo</i>	Stand
2	<i>Lumualo</i>	Exit
	<i>Tuwoto</i>	Enter
3	<i>Bisala</i>	Talk
	<i>Po'ooyo</i>	Silent
4	<i>Tuluhi</i>	Sleep
	<i>Bongu</i>	Wake Up
5	<i>Hu'ato</i>	Open
	<i>He'uto</i>	Close
6	<i>Iililangi</i>	Lose
	<i>Lo'ohama</i>	Win

Hulo'o and Tihulo

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*Hulo'o*} 'sit' and {*tihulo*} 'stand'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo hulo-hulo'o to biihu dalalo

Tiyo tihu-tihulo to biihu dalalo

Examples of English constructions

He is standing by the roadside

He is sitting by the roadside

From the words {*hulo'o*} and {*tihulo*}, it can be seen that they truly have meanings that are clearly opposite. If someone is sitting, they certainly aren't standing; conversely, if someone is standing, they certainly aren't sitting. This indicates a process that cannot be performed simultaneously.

Lumualo and Tuwoto

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*lumualo*} 'exit' and {*tuwoto*} 'enter'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Kira-kira omoluwa watiya ma lumualo?

Watiya tilumuwotai to dulahu hamisi

Examples of English constructions

About when do I go out?

I walked in on Thursday

From the words {*lumualo*} and {*tuwoto*}, it's clear that they have distinctly opposite meanings. For example, when someone leaves, it means they're moving from the inside to the outside. Conversely, when someone enters, it means they're moving from the outside to the inside. These two directions are opposite to each other.

1.2 Absolute Antonyms in the Adverb Class

Examples found based on field research results are presented in Table 2.

Table 2
Absolute Antonyms in the Adverb Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Oloyihi</i>	Left
	<i>Olowala</i>	Right

Oloyihi and Olowala

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*oloyihi*} 'left' and {*olowala*} 'right'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Motitalu ode oloyihi

Motitalu ode olowala

Examples of English constructions

Facing left

Facing Right

From the words {*oloyihi*} and {*olowala*}, it can be seen that they truly have meanings that are clearly opposite. In everyday life, left and right are two different positions and cannot occupy the same point at the same time.

1.3 Absolute Antonyms in the Adjective

Word Class

Examples found based on field research results are presented in Table 3.

Table 3

Absolute Antonyms in the Adjective Word Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Hata</i>	Skinny
	<i>Lingohu</i>	Fat
2	<i>Patu</i>	Hot
	<i>Huhulo</i>	Cold
3	<i>Wolingo</i>	Sweet
	<i>Pa'ato</i>	Bitter
4	<i>Di'olomo</i>	Dark
	<i>Mobaango</i>	Bright
5	<i>Baango</i>	Clean
	<i>Kootoro</i>	Dirty
6	<i>Bohu</i>	New
	<i>Hihewo</i>	Old
7	<i>Hulodu</i>	Thick
	<i>Molipa</i>	Thin
8	<i>Otutu</i>	Correct
	<i>Tatalawa</i>	Wrong
9	<i>Olohu</i>	Diligent
	<i>Lantingo</i>	Lazy
10	<i>Lalito</i>	Sharp
	<i>Tinggulango</i>	Blunt
11	<i>Himbulo</i>	Lie
	<i>Matulidu</i>	Honest

Hata and Lingohu

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*hata*} 'skinny' and {*lingohu*} 'fat'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Sapi le Ica ma hata-hata

Sapi lingo-lingohu munga duungo binte

Examples of English constructions

Ica's cow is thin

The fat cow eats corn leaves

From the words {*hata*} and {*lingohu*}, it can be seen that they truly have meanings that are clearly opposite. If something is thin, it means it is not fat, and vice versa; if something is fat, it means it is not thin.

Patu and Huhulo

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*patu*} 'hot' and {*huhulo*} 'cold'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Buburu donggo mopatu

Buburumu ma mohuhulo

Examples of English constructions

The porridge is still hot

Your porridge is already cold

From the words {*patu*} and {*huhulo*}, it is clear that they have distinctly opposite meanings. Something cannot be both hot and cold at the same time under the same conditions.

1.4 Absolute Antonyms on the Class of circumstances

Examples found based on field research results are presented in Table 4.

Table 4

Absolute Antonyms on the Class of circumstances Sifat

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Tumulo</i>	Alive
	<i>Mate</i>	Deat
2	<i>Tato</i>	Wet
	<i>Hengu</i>	Dry
3	<i>Koosongi</i>	Empty
	<i>Lopolu</i>	Full
4	<i>Halale</i>	Halal
	<i>Haramu</i>	Haram
5	<i>Polaangolo</i>	Hungry
	<i>Butuhu</i>	Full
6	<i>Buheli</i>	Brave
	<i>Pukako</i>	Afraid



7	<i>Umtungi</i>	Profit
	<i>Yirugi</i>	Loss
8	<i>Nyaamani</i>	Healthy
	<i>Ngongoto</i>	Sick

Tumulo and Mate

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*tumulo*} ‘alive’ and {*mate*} ‘deat’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tete uwito donggo tutumulo

Tete uwito mayilate

Examples of English constructions

That cat is still alive

That cat is dead

From the words {*tumulo*} and {*mate*}, it can be seen that they truly have distinctly opposite meanings. A living creature cannot be both alive and dead at the same time.

Tato and Hengu

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*tato*} ‘wet’ and {*hengu*} ‘dry’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Sambe tato lo talaliyo

Talaliyo ma lohengu

Examples of English constructions

His pants are very wet

His pants are already dry

From the words {*tato*} and {*hengu*}, it can be seen that they truly have distinctly opposite meanings. A wet object contains water, while a dry object does not contain water.

1.5 Relative Antonyms in the Adverb Class

Relative antonyms or also called graded antonyms are pairs of words that do not contradict each other absolutely, but have cascading differences. Examples found based on field research are presented in Table 5.

Tabel 5
Relative Antonyms in the Adverb Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>To dimuka</i>	Front
	<i>To dibalaka</i>	Behind

To dimuka and To dibalaka

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*to dimuka*} ‘front’ and {*to dibalaka*} ‘behind’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo to dimuka

Tiyo to dibalaka

Examples of English constructions

He is in front

He is behind

From the words {*to dimuka*} and {*to dibalaka*}, it can be seen that there is a relative contradiction in meaning because there is still a possibility of intermediate levels between the two.

1.6 Relative Antonyms in the Adjective Word Class

Examples found based on field research results are presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Relative Antonyms in the Adjective Word Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Damango</i>	Big
	<i>Kiki'o</i>	Small
2	<i>Langgato</i>	Tall
	<i>Wopa</i>	Low
3	<i>Mahale</i>	Expensive
	<i>Mura</i>	Cheap
4	<i>Lotolo</i>	Strong
	<i>Lulupuhu</i>	Weak
5	<i>Linggahu</i>	Fast
	<i>Boyu</i>	Slow
6	<i>Sabari</i>	Patient
	<i>Yingo</i>	Angry

7	<i>Moletto</i>	Ugly
	<i>Gaga</i>	Good
8	<i>Heelo</i>	Light
	<i>Buheto</i>	Heavy
9	<i>Le'ato</i>	Agile
	<i>Pomboyongolo</i>	Slow
10	<i>Wolango</i>	Clear
	<i>Lili'ulo</i>	Turbid
11	<i>Buheli</i>	Brave
	<i>Pukako</i>	Afraid
12	<i>Lesto</i>	Evil
	<i>Piyohu</i>	Good
13	<i>Ulintapo</i>	Meticulous
	<i>Mayanumu</i>	Careless
14	<i>Aaruti</i>	Smooth
	<i>Alato</i>	Rough
15	<i>Haya'o</i>	Long
	<i>Podongo</i>	Short
16	<i>Daata</i>	Many
	<i>Ngo'idi</i>	little

Damango and Kiki'o

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*damango*} 'big' and {*kiki'o*} 'small'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Beleliyo damango

Beleliyo kiki'o

Examples of English constructions

His house is big

His house is small

These word pairs are relative antonyms because they indicate a contrast in meaning, but the contrast is not absolute. This is because both words have a middle degree, such as 'moderate'.

Langgato and Wopa

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*langgato*} 'tall' and {*wopa*} 'low'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Bele liyo madi langgato

Bele liyo madi moopa

Examples of English constructions

His house is very tall

His house is very low

This pair of words is classified as relative antonyms because they indicate a contrast in meaning, but the contrast is not absolute. This is because both words have intermediate levels, such as 'moderate'.

1.7 Relative Antonyms on the Class of circumstances

Examples found based on field research results are presented in Table 7.

Table 7
Relative Antonyms on the Class of circumstances

1	<i>Hulodu</i>	Stupid
	<i>Tota</i>	Smart
2	<i>Hutodu</i>	Rotten
	<i>Wonu</i>	Fragrant
3	<i>Lamingo</i>	Far
	<i>Membidu</i>	Near

Hulodu and Tota

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*hulodu*} 'stupid' and {*tota*} 'smart'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo mohulodu moyitohu langga

Tiyo motota moyitohu langga

Examples of English constructions

He's clueless about silat

He is good at silat

These pairs of words are relative antonyms because they describe a person's cognitive abilities, which fall somewhere between the two extremes. If someone is bad at one thing, it doesn't necessarily mean they're bad at something else, and vice versa.



Hutodu and Wonu

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*hutodu*} ‘rotten’ and {*Wonu*} ‘fragrant’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Ponula uwito malohutodu

Bunga uwito bobolo moonu

Examples of English constructions

That fish is rotten

That flower smells fragrant

This pair of words is classified as relative antonyms because they describe states of smell that still have varying degrees of meaning. An object is not always in a state of being very rotten or very fragrant, but can be in a state between the two, such as somewhat fragrant or somewhat rotten.

1.8 Relational Antonyms in Verb Classes

Relational antonyms refer to word pairs that have a reciprocal relationship, where the existence of one word depends on the presence of the other in a specific context. Examples found based on field research are presented in Table 8.

Table 8
Relational Antonyms in Verb Classes

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Mopotali</i>	Sell
	<i>Motali</i>	Buy
2	<i>Mohintu</i>	Ask
	<i>Molameto</i>	Answer
3	<i>Mongohi</i>	Giving
	<i>Mololimo</i>	Receive

Mopotali and Motali

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*mopotali*} ‘sell’ and {*motali*} ‘buy’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo mopotaliya ponula

Tiyo hila motali uponula

Examples of English constructions

He sold the fish

He wants to buy fish

This pair of words is a relational antonym because it indicates a reciprocal relationship in an economic activity. The act of buying cannot occur without the act of selling. Likewise, the act of selling cannot occur without a buyer.

Mohintu and Molameto

In the Gorontalo language, the word {*mohintu*} ‘to ask’ and {*molameto*} ‘to answer’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Ti Sasri mohintu toli Ica

Ti Ica molameto toli Sasri

Examples of English constructions

Sasri asked Ica

Ica answered Sasri

This pair of words is classified as relational antonyms because they are interconnected in a communication process. In conversation, the act of asking a question is usually followed by the act of answering. Without a question, an answer will not follow, and vice versa.

2. Forms and Meanings of Synonyms in the Gorontalo Language

According to Nursida (2024:541), synonyms are a collection of words that have the same meaning. Based on the results of research conducted in Bualemo Village, Kwandang District, North Gorontalo Regency, a number of synonymous data were found in the Gorontalo language which includes several classes of words, namely verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and state words.

2.1 Synonyms of Verb Classes

The following examples found based on the results of research in the field are presented in Table 9.

Table 9
Synonyms of Verb Classes

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Molihi</i>	Bath
	<i>Molombingo</i>	
2	<i>Monga</i>	Eat
	<i>Molamelo</i>	
3	<i>Tihulo</i>	Standing
	<i>Titihulo</i>	
4	<i>Eela</i>	Remember
	<i>Tolomo</i>	
5	<i>Daha</i>	Guard
	<i>Dungalo</i>	
6	<i>Mbiyongo</i>	Sleep
	<i>Tuluhi</i>	

Molihi and Molombingo

The word {*molihi*} and {*molombingo*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning, namely 'to bathe'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo donggo molihi

Tiyo donggo molombingo

Examples of English constructions

(He is still taking a shower)

He is still taking a shower

Both sentences have the same meaning, namely 'he is still taking a shower'. Thus, the words {*molihi*} and {*molombingo*} are synonyms that share the same meaning and can be used interchangeably in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

Molihi and Molombingo

The word {*monga*} and {*molamelo*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning, namely 'to eat'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Pongapo

Molamelopo

Examples of English constructions

Eat first

Eat first

Both words have the same meaning, namely 'eat first'. Thus, the words {*monga*} and {*molamelo*} are part of a synonymic relationship; they have the same meaning and can be interchanged in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

2.2 Synonyms in the Adverb Class

The following examples are found based on the results of research in the field presented in Table 10.

Table 1.10
Synonyms in the Adverb Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Uinta</i>	One
	<i>Tuwewu</i>	
2	<i>Diila</i>	No
	<i>Didu</i>	
3	<i>Ke'a</i>	Don't
	<i>Keke</i>	
4	<i>Na'o</i>	Go
	<i>Mola</i>	
	<i>Mota</i>	
5	<i>Lonto</i>	From
	<i>Monto</i>	

Uinta and Tuwewu

The word {*uinta*} and {*tuwewu*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning, which is 'one'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Uyito bo heli uintaliyo

Uyito bo heli tuwewu

Examples of English constructions

That's just the first one

That's just the first one

Both sentences have the same meaning, namely ‘that’s just the first one’. Thus, the words {*uinta*} and {*tuwewu*} are synonyms that share the same meaning and can be used interchangeably in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

Diila and Didu

The word {*diila*} and {*didu*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning, namely ‘no’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.
Examples of BG constructions

Diila mowali

Didu mowali

Examples of English constructions

Not allowed

Not allowed

Both sentences have the same meaning, namely ‘not allowed’. Thus, the words {*diila*} and {*didu*} are part of a synonymic relationship; they have the same meaning and can be interchanged in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

2.2 Synonyms in the Adjective Class

The following examples are found based on the results of research in the field presented in Table 11.

Table 11
Synonyms in the Adjective Class

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Damango</i>	Big
	<i>Uda’a</i>	
	<i>Hulinta</i>	
2	<i>Mohata</i>	Thin
	<i>Kowango</i>	
3	<i>Nakali</i>	Naughty
	<i>Liyalo</i>	
	<i>Laputalo</i>	

4	<i>Pi’ita</i>	Stingy
	<i>Pantala</i>	
5	<i>Buheli</i>	Brave
	<i>Barani</i>	
6	<i>Majanumu</i>	Reckless
	<i>Sapiihi</i>	
7	<i>Nene’alo</i>	Insolent
	<i>Dedilalo</i>	
8	<i>Hindahulu</i>	Liquid
	<i>Wahayu</i>	
9	<i>Loloango</i>	Spicy
	<i>Lolowo</i>	
10	<i>Moongolo</i>	Tired
	<i>Mobule</i>	
11	<i>Kodo’o</i>	Short
	<i>Limbu’o</i>	
	<i>Podongo</i>	
12	<i>Lantingo</i>	Lazy
	<i>Bantila</i>	
13	<i>Hulodu</i>	Stupid
	<i>Polodu</i>	
14	<i>Alihu</i>	Fast
	<i>Alinggahu</i>	
15	<i>Molamahu</i>	Beautiful
	<i>Gaga</i>	
16	<i>Limomoto</i>	Chubby
	<i>Lingohu</i>	
17	<i>Yingo</i>	Angry
	<i>Jalo</i>	

Damango, Uda’a, and Hulinta

The word {*damango*}, {*uda’a*}, and {*hulinta*} in the Gorontalo language all mean ‘big’. Here’s an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Motali malu’a damango

Motali malo’a uda’a

Malu’a hulinta u taliyolo

Examples of English constructions

Buying a big chicken

Buying a big chicken

The big chicken that was bought

All three sentences have the same meaning, namely describing a large chicken. The words {*damango*}, {*uda'a*}, and {*hulinta*} are both used to indicate the large size of an object. The difference between the sentences lies only in the word order, not in the meaning conveyed. Thus, these two words are synonyms.

Mohata and Kowango

The word {*mohata*} and {*kowango*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning, namely 'thin'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Longola yi'o mohata?

Longola yi'o mokowango?

Examples of English constructions

Why are you so thin?

Why are you so thin?

Both of these sentences have the same meaning, namely 'Why are you so thin?' Both words are used to describe a person's physical condition. Thus, the words {*mohata*} and {*kowango*} are synonyms that share the same meaning and can be used interchangeably in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

2.2 Synonyms in the Class of circumstances

The following examples are found based on the results of research in the field presented in Table 12.

Table 12

Synonyms in the Class of circumstances

No	Gorontalo Language	English
1	<i>Bata</i>	Wet
	<i>Moluhe</i>	
	<i>Tato</i>	
2	<i>Himbulo</i>	Lie
	<i>Aakali</i>	

3	<i>Kootoro</i>	Dirty
	<i>Motondolomo</i>	
4	<i>Bittiyolo</i>	Hungry
	<i>Polaangolo</i>	
5	<i>Hihewo</i>	Lama
	<i>O'oolaanga</i>	
6	<i>Hale</i>	Nature
	<i>Pi'ili</i>	
7	<i>Mayitirwa</i>	Wife
	<i>Binggele</i>	
8	<i>Toli'ango</i>	Darling
	<i>Tohilawo</i>	
9	<i>Ma'apu</i>	sorry
	<i>Ambungu</i>	
10	<i>Tombuputo</i>	Trash
	<i>Puputo</i>	

Bata, Moluhe, and Tato

The word {*mobata*}, {*moluhe*}, and {*tato*} in the Gorontalo language all mean 'wet'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Depulamu mobata da'a

Depulamu moluhe da'a

Depulamu motato da'a

Examples of English constructions

your kitchen is very wet

your kitchen is very wet

your kitchen is very wet

All three sentences have the same meaning, namely 'your kitchen is very wet'. All three sentences describe a wet condition caused by rain. Thus, the words {*mobata*}, {*moluhe*}, and {*tato*} are part of a synonymic relationship; they have the same meaning and can be used interchangeably in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

Himbulo and Aakali

The word {*himbulo*} and {*aakali*} in the Gorontalo language have the same meaning,



namely 'lie'. Here's an example of the sentence construction.

Examples of BG constructions

Tiyo mohimbulo

Tiyo mngaakali

Examples of English constructions

He is lying

He is lying

Both sentences have the same meaning, namely 'he is lying'. Both words are used to express something that does not correspond to reality. Thus, the words {*himbulo*} and {*aakali*} are part of a synonymic relationship; they have the same meaning and can be used interchangeably in the same context without changing the meaning of the sentence.

DISCUSSION

Based on the results of research conducted in Bualemo Village, Kwandang Subdistrict, North Gorontalo Regency, were found antonymic and synonymic meaning relationship Gorontalo language as used by the community in everyday communication. These semantic relationships were found across several parts of speech, namely verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and the word circumstances. The findings of this study indicate that the Gorontalo language possesses diverse semantic relationships and is still actively used by its native speakers. These results align with Chaer's (2018:83) assertion that semantic relationships are the semantic connections between one linguistic unit and another.

This study has several strengths. From a data source perspective, this study utilized field data obtained directly from native speakers of the Gorontalo language, ensuring that the resulting data is more authentic and reflects language use in daily life. From a data analysis perspective, this study not only identifies pairs of antonyms and synonyms but also classifies them based on the type of semantic relation according to Chaer's (2018) theory. Thus, the results provide a more systematic overview of semantic relations in the Gorontalo language compared to previous studies, which

merely described the general existence of such relations. Nevertheless, this study also has limitations. First, the data sources focused only on Gorontalo speakers in Bualemo Village, Kwandang Subdistrict, North Gorontalo Regency, and thus do not fully represent variations in the use of the Gorontalo language in other regions. Second, this study examined only two types of semantic relations antonyms and synonyms and thus did not cover other forms of semantic relations such as hyponyms, polysemy, homonyms, and ambiguity.

CONCLUSION

Antonyms forms in the Gorontalo language consist of absolute antonyms, relative antonyms, and relational antonyms. In the verb class, absolute antonyms are found as many as 6 data and relational antonyms as many as 3 data. In the adverb class, an absolute antonym is found to be 1 data and a relative antonym of 1 data. In the adjective class, absolute antonyms were found to be 11 data and relative antonyms were found to be 16 data.

Synonym forms in the Gorontalo language are found in the class of verbs as many as 6 data, adverbs as many as 5 data, adjectives as many as 17 data, and words circumstances as many as 10 data.

Antonyms indicate a relationship of opposing meanings between words, while synonyms indicate a relationship of identical or similar meanings between words in the Gorontalo language.

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