RESEARCH VERB LEXICONS IN ENGLISH ACADEMIC WRITINGS

Noor Maulida Hayati[1], Adi Sutrisno[2]
Universitas Gadjah Mada [1], Universitas Gadjah Mada [2]
noormaulidahayati@mail.ugm.ac.id

Abstract	Article Information
This research aims to identify the verb lexicon used in English academic writing by students in Indonesia. The verbs that have been found are called research verbs and then the meaning and concept of each verb is explained. Apart from that, this research also aims to compile the explication of each verb using the Natural Semantic Metalanguage approach. The research data is in the form of research verbs which have been filtered and the ten words with the highest frequency of appearance in a number of research articles have been taken. The data source is Indonesian student research articles written in English within the field of English Education and Literature. The data collection method was carried out using corpus techniques using the LancsBox 6.0 corpus engine. The data analysis method uses Anna Wierzbicka's Natural Semantic Metalanguage theory and the explication conduction uses Wierzbicka and Goddard's semantic primes. The research results reveal that there are ten research verbs that appear most frequently in students' academic articles, namely find, investigate, analyze, examine, explore, reveal, check, evaluate, observe, and discover. Each word has its meaning and concept explained and an explanation of the meaning is prepared in a universal language so that it can be understood by all language speakers. ***Keywords**: research, verb, natural semantic metalanguage*	

INTRODUCTION

Recently the research on the lexicon has been widely carried out in Indonesia with various languages being the object of research, such as regional languages, Indonesian and foreign languages. According to Kridalaksana (2013), the lexicon is a language component that contains all information about the meaning and use of words in the language concerned. Research on the verb lexicon is often carried out with the aim of understanding the use, role

and function of verbs in a language in order to assisting sentence structure analysis, the meaning of the text, and language learning.

The object of the research in the following study is the verb lexicon that written in English. Nation (2008) states words in English are divided into four categories, namely high frequency words, low frequency words, academic words, and technical words. In this case, the words that are the object of research are a collection of words or lexicon in academic writing which are often found in written communication such as scientific articles are in a category of academic vocabulary.

Academic writing as a written communication used in the fields of education and research is designed to ensure clarity and cohesion that allows readers to follow and understand the arguments or information presented by the researcher. Therefore, choosing words that are appropriate to the topic and context of the research is an important element in academic writing so that it can be informative, formal, and different from other forms of writing. In education field, writing aimed at academic needs is important for students. Learning activities at the tertiary level have several projects that put one's writing skills to the test in academic discourse essays, lecture notes, theses and research papers (Gasiorek & Van de Poel, 2012). Research by Hyland (2003) states that improving writing skills must be directly proportional to the development of language learning. Therefore, good writing skills and English language skills are needed to create effective academic writing in a foreign language.

This research started from the emergence of discourse regarding the English language skills of students at the tertiary level being considered lacking and one of the factors that influenced this issues was the lack of vocabularies. A study by Putri and Wijayanti (2018) found that Indonesian students at university level still need an improvement in their English skills because it considered lacking. Limited vocabulary affects language skills, one of which is writing skills. Writing ability should be directly proportional to the breadth of the English vocabulary inventory. However, many English foreign language (EFL) learners still have difficulty determining the word lexicon, especially verbs in writing academic articles. Therefore, this research aims to identify research verb lexicon forms in English language research articles and then sort them based on the frequency of occurrence for each form. After sorting the lexicon forms with the highest frequency of appearance, this research compiled an explication of the concept of research verbs in English language research articles. Next, the explication of the research verb lexicons is used to express the verbs with universal language that can be understood by all language speakers.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Natural Semantic Metalanguage

Natural Semantic Metalanguage is an approach initiated by Wierzbicka in 1996 and developed by his followers (Yoon, 2003; Maharsi, 2013). The Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) is a decompositional system of meaning representation based on empirically established universal semantic primes or simple indefinable meanings which appear to be present as word-meanings in all languages (Goddard, 2015). NSM is used as a meaning

analysis tool applied to a particular language or culture to produce a clear and easy to understand meanings. Languages that have complexity and variations in meaning that have been interpreted and represented from foreign languages must ultimately be translated into natural language to make them easier to understand. Different cultural views can influence different conceptualizations; therefore, the true meaning of a particular cultural concept can be interpreted by authentic speakers. In line with this, any word concept can have cross-language equivalents without changing its true meaning (Wierzbicka, 1996). An interesting concept to become an object of study in cross-language semantics is verbs related to learning activities in English academic writing.

Semantic Primes

Semantic structure is the composition of semantic primes. Understanding the semantic structure will help describe the natural meaning of a language. In general, the objects studied using NSM theory are verbs. This is because the verb in the sentence shows action and still has meaning even though it stands alone (Putri, 2019). The semantic primes is defined by Goddard (2015) as a meaning that can no longer be interpreted in a simpler form because the form is already a basic form. By using this semantic primes, the explanation of the meaning will be easily understood by everyone even though they have different languages and cultures. Semantic explication is a formal mode of meaning representation in NSM approach that conduct a reductive paraphrase towards what a speaker says when the speaker utters the expression that being explicated (Goddard, 2015).

Furthermore, Wierzbicka and Goddard created a list of semantic primes after conducting research on languages in the world. The following is an inventory of semantic primes that use English exponent:

Table: 1 Semantic Primes in each category

Semantic primes	Column A (t)
I, YOU, SOMEONE, SOMETHING~THING, PEOPLE, BODY	Substantives
KIND, PART	Relational substantives
THIS, THE SAME, MUCH~MANY	Determiners
ONE, TWO, SOME, ALL, OTHER~ELSE, LITTLE~FEW	Quantifiers
GOOD, BAD	Evaluators
BIG, SMALL	Descriptors
KNOW, THINK, WANT, FEEL, SEE, HEAR	Mental predicates
SAY, WORDS, TRUE	Speech
DO, HAPPEN, MOVE, TOUCH	Actions, events, movement, contact
BE (SOMEWHERE), THERE IS, BE (SOMEONE'S), BE (SOMEONE~SOMETHING)	Location, existence, possession, specification
LIVE, DIE	Life and death

WHEN~TIME, NOW, BEFORE, AFTER, A LONG TIME, A SHORT TIMR, FOR SOME TIME, MOMENT	Time
WHERE~PLACE, HERE, ABOVE, BELOW, FAR, NEAR, SIDE, INSIDE	Space
NOT, MAYBE, CAN, BECAUSE, IF	Logical concepts
VERY, MORE	Intensifier, augmentor
LIKE~WAY	Similarity

Based on the table above, research verbs can also be classified into the semantic primes element 'DO' which is included in the Actions, Events, Movement and Contact components. Therefore, each semantic prime has particular combinatorial properties by virtue of the certain concept that represent each prime. Research within the NSM approach suggests that the complete set of semantic primes is essential for accurately capturing the semantic content of language-specific grammatical categories and constructions across the world's languages. A study by Goddard (2015) stated that predicate primes usually have extended structures that include extra parts that known as valency options that provide more details about the situation described by the predicate. For example, DO allows us to speaks more than 'doing something' buat also 'someone is doing something' or 'something is doing something'. The present study would apply the semantic primes concept towards research verbs to conduct the explication of the verb that related to the activities of learning.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is using mixed methods, namely quantitative research and qualitative research. Quantitative research is used to collect data through a corpus and identify the frequency of occurrence of research verbs. Meanwhile, qualitative research is used in the process of understanding and exploring the meaning, context and use of words and presenting them in descriptive form. The data in the form of a verb lexicon of research verb in students' English academic writing obtained using the LancsBox 6.0 corpus engine.

This research was carried out in three stages, namely data collection method, data analysis method and data analysis results presentation. At the data collection stage, the data collected with corpus machine LancsBox 6.0 based from the 80 articles on English Education and Literature field that written in English by Indonesian author. After obtaining the data using the corpus method, the forms of the verb lexicon were filtered and the top 10 lexicons were taken based on their frequency of occurrence in English scientific writings.

At the data analysis stage, the verb lexicons that become the data analyzed with Natural Semantic Metalanguage theory by Anna Wierzbicka. Then at the stage of presenting the results of data analysis, the methods used are formal methods and informal methods. In this research, the symbols used are, for example, X which represents the perpetrator, Y which represents the sufferer. The informal presentation method is formulation using ordinary words (Sudaryanto, 2015). Most of the results of data analysis are presented informally.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The results of the corpus engine show that there are 10 verbs that have the highest frequency of occurrence in the academic writing of Indonesian authors. The ten verbs are then presented in order according to the verb with the highest occurrence first to the verb with the tenth highest frequency and the list of the verbs presented in the following table:

Table: 2 Research Verb lexicons with the highest frequency

Verb	Column A (t)
Find	166
Investigate	103
Analyze	88
Examine	86
Explore	84
Reveal	75
Evaluate	56
Check	26
Observe	24
Discover	17

Based from the data source, ten lexicons of research verb were obtained in the students' English academic writing, namely 1) find; 2) investigate; 3) analyze; 4) examine; 5) explore; 6) reveal; 7) evaluate; 8) check; 9) observe; and 10) discover. Research verbs in EFL students' academic writing can be classified into the original meaning of DO which is included in the Actions, Events, Movement and Contact components. The syntactic pattern of this default meaning is "X does something." The original meaning of the DO type describes something that an entity, especially a human, does. In this research verb, there is a non-compositional polysemy between DO and HAPPEN so that it has the exponent "X does something to Y, then something happens to Y". The following is a description of the concept analysis and lexicon explication of research verbs in English academic writing that uses the polysemy DOING/HAPPENING.

Verb Find

The word 'find' is a verb refers to the activity of getting something new either intentionally or accidentally. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'find' means the activity to come upon that often by accident and/or to discover by searching or making and effort. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'find' has the meaning of the activity to discover by study or experiment. Based from those definitions, the verb 'find' that used in academic writings means an activity to

gain something by means of learning or experiment. The examples of using the verb 'find' in sentences are as follows:

    a. Therefore, we intended to <u>find</u> out the problems faced by the student teachers in designing lesson plans in the internship program at school. (Achmad et al., 2023)

    b. Students feeling the fear of writing might <u>find</u> it hard to express themselves in writing, keep away from writing as much as they can, and <u>find</u> the writing classes undesirable. (Setyowati et al., 2023)

The word 'find' based from the examples above are significance with the activitiy of gain the new thing or new experience. The example (a) express the aim of the research is to find the teachers' problems during the activity that conducted by the internship program, means that the problem was previously remain unknown until the research conducted. Meanwhile, from the example (b) the verb 'find' used to express the new feeling by students during the writing class. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'find' is as follows:

    a) X do/does something

    b) X hear about something

    c) X see something

    d) X know about something

    e) X see and know something (information)

    f) X has something after doing this

    g) X do/does something to get something else

    h) X gets something that is not the same as before

The component (a), (b), (c), and (d) refer to a form of activity that carried out by individuals intentionally or unintentionally. These components indicate the activities carried out and received by the part of human's body. Then the component (e) and (f) refers to activities that carried out by individuals and shich have results in the form of something; objects or information. Components (g) and (h) refer to the activity of gaining something so that you can gain something else or something different from what you already have.

Verb Investigate

The verb 'investigate' also known as the activity of gain something or information that was remain unknown through research. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'investigate' means the activity to make a detailed inquiry or systematic examination. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'investigate' has the meaning of the activity to conduct a systematic inquiry especially an official inquiry. Based from those definitions, the verb 'investigate' that used in academic writings means an inquisitional activity toward something in detail. The examples of using the verb 'investigate' in sentences are as follows:

    a. The point of her study was to <u>investigate</u> the concept of culture in EFL teaching, how the cultural objectives were achieved, and what the teachers did regarding those goals. (Rohmani & Andriyanti, 2022)

    b. Future researchers can <u>investigate</u> more words from different categories, use other dictionaries, or observe different language constructions. (Andriani & Bram, 2022)

Verb 'investigate' that used in example (a) express the methodical process to uncover the insights about the culture things in EFL teaching. This example means that the researcher did the study in order to know about the EFL teaching culture better. From the example (b) the verb 'investigate' used to show the action that could the next researchers do to gain new knowledge about the language studies. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'investigate' is as follows:

    a) X do/does something

    b) X wants to know about something

    c) X thinks about why something happened

    d) X does something (research) to get something (information)

    e) X observes and finds something

    f) X does something with something else (object)

    g) X do/does something to get something else

The component (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by an individual with full awareness. Then the component (b) and (c) refer to mental predicates that show the intention to carry out inquiries in order to get something; objects or information. Components (d), (e) and (f) refer to activities that carried out by individuals and have results in the form of objects or information that can be different from what already exists.

Verb Analyze

Analyze is the verb in English that significance with the activity to do a research toward something in detail to learn something better. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'analyze' means the activity to examine methodically by separating into parts and studying their interrelations. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'analyze' has the meaning of the activity to study the nature and relationship of the parts of something by analysis. Based from those definitions, the verb 'analyze' that used in academic writings means an activity to conduct a systematic examination in order to collect new insights or to draw conclusions. The examples of using the verb 'analyze' in sentences are as follows:

    a. Another weakness is their ability to <u>analyze</u> a text that is also an obstacle because it requires good English to explain it. (Febriani et al., 2022)

    b. Therefore, the present study attempts to specifically <u>analyze</u> the Acehnese collocations used in the North Aceh dialect. (Muthalib et al., 2022)

The word 'analyze' is significance with the activity that involves breaking down a complex subject into its individual components to study their nature, function, or relationship. The first example show the verb 'analyze' used to express act to learn better about a text that was one of the obstacles in learning English. The second example show verb 'analyze' used to express the aim of the research that want to know better about the collocations of Acehnese that used in the North Aceh dialect. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'analyze':

a) X do/does something

b) Previously, X did not know something

c) X wants to know about something

d) X does something (learn) about Y (phenomenon)

e) X does an experiment on something

f) X does something about the way things happen

g) X does this by following a method

The explication part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know (know) and want (want) in the explication which refers to the activity of doing research on something. Component (b) also contains the semantic primes 'time' which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Components parts (d) and (e) refer to the activity of studying something. Then the explication of part (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals to research something that has results in the form of information about how the process of something occurs. Explication (g) refers to the activity of studying something with a reference that serves as a guide in doing that thing.

Verb Examine

Examine is the activity of study or inspect something carefully in order to understand about something better. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'examine' means the activity to determine the qualifications, aptidute or skills of by means of questions or exercises. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'examine' has the meaning of the activity to test by questioning in order to determine progress, fitness, or knowledge. Based from those definitions, the verb 'examine' that used in academic writings means an activity to pay attention to something closely, testing it, or analysing it critically. The examples of using the verb 'examine' in sentences are as follows:

a. This implies that media organizations should critically <u>examine</u> their reporting practices to ensure fair and accurate representation. (Munandar & Akmal, 2023)

b. The primary purpose of this study is to <u>examine</u> the different uses of the pronoun 'we' by EFL teachers in classroom interaction. (Muthi'ah, et al., 2022)

The word 'examine' in the examples above shows the activity to do an appraisement in order to analyzing it critically. Based from the example (a) the verb 'examine' express the action that media organization should take to deliver an appropriate representation. Meanwhile the example (b) the verb 'examine' express the act that become the aim of the study in order to learn the uses of the pronoun 'we' by EFL teachers in classroom interaction. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'examine' is as follows:

a) X do/does something

b) X gives good and bad values to Y

c) Previously, X did not know something

d) X wants to know about something by looking

e) X does this to get more information

The components (a) and (b) refer to a form of activity that carried out by individuals. Component (b) refers to activities carried out by humans towards something based on criteria or benchmarks. Components parts (c) and (d) contain the mental predicates want and know in explication which refer to the activity of giving value to something. Component (c) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals and which have results in the form of something; objects or information, which is possible with more results.

Verb Explore

The verb 'explore' known as an activity to travel or study through a place or subject to invent new information or gain a deeper understanding. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'explore' means the activity to search into or travel in for the purpose of discovery. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'explore' has the meaning of the activity to make or conduct a systematic search. Based from those definitions, the verb 'explore' that used in academic writings means an activity to conduct an intellectual inquiry, such as roaming a new idea of field of study. The examples of using the verb 'explore' in sentences are as follows:

a. Therefore, this research aimed to <u>explore</u> the EFL teachers' readiness to conduct distance learning with technology, the implementation of their English language teaching in rural areas, and the challenges they face during online teaching due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Kusuma, 2022)

b. As such, the authors decided to <u>explore</u> this lacuna to address the unclear aspects untouched by the previous research. (Mafulah et al., 2023)

The uses of verb 'explore' can involve the activity of discovery with an emphasis on curiosity and open-mindedness. Based from the examples, the first exponent show the action that the researcher did to know better about the challanges that the EFL teachers faced during the EFL teaching while COVID-19 pandemic. The second exponent show the aim of the research, which is to better understand the research gap based on what the previous research

haven't addressed. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'explore':

    a) X do/does something

    b) X does something to get something

    c) Previously, X did not know something

    d) X finds out about something

    e) X does something by using something

    f) X does this and then becomes aware of something new

The component (a) and (b) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Component (b) refers to activities that carried out by humans to get something through searching. Components of parts (c) and (d) contain the mental predicate know in explication which refers to the activity of searching for something. Component (c) also contains the semantic primes of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to get something by using something (a tool). Component (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals and has results in the form of something; different objects or information.

Verb Reveal

The word 'reveal' refers to the activity to make something known that was previously unknown or secret. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'reveal' means the activity to make known of an important, secret, or salient occurance or information. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'reveal' has the meaning of the activity to make something or information publicly or generally known. Based from those definitions, the verb 'reveal' that used in academic writings means an activity to disclose or uncover informations, details, facts, or truths that were hidden. The examples of using the verb 'reveal' in sentences are as follows:

    a. The findings for the second research question <u>reveal</u> that PSTs' construction of professional identity results from their continuous dialogic interaction and contemplation on their practice in class as well as their inner dialogue with their current two selves, i.e. the student-self and the teacher-self during the teaching practicum at school. (Nue & Manara, 2022)

    b. This research aimed to <u>reveal</u> the types of deixis in the Kupi Gayo album written by Ervan Ceh Kul. (Inayah et al., 2023)

The word 'reveal' is an activity that involves bringing something into the light details, facts, or truths that were hidden or not immediately apparent. The first example show the act that the research have done to make professional identity construction openly to public. The second example used the word 'reveal' to express the research aims is to make the types of deixis in the Kupi Gayo album to known by the public. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'reveal':

a) X is thinking about something

b) Before this happens, other people do not know something

c) After this happens, other people know something

d) X opens something (secret) by writing

e) X opens something (secret) verbally

f) X does this at the same time something else happens

g) If X does not do this, others will not know something (secret)

The explication (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) refer to activities carried out by humans when expressing something and contain the semantic primes 'time' which refers to the conditions before and after the activity is carried out. These two components also contain the predicate mental 'know' which refers to a person's condition before and after this happens. Explications (d) and (e) refer to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to uncover something by using something (method). Component (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals to disclose something and at the same time something else happens. Then component (g) contains the meaning of the assumption that if this is not done, it will have an impact on other things that will never be exposed.

Verb Evaluate

The word 'evaluate' is a verb in English that significance with the activity to assess or determine the value, significance, quality, or performance of something through careful examination and analysis. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'evaluate' means the activity to ascertain or fix the value of something. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'evaluate' has the meaning of the activity to determine the significance, worth, or condition of by thorough appraisal and study. Based from those definitions, the verb 'evaluate' that used in academic writings means an activity to make an assesment involves comparing it against a set of standards or criteria to form a judgment. The examples of using the verb 'evaluate' in sentences are as follows:

a. Eight items were developed to <u>evaluate</u> the validity and eight to practicality. (Usman & Ibrahim, 2023)

b. The examination is also used to <u>evaluate</u> the quality of schools by the Ministry of Education and Culture. (Bahrun et al., 2023)

The word 'evaluate' is used to express the activity that involves a systematic and thorough assessment to make an informed judgement. In line with that definition, the first example shows the act that how the developed eight items used to know better about the validity of the items and the second example show the examination that used as a tool to measure the quality of schools by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Based on those examples, the following is an explication of verb 'evaluate':

a) X does something

b) X provides value to Y (something)

c) X gives good and bad values about Y

d) X makes decisions with criteria

e) X does this at the same time as doing something else

f) Y could be better after X did this

The explication (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) refer to activities carried out by humans in order to obtain something through assessment and contain the semantic primes evaluators. Explication (d) refers to the activity of determining something on the basis of something, such as a reference for determining the outcome of the decision. Then component (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals to study something and at the same time something else happens. Then component (f) contains the meaning of the assumption that if this is done, it will have an impact on other things that will develop or change into something good.

Verb Check

Verb 'check' means the activity to inspect, verify, or examine something to ensure its correctness, condistion, or accuracy. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'check' means the activity to inspecting or testing something, as for accuracy or quality. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'check' has the meaning of the activity to look at appraisingly or appreciatively. Based from those definitions, the verb 'check' that used in academic writings means an activity to looking over something carefully to confirm its status or to find specific information. The examples of using the verb 'check' in sentences are as follows:

a. Category A and Category B are considered less subtle than other categories since they simply focus on adopting accountability to measure and <u>check</u> the students' cognitive skills. (Luthfiyyah et al., 2022)

b. When someone is speaking, other persons must be listening and even making and reading the notes that they have made to <u>check</u> the truth. (Yassi, et al., 2023)

The word 'check' is a verb in English that significance with the activity that involves looking over something carefully to confirm its status or to get specific information. In line with that, the first exponent show the category A and category B used as a tool to find something spesific about the students' cognitive skills. The second exponent shows the action that people do to confirm the truth when someone else speaks. Based on those examples, the following is an explication of verb 'check':

a) X does something

b) X does this to get something

c) X does this to find out the situation

d) X does this to confirm something

e) X does this in a concise and focused manner

f) X gets something by using something

The explication part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b), (c), and (d) refer to activities carried out by humans, namely observing or checking with the aim of getting something; objects, answers, or information. Explication (e) refers to the activity of determining something with a clear duration and purpose because component (e) contains the semantic primes 'time'. Then component (f) refers to the activity of getting something by utilizing other things; tool.

Verb Observe

Observe is a verb in English that express the activity to notice or watch something thoroughly to gather information. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'observe' means the activity to make a systematic or scientific observation of something. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'observe' has the meaning of the activity to watch carefully especially with attention to details or behavior for the purpose of arriving at a judgement. Based from those definitions, the verb 'observe' that used in academic writings means an activity to watch or monitor something to gain understanding or collect data. The examples of using the verb 'observe' in sentences are as follows:

a. The syntactic analysis helps to <u>observe</u> the structures and elements that construct clauses. (Andriani & Bram, 2022)

b. Therefore, it is essential to <u>observe</u> principles of politeness, especially when speaking in front of large audiences. (Ramli, et al., 2023)

The word 'observe' is an activity that involves taking notes of something in a systematic or structured way, especially in a scientific or analytical context. The first example show the act that watch the clauses construct process by the syntactic analysis and the second example show the act to notice carefully the principles of politeness while speaking in front of the audiences. Referring to these examples, the following is an explication of verb 'observe':

a) X does something

b) Previously, X did not know something

c) X wants to know about something

d) X looked carefully

e) X gets something by looking

f) X does this in order to get something before doing something else

The component (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know and want in explication which refers to the

activity of monitoring something. Component (b) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explanation of parts (d) and (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to obtain something by utilizing the function of the human senses (seeing). Component (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals with the aim of getting something before doing something else at a different time. This component also contains the semantic primes 'time'.

Verb Discover

The word 'discover' also known as an activity to identify or learn something new that was not realized before. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'discover' means the activity to gain awareness or knowledge of something that was unknown. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'discover' has the meaning of the activity to obtain sight or lore for the first time. Based from those definitions, the verb 'discover' that used in academic writings means an activity to find or aware of the things that was hidden or unknown. The examples of using the verb 'discover' in sentences are as follows:

    a. Embracing new cultures is an opportunity to step out of one's comfort zone and <u>discover</u> something new. (Dewi et al., 2023)

    b. Future research can be carried out with more participants studying at the lower secondary school levels to <u>discover</u> the effect of i-THINK Mapping in comprehending reading skills. (Sharif, et al., 2023)

The word 'discover' is an activity that involves uncovering, detecting, or coming across semthing through exploration, investigation, or observation. The first example show that the embracing new cultures is one of the act to disclose the new things that remain unknown and the second example show that the verb 'discover' used to express the activity to expose something else that the present research did not find, which is to uncover the effect of i-THINK Mapping towards the lower secondary school level students. Referring to these examples, the following is an explication of verb 'discover':

    a) X does something

    b) Previously, X did not know something

    c) X wants to know about something

    d) X gets something by looking

    e) X does this to get something new

The explication for the verb 'discover' is quite similar with the previous verb which is the 'observe', the component part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know and want in explication which refers to the activity of monitoring something. Component (b) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (d) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to obtain something by utilizing the function of the human senses (seeing). Component (e) refers to

activities carried out by individuals with the aim of getting something new and different from something that already exists. The results of the corpus engine show that there are 10 verbs that have the highest frequency of occurrence in the academic writing of Indonesian authors. The ten verbs are then presented in order according to the verb with the highest occurrence first to the verb with the tenth highest frequency and the list of the verbs presented in the following table:

Table: 2 Research Verb lexicons with the highest frequency

Verb	Column A (t)
Find	166
Investigate	103
Analyze	88
Examine	86
Explore	84
Reveal	75
Evaluate	56
Check	26
Observe	24
Discover	17

Based from the data source, ten lexicons of research verb were obtained in the students' English academic writing, namely 1) find; 2) investigate; 3) analyze; 4) examine; 5) explore; 6) reveal; 7) evaluate; 8) check; 9) observe; and 10) discover. Research verbs in EFL students' academic writing can be classified into the original meaning of DO which is included in the Actions, Events, Movement and Contact components. The syntactic pattern of this default meaning is "X does something." The original meaning of the DO type describes something that an entity, especially a human, does. In this research verb, there is a non-compositional polysemy between DO and HAPPEN so that it has the exponent "X does something to Y, then something happens to Y". The following is a description of the concept analysis and lexicon explication of research verbs in English academic writing that uses the polysemy DOING/HAPPENING.

Verb Find

The word 'find' is a verb refers to the activity of getting something new either intentionally or accidentally. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'find' means the activity to come upon that often by accident and/or to discover by searching or making and effort. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'find' has the meaning of the activity to discover by study or experiment. Based from those definitions, the verb 'find' that used in academic writings means an activity to gain something by means of learning or experiment. The examples of using the verb 'find' in sentences are as follows:

c. Therefore, we intended to <u>find</u> out the problems faced by the student teachers in designing lesson plans in the internship program at school. (Achmad et al., 2023)

d. Students feeling the fear of writing might <u>find</u> it hard to express themselves in writing, keep away from writing as much as they can, and <u>find</u> the writing classes undesirable. (Setyowati et al., 2023)

The word 'find' based from the examples above are significance with the activitiy of gain the new thing or new experience. The example (a) express the aim of the research is to find the teachers' problems during the activity that conducted by the internship program, means that the problem was previously remain unknown until the research conducted. Meanwhile, from the example (b) the verb 'find' used to express the new feeling by students during the writing class. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'find' is as follows:

i) X do/does something

j) X hear about something

k) X see something

l) X know about something

m) X see and know something (information)

n) X has something after doing this

o) X do/does something to get something else

p) X gets something that is not the same as before

The component (a), (b), (c), and (d) refer to a form of activity that carried out by individuals intentionally or unintentionally. These components indicate the activities carried out and received by the part of human's body. Then the component (e) and (f) refers to activities that carried out by individuals and shich have results in the form of something; objects or information. Components (g) and (h) refer to the activity of gaining something so that you can gain something else or something different from what you already have.

Verb Investigate

The verb 'investigate' also known as the activity of gain something or information that was remain unknown through research. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'investigate' means the activity to make a detailed inquiry or systematic examination. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'investigate' has the meaning of the activity to conduct a systematic inquiry especially an official inquiry. Based from those definitions, the verb 'investigate' that used in academic writings means an inquisitional activity toward something in detail. The examples of using the verb 'investigate' in sentences are as follows:

c. The point of her study was to <u>investigate</u> the concept of culture in EFL teaching, how the cultural objectives were achieved, and what the teachers did regarding those goals. (Rohmani & Andriyanti, 2022)

d. Future researchers can <u>investigate</u> more words from different categories, use other dictionaries, or observe different language constructions. (Andriani & Bram, 2022)

Verb 'investigate' that used in example (a) express the methodical process to uncover the insights about the culture things in EFL teaching. This example means that the researcher did the study in order to know about the EFL teaching culture better. From the example (b) the verb 'investigate' used to show the action that could the next researchers do to gain new knowledge about the language studies. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'investigate' is as follows:

h) X do/does something

i) X wants to know about something

j) X thinks about why something happened

k) X does something (research) to get something (information)

l) X observes and finds something

m) X does something with something else (object)

n) X do/does something to get something else

The component (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by an individual with full awareness. Then the component (b) and (c) refer to mental predicates that show the intention to carry out inquiries in order to get something; objects or information. Components (d), (e) and (f) refer to activities that carried out by individuals and have results in the form of objects or information that can be different from what already exists.

Verb Analyze

Analyze is the verb in English that significance with the activity to do a research toward something in detail to learn something better. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'analyze' means the activity to examine methodically by separating into parts and studying their interrelations. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'analyze' has the meaning of the activity to study the nature and relationship of the parts of something by analysis. Based from those definitions, the verb 'analyze' that used in academic writings means an activity to conduct a systematic examination in order to collect new insights or to draw conclusions. The examples of using the verb 'analyze' in sentences are as follows:

a. Another weakness is their ability to <u>analyze</u> a text that is also an obstacle because it requires good English to explain it. (Febriani et al., 2022)

b. Therefore, the present study attempts to specifically <u>analyze</u> the Acehnese collocations used in the North Aceh dialect. (Muthalib et al., 2022)

The word 'analyze' is significance with the activity that involves breaking down a complex subject into its individual components to study their nature, function, or relationship. The first example show the verb 'analyze' used to express act to learn better about a text that was one of the obstacles in learning English. The second example show verb 'analyze' used to express the aim of the research that want to know better about the collocations of Acehnese that used in the North Aceh dialect. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'analyze':

h) X do/does something

i) Previously, X did not know something

j) X wants to know about something

k) X does something (learn) about Y (phenomenon)

l) X does an experiment on something

m) X does something about the way things happen

n) X does this by following a method

The explication part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know (know) and want (want) in the explication which refers to the activity of doing research on something. Component (b) also contains the semantic primes 'time' which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Components parts (d) and (e) refer to the activity of studying something. Then the explication of part (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals to research something that has results in the form of information about how the process of something occurs. Explication (g) refers to the activity of studying something with a reference that serves as a guide in doing that thing.

Verb Examine

Examine is the activity of study or inspect something carefully in order to understand about something better. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'examine' means the activity to determine the qualifications, aptidute or skills of by means of questions or exercises. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'examine' has the meaning of the activity to test by questioning in order to determine progress, fitness, or knowledge. Based from those definitions, the verb 'examine' that used in academic writings means an activity to pay attention to something closely, testing it, or analysing it critically. The examples of using the verb 'examine' in sentences are as follows:

a. This implies that media organizations should critically <u>examine</u> their reporting practices to ensure fair and accurate representation. (Munandar & Akmal, 2023)

b. The primary purpose of this study is to <u>examine</u> the different uses of the pronoun 'we' by EFL teachers in classroom interaction. (Muthi'ah, et al., 2022)

The word 'examine' in the examples above shows the activity to do an appraisement in order to analyzing it critically. Based from the example (a) the verb 'examine' express the action that media organization should take to deliver an appropriate representation. Meanwhile the example (b) the verb 'examine' express the act that become the aim of the study in order to learn the uses of the pronoun 'we' by EFL teachers in classroom interaction. Based from those definitions, the explication of verb 'examine' is as follows:

f) X do/does something

g) X gives good and bad values to Y

h) Previously, X did not know something

i) X wants to know about something by looking

j) X does this to get more information

The components (a) and (b) refer to a form of activity that carried out by individuals. Component (b) refers to activities carried out by humans towards something based on criteria or benchmarks. Components parts (c) and (d) contain the mental predicates want and know in explication which refer to the activity of giving value to something. Component (c) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals and which have results in the form of something; objects or information, which is possible with more results.

Verb Explore

The verb 'explore' known as an activity to travel or study through a place or subject to invent new information or gain a deeper understanding. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'explore' means the activity to search into or travel in for the purpose of discovery. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'explore' has the meaning of the activity to make or conduct a systematic search. Based from those definitions, the verb 'explore' that used in academic writings means an activity to conduct an intellectual inquiry, such as roaming a new idea of field of study. The examples of using the verb 'explore' in sentences are as follows:

a. Therefore, this research aimed to explore the EFL teachers' readiness to conduct distance learning with technology, the implementation of their English language teaching in rural areas, and the challenges they face during online teaching due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Kusuma, 2022)

b. As such, the authors decided to explore this lacuna to address the unclear aspects untouched by the previous research. (Mafulah et al., 2023)

The uses of verb 'explore' can involve the activity of discovery with an emphasis on curiosity and open-mindedness. Based from the examples, the first exponent show the action that the researcher did to know better about the challanges that the EFL teachers faced during the EFL teaching while COVID-19 pandemic. The second exponent show the aim of the research, which is to better understand the research gap based on what the previous research

haven't addressed. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'explore':

g) X do/does something

h) X does something to get something

i) Previously, X did not know something

j) X finds out about something

k) X does something by using something

l) X does this and then becomes aware of something new

The component (a) and (b) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Component (b) refers to activities that carried out by humans to get something through searching. Components of parts (c) and (d) contain the mental predicate know in explication which refers to the activity of searching for something. Component (c) also contains the semantic primes of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to get something by using something (a tool). Component (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals and has results in the form of something; different objects or information.

Verb Reveal

The word 'reveal' refers to the activity to make something known that was previously unknown or secret. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'reveal' means the activity to make known of an important, secret, or salient occurance or information. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'reveal' has the meaning of the activity to make something or information publicly or generally known. Based from those definitions, the verb 'reveal' that used in academic writings means an activity to disclose or uncover informations, details, facts, or truths that were hidden. The examples of using the verb 'reveal' in sentences are as follows:

a. The findings for the second research question <u>reveal</u> that PSTs' construction of professional identity results from their continuous dialogic interaction and contemplation on their practice in class as well as their inner dialogue with their current two selves, i.e. the student-self and the teacher-self during the teaching practicum at school. (Nue & Manara, 2022)

b. This research aimed to <u>reveal</u> the types of deixis in the Kupi Gayo album written by Ervan Ceh Kul. (Inayah et al., 2023)

The word 'reveal' is an activity that involves bringing something into the light details, facts, or truths that were hidden or not immediately apparent. The first example show the act that the research have done to make professional identity construction openly to public. The second example used the word 'reveal' to express the research aims is to make the types of deixis in the Kupi Gayo album to known by the public. Based on those definitions, the following is an explication of verb 'reveal':

    h) X is thinking about something

    i) Before this happens, other people do not know something

    j) After this happens, other people know something

    k) X opens something (secret) by writing

    l) X opens something (secret) verbally

    m) X does this at the same time something else happens

    n) If X does not do this, others will not know something (secret)

The explication (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) refer to activities carried out by humans when expressing something and contain the semantic primes 'time' which refers to the conditions before and after the activity is carried out. These two components also contain the predicate mental 'know' which refers to a person's condition before and after this happens. Explications (d) and (e) refer to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to uncover something by using something (method). Component (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals to disclose something and at the same time something else happens. Then component (g) contains the meaning of the assumption that if this is not done, it will have an impact on other things that will never be exposed.

Verb Evaluate

The word 'evaluate' is a verb in English that significance with the activity to assess or determine the value, significance, quality, or performance of something through careful examination and analysis. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'evaluate' means the activity to ascertain or fix the value of something. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'evaluate' has the meaning of the activity to determine the significance, worth, or condition of by thorough appraisal and study. Based from those definitions, the verb 'evaluate' that used in academic writings means an activity to make an assesment involves comparing it against a set of standards or criteria to form a judgment. The examples of using the verb 'evaluate' in sentences are as follows:

    a. Eight items were developed to <u>evaluate</u> the validity and eight to practicality. (Usman & Ibrahim, 2023)

    b. The examination is also used to <u>evaluate</u> the quality of schools by the Ministry of Education and Culture. (Bahrun et al., 2023)

The word 'evaluate' is used to express the activity that involves a systematic and thorough assessment to make an informed judgement. In line with that definition, the first example shows the act that how the developed eight items used to know better about the validity of the items and the second example show the examination that used as a tool to measure the quality of schools by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Based on those examples, the following is an explication of verb 'evaluate':

    g) X does something

h) X provides value to Y (something)

i) X gives good and bad values about Y

j) X makes decisions with criteria

k) X does this at the same time as doing something else

l) Y could be better after X did this

The explication (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) refer to activities carried out by humans in order to obtain something through assessment and contain the semantic primes evaluators. Explication (d) refers to the activity of determining something on the basis of something, such as a reference for determining the outcome of the decision. Then component (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals to study something and at the same time something else happens. Then component (f) contains the meaning of the assumption that if this is done, it will have an impact on other things that will develop or change into something good.

Verb Check

Verb 'check' means the activity to inspect, verify, or examine something to ensure its correctness, condistion, or accuracy. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'check' means the activity to inspecting or testing something, as for accuracy or quality. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'check' has the meaning of the activity to look at appraisingly or appreciatively. Based from those definitions, the verb 'check' that used in academic writings means an activity to looking over something carefully to confirm its status or to find specific information. The examples of using the verb 'check' in sentences are as follows:

a. Category A and Category B are considered less subtle than other categories since they simply focus on adopting accountability to measure and <u>check</u> the students' cognitive skills. (Luthfiyyah et al., 2022)

b. When someone is speaking, other persons must be listening and even making and reading the notes that they have made to <u>check</u> the truth. (Yassi, et al., 2023)

The word 'check' is a verb in English that significance with the activity that involves looking over something carefully to confirm its status or to get specific information. In line with that, the first exponent show the category A and category B used as a tool to find something spesific about the students' cognitive skills. The second exponent shows the action that people do to confirm the truth when someone else speaks. Based on those examples, the following is an explication of verb 'check':

g) X does something

h) X does this to get something

i) X does this to find out the situation

j) X does this to confirm something

k) X does this in a concise and focused manner

l) X gets something by using something

The explication part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b), (c), and (d) refer to activities carried out by humans, namely observing or checking with the aim of getting something; objects, answers, or information. Explication (e) refers to the activity of determining something with a clear duration and purpose because component (e) contains the semantic primes 'time'. Then component (f) refers to the activity of getting something by utilizing other things; tool.

Verb Observe

Observe is a verb in English that express the activity to notice or watch something thoroughly to gather information. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'observe' means the activity to make a systematic or scientific observation of something. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'observe' has the meaning of the activity to watch carefully especially with attention to details or behavior for the purpose of arriving at a judgement. Based from those definitions, the verb 'observe' that used in academic writings means an activity to watch or monitor something to gain understanding or collect data. The examples of using the verb 'observe' in sentences are as follows:

a. The syntactic analysis helps to <u>observe</u> the structures and elements that construct clauses. (Andriani & Bram, 2022)

b. Therefore, it is essential to <u>observe</u> principles of politeness, especially when speaking in front of large audiences. (Ramli, et al., 2023)

The word 'observe' is an activity that involves taking notes of something in a systematic or structured way, especially in a scientific or analytical context. The first example show the act that watch the clauses construct process by the syntactic analysis and the second example show the act to notice carefully the principles of politeness while speaking in front of the audiences. Referring to these examples, the following is an explication of verb 'observe':

g) X does something

h) Previously, X did not know something

i) X wants to know about something

j) X looked carefully

k) X gets something by looking

l) X does this in order to get something before doing something else

The component (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know and want in explication which refers to the

activity of monitoring something. Component (b) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explanation of parts (d) and (e) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to obtain something by utilizing the function of the human senses (seeing). Component (f) refers to activities carried out by individuals with the aim of getting something before doing something else at a different time. This component also contains the semantic primes 'time'.

Verb Discover

The word 'discover' also known as an activity to identify or learn something new that was not realized before. Based from The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the verb 'discover' means the activity to gain awareness or knowledge of something that was unknown. Then, according to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the verb 'discover' has the meaning of the activity to obtain sight or lore for the first time. Based from those definitions, the verb 'discover' that used in academic writings means an activity to find or aware of the things that was hidden or unknown. The examples of using the verb 'discover' in sentences are as follows:

a. Embracing new cultures is an opportunity to step out of one's comfort zone and <u>discover</u> something new. (Dewi et al., 2023)

b. Future research can be carried out with more participants studying at the lower secondary school levels to <u>discover</u> the effect of i-THINK Mapping in comprehending reading skills. (Sharif, et al., 2023)

The word 'discover' is an activity that involves uncovering, detecting, or coming across semthing through exploration, investigation, or observation. The first example show that the embracing new cultures is one of the act to disclose the new things that remain unknown and the second example show that the verb 'discover' used to express the activity to expose something else that the present research did not find, which is to uncover the effect of i-THINK Mapping towards the lower secondary school level students. Referring to these examples, the following is an explication of verb 'discover':

f) X does something

g) Previously, X did not know something

h) X wants to know about something

i) X gets something by looking

j) X does this to get something new

The explication for the verb 'discover' is quite similar with the previous verb which is the 'observe', the component part (a) refers to a form of activity carried out by individuals. Components (b) and (c) contain the mental predicates know and want in explication which refers to the activity of monitoring something. Component (b) also contains the original meaning of time which states the conditions before the activity is carried out. Then the explication of part (d) refers to activities carried out by individuals, namely efforts to obtain something by utilizing the function of the human senses (seeing). Component (e) refers to

activities carried out by individuals with the aim of getting something new and different from something that already exists.

CONCLUSION

The main finding in this research is the concept and meaning explanation of the research verbs found in students' academic writing. Every word used in academic writing has a different concept in expressing the purpose of the research. Some research aims to find new information, assess something, reveal something, or solve a problem, so using appropriate verbs can help convey the right research objectives to readers. The research results show that there are ten research verb lexicons that are most widely used in student research articles written in English, which are the verb find, investigate, analyze, examine, explore, reveal, check, evaluate, observe, and discover. The concept of meaning for each verb has been explained and explications have been made built upon the appropriate semantic primes, namely DO, HAPPEN, MOVEMENT, and CONTACT. The research verb lexicon is included in the semantic primes DO, which means that these verbs refer to the semantic primes of 'to do'. The research results conceptualize the explication for each research verb lexicon. Explication of each verb as semantic analysis is useful for describing the meaning of words and expressions in natural language using a small number of basic terms that are universal so that they can be understood by all language speakers. The findings shown above have been based on limited data and reading material. By incorporating a broader range of reading material that related to NSM research, further research can achieve research objectives in the form of identifying the factors that differentiate each word based on its concept and explanation. Therefore, this provides an opportunity for future researchers to expand the scope of their research by identifying the distinguishing characteristics of each research verb lexicon in EFL students' academic writing.

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