

**Research Article**

# LEXICAL CHANGE: SYNONYM AND HOMONYM IN BATAK TOBA LANGUAGE IN NORTH SUMATRA

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**Abstract.**

This study focuses on language change, specifically the lexical change of the Batak Toba language in two different areas. This research aims to contribute to other researchers and governments related to the future of the local language in maintaining the local language itself. This research used a qualitative research method, specifically a case study, to analyze language aspects among people who use the Batak Toba language in their area. Miles and Huberman's technique of collecting data was used in this research. The data was collected from two different Batak Language videos in two different areas. The video was transcribed and eliminated by identifying synonyms and homonyms using language change theories. The online Batak dictionary was used to verify the meaning of every synonym and homonym itself. From the data source, which is 25 (twenty-five) videos, the total of the synonym is 22 words, with the detail 14 words found through videos in Tapanuli Tengah and eight words found through Humbang Hasundutan. Similarly, the homonym between these two districts can also be found, with 3 (three) homonyms. Lexical change through synonyms and homonyms occurs because of convergence, cultural change, and lexical borrowing, second language learning, and relexification.

**Keywords:** *homonym, language change, synonym*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Based on the data published by Kompas (Gischa, 2020), the total number of Batak people in Indonesia is 8.466.969 people, the same as 3,58 % of people in Indonesia. This research observed the variety of languages the Batak Toba community utters, the Batak Toba ethnic who live in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan districts in North Sumatra. The Batak ethnic has a different language, culture, traditional customs, and settlement.

Some differences can be found among all the Batak Toba who live in Tano Batak, such as customs arrangements in traditional celebrations, vocabulary, and language variety or dialect. The different dialects between these ethnic subgroups can be seen in the Batak Toba ethnic who live around Toba Lake with Batak Toba in the Tapanuli

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Tengah district. If we see through the originality of the Batak Toba Language, the language uttered around Toba Lake is the original one. In contrast, in the Tapanuli Tengah district, the Batak Toba language is the language that has had some changes because of the dialect interaction with other ethnicities who live in that area. Some factors influence the difference in language variation. One of them is the language interaction as the regeneration effect of some ethnicities in Tapanuli Tengah, such as Minang, Nias, Melayu, and Mandailing. Besides that, in this multilingual situation, there is no dominant language. Generally, bridging communication among ethnicities, Bahasa Indonesia has a vital role in this area.

Regarding language contact among ethnics above, our research focuses on observing the lexical change in the Batak Toba language, uttered in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan district. Several similar studies had ever been done in different language contexts (Renddan, Aziz, Mohamad, & Sha'ri, 2020); for example, in the deep study of Melayu Serawak, it was found that the lexical understanding by the old generation was the highest one which is 56 %, 23 % of the adult generation, and 20 % of the teenager. If we see at the level of lexical competence, the research also shows empirical proof of the decrease in the number of speakers. In another research, Ramli and Erwandi (2019) found that the dominant language among the cognate language, the Jamee language (Aceh) and Minangkabau language in word class and classification of some of the affixations, whereas the reduplication has similarity. If both of these languages generally tend to look the same, but in fact, some differences were not seen when it was used in communication. Pungkysari (2018) added that another lexical change could be seen through the meaning change of the middle word in the Aceh tale, where internal and external factors cause meaning change. Through this research, it can be seen that cognate languages have a significant difference.

Research that specifically discusses the language change in the level of lexical was conducted by Khairas and Wulandari (2020). He observed the vocabulary that shows the lexical and phonology difference in the vocabulary of the builder equipment between the Sunda and Indonesian languages, which indirectly shows the richness of the vocabulary of the local language in the Sunda Cilacap language. The new vocabulary can be seen as a lexical change of homonyms. It is the exact words that have some meanings.

When the previous research was viewed, the research related to the lexical change, specifically synonyms and homonyms in the Batak Toba language, cannot be found yet. That is why the researchers are interested in observing the lexical change in

this category in the Batak Toba language uttered by people in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan district.

## 2. METHOD

This research used qualitative research, a case study in which the linguistics aspects were analyzed in the Batak Toba speaker community in different areas. This research focuses on its naturalist, like one of the characteristics of qualitative research, which was introduced by Creswell (2010). A systematic analysis was conducted in this research. Miles and Huberman's technique of collecting data (1994) was used in this research; data collection, data display, data reduction, and conclusion. Data was collected from the recorded live video on Facebook from these two areas. The live video shows the natural setting as the data for this research. After collecting the video, the video was transcribed. Then the transcription was eliminated by conducting the process of identifying the synonym and homonym, which was referred to the theoretical review by Kasiahe (2018); Muniah, Sulastri, and Hamid (2000); Griffiths (2006); Khuzaifah, Simanjuntak, and Syahrani (2000); Yule (2019); Dewi, Sudaryat, and Kuswar (2003); Appel and Muysken (2006); and Jewalani, Laksman-Huntley, M., and Anjarningsih (2019). The online Batak Toba dictionary, which is <http://www.kamusbatak.com/>, was also used to verify the meaning of the synonym and homonym itself. After the researcher gained valid data, the overall conclusion was also obtained. The researcher succeeds in collecting 25 (twenty-five) videos from both areas (Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan). The videos were taken based on their daily conversation. It was not part of the conversation in the formal events because the language choice in the traditional event will differ from the daily conversation situation. All the videos were transcribed and analyzed based on the researcher's needs.

## 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

From 25 live videos on Facebook that had been transcribed, we identified synonyms and homonyms in these two areas. The focus is on synonym and homonym identification and the cause of the lexical change in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan district. The table below is the synonym and homonym identification in these two areas that was conducted by giving the transcription data to the native speaker in those areas. Then, the native speaker identified and highlighted the unfamiliar words. After the identification, a discussion was conducted to determine the words used in that area.

### 3.1. Synonym and Homonym Identification of Batak Language

The researcher provided its synonym in the Batak Toba language in Humbang Hasundutan and searched for the literal meaning in Batak Toba Dictionary. Fourteen unfamiliar words have been found in this area. Table 1 below shows the synonyms in the Batak Toba Language found in the Tapanuli Tengah district.

There are eight synonyms in this Humbang Hasundutan transcription source. The researcher also provided the words in the Tapanuli Tengah Batak language and the Batak Toba dictionary. Table 2 has a pretty different number of synonyms from the previous table.

The data above shows that the total of the synonym is 22 words, with 14 words found through videos in Tapanuli Tengah and eight words found through Humbang Hasundutan. The synonyms are based on a lexeme that has a synonym with the lexeme itself and a phrase that has a synonym with the phrase itself. There are 19 synonym that based on the lexeme, they are (1) makkol/ maol, (2) poccah/ puttar, (3) bahat/ godang, (4) uma-uma/ina-ina, (5) marsileanon/ marsilenan, (6) langan/langan-langang, (7) disadu/ disan, (8) manombom/ mamanggang, (9) magara/ magorgor, (10) guga/ sega, (11) jedahna/ sipanganon, (12) remet-remet/ metmet-metmet, (13) patar-patar/ hundulanna, (14) tapor/ puntar, (15) marlabu/ marpabue (16) totel/ sega, (17) manggiang/ manggaor, (18) latung/ gulok – gulok, and (19) tiris/ maradi. Other synonyms are based on the phrase; they are (1) hu arahon/ hu togihon, (2) naung kebat/ naung hebat, and (3) bolo alang/ umpama na.

Aside from synonyms, this research also tried to see the homonym of the Batak Toba language. Homonym identification was made by combining all data and analyzing the word's synonym, data source, and context. Then, the researchers used Nvivo to identify and code the similarity of the word. In this case, the data were analyzed by identifying the vocabulary. Of course, coding is not the only way to identify the homonym; identifying by seeing the similarity through pronunciation can also be done.

### 3.2. Cause of Lexical Change

If we see the synonym and homonyms of Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan Batak language, it can be seen clearly how some words are used differently in every district. This condition supports Clark's (2016) opinion that "the lexical is not always stable, and it depends on where the lexical is used."

TABLE 1: Synonym in Batak Toba Language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan District (Transcription Sources of Batak Toba Language in Tapanuli Tengah)

No.	Transcription Sources of Batak Toba Language in Tapanuli Tengah	Tapanuli Tengah	Humbang Hasundutan	The literal meaning in Batak Toba Dictionary
1	Adongma donganku asal <b>huorahon</b> manang tudia torus ma dang olo (Every time I ask my friend to join me, he always rejects me)	<b>Huarahon</b>	<b>Hutogihon</b>	The word "invite" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by ara, gokhon, hara, undang, togihon, ontang, togu.
2	Iboto ho eda... ditambah ibana argana na di ibana i asa <b>naungkebat</b> ibana. (Don't you know, she increased the price for showing her power)	<b>Naungkebat</b>	<b>Naung hebat</b>	The word "power" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by bongak and jago.
3	Alai dihutanamion attar <b>makkol</b> jaringan (In our village, the connection is so difficult)	<b>Makkol</b>	<b>Maol</b>	The word "difficult" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by gogot, maol, sungkalit, ungkil, bondol, haduk, susa, retuk, salit, sangkohok and sungkar.
4	Unang <b>pocah</b> baen piring i. (Do not break the plate)	<b>Pocah</b>	<b>Puntar</b>	The word "broken" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by puntar, gargar, bilhak, loha, pisar, ponsa, pultak, puntas, sarsar, tapor, matapor, bola, batis, Mabola, Maponggol, Pulha, Mapulha, Mapuntas, Ripuk, Marongso, Maroprop, Maropuk, Marosak, Matalpok, Tiipok, Matopar, Matopik, Segal, Siltak, Masiltak, angka siltak.
5	Alai <b>bahat</b> baru bertengkar hubege? (I heard that <b>many</b> people got into a fight)	<b>Bahat</b>	<b>Godang</b>	The word "bahat" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by godang, bue, torop, Uar, bahat, Lanlan, deak, bulet, nania, Rarat, sipat, Landam, gok, Lan, Marlananglanang, Langkop, Mangalantap, Tambun.
6	Ima ma antong molo tibu hamu mancari <b>uma-uma</b> muna ido di tonahon hamu (That's why you have to be hurry to find out a <b>mother</b> in your family)	<b>Uma – Uma</b>	<b>Ina - Ina</b>	The word "mother" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by ina – ina.
7	<b>Masileanon</b> antong dongan dohot dongan niba (You have to <b>give</b> each other)	<b>Marsileanon</b>	<b>Marsileanan</b>	The word "give" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by mangalean, mambagi, mangalehon, Manarima.
8	On ma nian i. <b>Langan</b> sude, <b>langan</b> . Mangisi air pe dang adong. (This is it; all people are pale. No one can take water)	<b>Langan</b>	<b>Langan -langan</b>	The word "pale" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by daoldaolon, hasang, langan, raterate, lamun.
9	<b>Bolo alang</b> (if)	<b>Bolo alang</b>	<b>Umpamana</b>	The word "if" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by Umpamana, Tarsongonna, Rupani.
10	Habis i na so masak i peakhon, paloas di si asa i tambah <b>disadu</b> . (After that, just put the meal that is not cooked yet, leave it, and add it there)	<b>Disadu</b>	<b>Disan</b>	The word "there" in Batak Dictionary can be expressed by disan.
11	Ai na <b>manombom</b> dekke do hita (Do we <b>grill</b> fish?)	<b>Manombom</b>	<b>Mamanggang</b>	The word "grill" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by mamanggang, manombur, mangaluslus.
12	Juntak. I son <b>magara</b> nei (Juntak, it has been <b>burned</b> )	<b>Magara</b>	<b>Magorgor</b>	The word "burn" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by nala, manahit, Marnehetnehet, margalak, magorgor, manjimbur, pagorgor.
13	Dang gabe nanaeng mambaen <b>Guga</b> hami (We don't want to <b>make a fuss</b> it)	<b>Guga</b>	<b>Gaor</b>	The word "damage" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by hagaoran, parbadaan, parporangan.
14	Molo na mora-mora dang pola mabiar mambahen saotik-saotik <b>jedahna</b> . (The rich people are not afraid to serve a little <b>meal</b> )	<b>Jedahna</b>	<b>Sipanganon</b>	The word "food" in Batak dictionary can be expressed by Panganon, siallangon, allangon, Ompan, sipanganon, manganon, Panganan, Meme.

TABLE 2: Synonym in Batak Toba Language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan District (Transcription Sources of Batak Toba Language in Humbang Hasundutan).

No.	Transcription Sources of Batak Toba Language in Humbang Hasundutan	Tapanuli Tengah	Humbang Hasundutan	The literal meaning in Batak Toba Dictionary
1	molo na songon on imana <b>remet-remet</b> (This one is <b>small</b> )	<b>Remet Remet</b>	<b>Menek menek</b>	The word "small" in Batak dictionary can be expressed by metmet, gelleng, etek, menek, eteng, hetek, tagelleng, bile, hesut, Pitut, Lea, Leas, Pelpel, Pengpeng, Martagan, Saga.
2	cugari boi i pature muse na aha on ni, <b>patar-patar</b> na on (How if the <b>place</b> can be fixed)	<b>Patar - patar</b>	<b>Hundulanna</b>	The word "place" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by inganan, ingan, luat, abalan, Parpeopan.
3	On ma na i <b>tapor</b> na hari Rabu (This one is <b>cracked</b> the last Wednesday)	<b>Tapor</b>	<b>Bola</b>	The word "crack" in Batak dictionary can be expressed by puntar, gargar, bilhak, loha, pisar, ponsa, pultak, puntas, sarsar, tapor, matapor, bola, batis, Mabola, Maponggol, Pulha, Mapulha, Mapuntas, Ripuk, Marongso, Maroprop, Maropuk, Marosak, Matalpok, Tilpok, Matopar, Matopik, Segga, Siltak, Masiltak, angka siltak.
4	Holan i tapor hari rabu ngator <b>marlabu</b> dua hari? (After splitting on Wednesday, does it immediately <b>bear fruit</b> ?)	<b>Marlabu</b>	<b>Marpabue</b>	Marboras, marparbue, Munik can express the word "bear fruit" in the Batak dictionary.
5	Baru tor hu <b>total</b> imana. (I directly <b>broke</b> it)	<b>Total</b>	<b>Sega</b>	The word "broke" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by sega, burbar, galege, maburbar, geno, Matopik, Malangke, Maluha, Lunda, Marosak, segai.
6	I do hu bahen <b>manggiang</b> imana (I use it for <b>mixing</b> it)	<b>Manggiang</b>	<b>Manggaor</b>	The word "mix" in Batak dictionary can be expressed by mangaor, manggiang, mangguga, manghariar, Mangariar, manggalumang, Manggaru, Manggunsang.
7	Be adong do <b>latung</b> naeng (Does it have <b>maggots</b> ?)	<b>Latung</b>	<b>Gulok Gulok</b>	The word "maggots" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by gilokgilok.
8	Manang na boha pe molo nung songonon udan, <b>tiris</b> nama (If the rain is like this, it will be <b>stopped</b> soon)	<b>Tiris</b>	<b>Maradi</b>	The word "stop" in the Batak dictionary can be expressed by marsadi, sitop, so, Tos, marontok, Maradi, Maradian, diam, Pahosahon, Ngongong, Longlang, Omba, Paomba, marunsol, Marpansadian, Mansadi, Marhasoan, Sohot, mansohot, Mangulon.

Based on Appel and Muysken (2006), one of the lexical changes is borrowing, and there are at least 5 (five) ways where the change can happen. In this research, the change can be seen through:

TABLE 3: Homonym in Batak Toba Language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan District.

No.	Tapanuli Tengah	Humbang Hasundutan	The literal meaning in Batak Toba Dictionary
1	Hupasahat hami ma tingki tu amang raja I, <b>gabe</b> jala horas. (We give time to amang raja, <b>happiness</b> , and horas)	Nga <b>gabe</b> terinspirasi pak dewan kan? ( <b>So</b> , the council member has been inspired?)	The meaning of the word "gabe" in the first sentence is " <b>happiness</b> ," whereas, in the second sentence, it means " <b>so</b> ," and the meaning depends on the context. After asking the native speakers of the language, the word "gabe" with these two meanings is used in the Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan districts. If we search on the Batak dictionary, the meaning of the word "gabe" is so, having son and daughter, become, perfect result, in fact, together, will, good, prosperous, offspring and having many kids.
2	Molo nga ngali dang <b>anggo</b> da (When it is cold, it doesn't smell good)	<b>Anggo</b> uttung do ( <b>What if</b> you are lucky?)	In this second data, the meaning of "anggo" differs in these two districts. In the Tapanuli Tengah Batak language, the meaning of the word "anggo" based on its context is "smell good." In contrast, in the Humbang Hasundutan district, the meaning of the word "anggo" is "what if." In daily conversation, Tapanuli Tengah also uses the word "anggo" meaning "what if." In contrast, in the Humbang Hasundutan Batak language, the word "anggo" only means "what if." In the Batak dictionary, "anggo" means if, calm, about, whatever, and sniff.
3	Dang adong becus be <b>naeng</b> . Adong hian do (There is no good one, <b>isn't it?</b> We have the good one before)	Ho na malasan hu ida ho bah. Asal <b>naeng</b> tu balian tar sian holan na monggop do karejom (Why are you so lazy? You always hide every time we <b>want</b> to go to the field)	Based on the data above, the meaning of the word "naeng" is "isn't it" (confirmation), whereas, in the following sentence, the word "naeng" means "want." In the Batak dictionary, the meaning of the word "naeng" wants, and almost. Both of the districts use these words in their daily conversation.

### 3.3. Convergence

In Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan Batak languages, there are 3 (three) homonyms that can be found; they are gabe, anggo, and naeng.

### 3.4. Cultural Change and Lexical Borrowing itself

Along with the cultural change in Tapanuli Tengah society, some words have pronunciation changes. The change is relatively easy to understand from the original language commonly used by the Tapanuli Tengah people. The examples are:

1. Naungkebat (Tapanuli Tengah Batak Language)  
Naung Hebat (Humbang Hasundutan Batak Language)

TABLE 4: Convergence.

Gabe	Anggo	Naeng
The word "gabe" in these two districts has the same meaning. The meanings are "happiness" and "so." These two meanings will have those meanings depending on the context.	The context of the word "gabe" use is different from the word "anggo." Although, in the Humbang Hasundutan Batak language, the word "anggo" means "if," the word's meaning is the same as the understanding of the Tapanuli Tengah Batak language. However, besides the meaning, in Tapanuli Tengah, the word "anggo" can be meant as "fragrant" and is used based on context.	The word "naeng" in Humbang Hasundutan means "want" and has the same meaning in Tapanuli Tengah. However, besides the "want" meaning, another additional meaning is "isn't it" or confirmation of the previous sentence.

2. Makkol (Tapanuli Tengah Batak Language)

Maol (Humbang Hasundutan Batak Language)

3. Marsileanon (Tapanuli Tengah Batak Language)

Marsileanan (Humbang Hasundutan Batak Language)

4. *Second Language Learning*

People in Tapanuli Tengah, especially Batak Toba ethnic, commonly use their first language, the Batak Toba language. Their second language is commonly the national language which is Bahasa Indonesia. The synonym analysis above shows how the second language has a role in social communication; for example, the word "poccah" in Tapanuli Tengah, if we seek the meaning in the Batak dictionary, it does not have meaning. However, we see it through the context; it will be interpreted as "break or crack" in the Batak Toba language, and in the Batak dictionary, the word "break or crack" will be expressed as puntar, gargar, bilhak, loha, pisar, ponsa, pultak, puntas, sarsar, tapor, matapor, bola, batis, Mabola, Maponggol, Pulha, Mapulha, Mapuntas, Ripuk, Marongso, Maroprop, Maropuk, Marosak, Matalpok, Tilpok, Matopar, Matopik, Sega, Siltak, Masiltak, angka siltak. So, it can be concluded that the word "poccah" is the new word absorbed through second language learning.

**3.5. Reflexification**

People in Tapanuli Tengah live together with other ethnicities, such as minangnese, angkolanese, niasnese, and others. This condition can cause a little cultural change, especially for Batak Toba ethnic in this district. The absorption of other words in this area will be easier to happen; for example, the word "manombom," the meaning of this word cannot be found in the Batak dictionary. This word is absorbed from another



ethnic in Tapanuli Tengah, Minangnese, who live on the coast. The Minangnese who live around the coast is unique; their language is not the original word of minangnese; their language is minangnese language that has had much modification. This kind of language is known as "baikko language."

### 3.6. Imitation and Prestige Pattern

In all 25 (twenty-five) videos analyzed, the tendency to use the prestige language, the majority language, or formal language, for example, Bahasa Indonesia, cannot be found. The data was taken naturally, which means there is no manipulation, and the interaction and conversation can be found in all the videos.

All this time, the research on lexical change focused on the national language and other official languages. Theoretically, this research will contribute to other research on how lexical change can occur in the cognate language of the local language. This research can also add some references for Bahasa Institution in Indonesia. Practically, this research is urgent to see the lexical change, specifically synonyms, and homonyms of the Batak Toba language. When the environment has changed into bilingual or multilingual, the language changes will occur consciously or unconsciously, and it can decrease the language maintenance of the local language originality. The decrease in language maintenance can affect the language shift, which will worsen.

The local language is one of the everyday things in Indonesia. Every district in Indonesia will have some local languages, depending on how many ethnicities they have in that area. In this research, the local language discussed is Batak Toba, uttered by some speakers in some areas of North Sumatra. This research has three main problems: whether the Batak Toba language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan districts have synonyms and homonyms and how this lexical change happens in the Batak Toba language in these two different districts. The detail of these research problems will be explained below.

There will constantly be lexical changes from the previous generation for daily use in the actual situation. It is caused that "the lexical is not always stable, but it depends on where the lexical is used" (Clark, 2016). For example, in Bahasa, the word "minum teh" has been changed to "ngeteh ."This "ngeteh" word has changed its lexical meaning. The meaning can be interpreted as having time in a tea or coffee shop. This change shows "the power of the vocabularies based on its lexical, and it has been introduced as lexical functional grammar" (Romadhan, 2019).

The lexical change can change the whole lexical, but it is still in the same meaning. The synonym is defined as "the semantic relation which expresses the same meaning between the utterances" (Wulandari, Muzammil, & Syahrani, 2019). "This synonym can ease communication in some activities" (Abdullah & Sahok, 2019). Two synonym words are not one hundred percent the same, and the similarity is not absolute (Kasiahe, 2018). Based on the theory, the synonym can be borrowing, context, social equality, and collocation (Salleh, 2020). The synonym form can be in words, phrases, and sentences with an almost exact meaning (Pantouw, 2018). In this research, the synonyms found are mostly context synonyms and word synonyms. The similarity in two different areas can be shown in America and British (Yule, 2019). There are some different vocabularies in these two areas. The condition is identical to this research, and the Batak Toba language is the cognate language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan districts. They have synonyms and do not use the exact words for every vocabulary in their communication.

In Bahasa Indonesia, Muniah et al. (2000) introduced 5 (five) kinds of synonyms, namely lexeme that has a synonym with the lexeme itself, singular lexeme that has a synonym with the plural lexeme, singular lexeme that has a synonym with the phrase. This plural lexeme has a synonym with the singular lexeme and a synonym with the phrase itself. In this research, the synonyms are based on the lexeme that has a synonym with the lexeme itself and the phrase that has a synonym with the phrase itself. In deep research related to this synonym, it can be seen that the words that can be substituted and do not change the meaning have antonyms and can be proven by some series tests; they can be counted as synonyms well (Geeraerts, 2010). In some instances, Griffiths (2006) said that the words related to each other can always be counted as synonyms, for example, "big" and huge. It relates to describing a noun, but the detailed information the speaker wants to utter is different.

Unlike synonyms, "homonym is two words with the same pronunciation or spelling" (Jamilah, 2012). Characteristics of a homonym are (1) it has the exact spelling and pronunciation and (2) It has a different meaning (Khuzafah et al., 2000). For example, the word "interest" has two meanings, and the meaning will be based on its context. The context will decide the word "interest" will have a role as a noun or a verb. A homonym is a unique form of the lexeme, and it believes that the homonym is a word with a history and separate meaning but accidentally has the same form (Yule, 2019). There are three ways how the homonym can be identified, they are (1) it has the exact spelling and pronunciation, (2) it has the exact spelling but different pronunciation, and (3) it has the same pronunciation but different spelling (Dewi et al., 2003). From the data analyzed

above, the homonym found is a homonym with the exact spelling and pronunciation. However, it can be that the stresses when the speaker utters the words are different, especially for the word "gabe". It was stressed differently in the different contexts of the conversation in those two areas. A homonym can cause misunderstanding between interlocutors if it does not use it based on its context and between interlocutors that have the same understanding of the words (Suhai, 2012).

Starting from the beginning of this research topic related to the instability of the lexical itself (Clark, 2016), this research has found some causes of the lexical change. Based on Appel and Muysken (2006), lexical change occurs in five ways: convergence, cultural change, lexical borrowing, second language learning, relexification, and prestige. The first one is convergence, which is related to the homonym, and in this research, there are three homonyms: gabe, anggo, and naeng. The second is through cultural change, and lexical borrowing, the condition where the Tapanuli Tengah Batak people have lived in multicultural situations support the change of the Batak language, specifically in its pronunciation. The change was still easy to understand because it was not far from the original one. The third is through second language learning, and the language change occurs because they have learned the second language, Bahasa Indonesia. The language shift can be separated from this situation. For example, the word "poccah" comes from Bahasa Indonesia, which is "pecah," showing how second language learning can affect lexical change. The last one is through relexification, the condition of the Tapanuli Tengah district is multilingual, and the influence of other ethnicities cannot be avoided. The new vocabulary from other ethnic can sometimes be found used by Batak Toba people in Tapanuli Tengah. The cause of this lexical change is mainly found in Batak Toba people because this area is multilingual. It is pretty different with Batak Toba people in the Humbang Hasundutan district. They can still maintain their language because the influence of other ethnicities in this district is still limited.

#### 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

After analyzing 25 videos of Batak Toba people in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan districts, the researcher found Batak Toba language in Tapanuli Tengah and Humbang Hasundutan have synonymous words. The total of the synonym is 22 words, with detail 14 words found through videos in Tapanuli Tengah and eight words found through Humbang Hasundutan. The synonym is based on a lexeme that has a synonym with the lexeme itself and a phrase that has a synonym with the phrase

itself. The detail of the synonym is that 19 synonyms are based on a lexeme that has a synonym with the lexeme itself, and three synonyms are based on a phrase that has a synonym with the phrase itself. Similarly, the homonym between these two districts can be found with 3 (three) homonyms: gabe, anggo, and naeng. The homonym was identified through its spelling and pronunciation. Focusing on its pronunciation, it can be seen how the speaker stresses that the homonym word was different in different contexts of the conversation. All these synonyms and homonyms have a relation with lexical change. Based on Appel and Muysken (2006), there are 5 (five) causes of lexical change. In this research, the lexical change through synonyms and homonyms occurs because of the convergence, cultural change and lexical borrowing, second language learning, and relexification. The last lexical change, the "prestige pattern," cannot be found in this research because the speaker does not focus on the prestige of their language.

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