

ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the pattern of interpretation used by Malay and Indian L2 learners in interpreting novel compound nouns. Next, this study aims to identify the similarities and differences between Malay and Indian L2 learners on the factors affecting their acquisition of L2 and the interpretations of novel compound nouns. Similarly, this study aims to identify the influence of learners' first language in the interpretation of novel compound nouns. Data were collected from 19 Malay and 15 Indian students whose native languages are Malay and Tamil, respectively. A novel compound noun test and a questionnaire were used for data collection. The findings revealed that property interpretation in dual-process theory (Wisniewski, 1996) was used more than relation interpretation in Carin theory (Gagne and Shoben, 1997) when interpreting novel compound nouns. The findings are in support of the claim made by Wisniewski (1996) in his dual-process theory that property interpretations are also common and frequently used in interpreting novel compound nouns like relation interpretations. The finding of this study also revealed that there are some similarities and differences on the factors that affect the interpretations of novel compound nouns among Malay and Indian L2 learners. Another finding revealed that Tamil language has a higher influence on its users than Malay language in interpreting novel compound nouns.

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji corak tafsiran yang digunakan dalam mentafsir kata nama majmuk novel oleh pelajar-pelajar Melayu dan India yang bahasa keduanya ialah Bahasa Inggeris. Selain itu, kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengenal pasti persamaan dan perbezaan antara pelajar-pelajar Melayu dan India tentang faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi penguasaan bahasa kedua mereka dan penafsiran kata nama majmuk novel. Kajian ini juga bertujuan untuk mengenal pasti pengaruh bahasa ibunda dalam penafsiran kata nama majmuk novel. Data telah dikumpulkan daripada 19 pelajar Melayu dan 15 pelajar India yang bahasa ibunda mereka adalah Melayu dan Tamil. Satu ujian novel kata nama majmuk dan soal selidik telah digunakan untuk mengumpul data. Dapatan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa penafsiran attribut dari teori dwi-proses (Wisniewski, 1996) lebih kerap digunakan daripada penafsiran hubungan dari teori Carin (Gagne dan Shoben, 1997) dalam mentafsirkan kata nama majmuk novel. Dapatan ini menyokong teori dwi-proses bahawa penafsiran attribut kerap juga digunakan untuk menafsir kata nama majmuk novel seperti penafsiran hubungan (Wisniewski, 1996). Dapatan juga menunjukkan terdapat beberapa persamaan dan perbezaan antara faktor yang memberi kesan kepada penafsiran kata nama majmuk novel antara pelajar-pelajar Melayu dan India. Dapatan lain menunjukkan bahasa Tamil mempunyai pengaruh yang lebih tinggi kepada penggunaannya daripada bahasa Melayu dalam mentafsirkan kata nama majmuk novel.

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