

# Informal Bound Morphs in Indonesian

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Abstract: This paper deals with the use of informal bound morphs in Indonesian. There are several issues intend to be answered, i.e what are Indonesian bound morphs commonly found in informal speech situations, various grammatical meanings can be expressed by those bound morphs, and how the words containing such morphs could be paraphrased to identify their formal equivalents. By using data collected from several sources and creating their contextual usage introspectively, it is found that there are at least five informal bound morphs in the use of Indonesian. Several of those bound morphs are informal in all contextual usages, and several others are only so in expressing certain meanings. All of those informal morphs have formal correspondences eventhough in very rare cases the paraphrases seem very strange and hard to understand.

Key Terms: bound morph, grammatical meaning, informal speech

### Morf Terikat Informal dalam Bahasa Indonesia

Abstrak: Makalah ini membahas penggunaan morf terikat informal dalam bahasa Indonesia. Ada beberapa masalah yang ingin dijawab, yaitu apa morf terikat bahasa Indonesia yang biasa ditemukan dalam situasi tutur informal, berbagai makna gramatikal dapat diungkapkan oleh morf terikat tersebut, dan bagaimana kata-kata yang mengandung morf tersebut dapat diparafrasekan untuk mengidentifikasi padanan formalnya. Dengan menggunakan data yang dikumpulkan dari beberapa sumber dan menciptakan penggunaan kontekstualnya secara introspektif, ditemukan bahwa setidaknya ada lima morf terikat informal dalam penggunaan bahasa Indonesia. Beberapa dari morf terikat tersebut bersifat informal dalam semua penggunaan kontekstual, dan beberapa lainnya hanya demikian dalam mengungkapkan makna tertentu. Semua morf informal tersebut memiliki korespondensi formal meskipun dalam kasus yang sangat jarang parafrasenya tampak sangat aneh dan sulit dimengerti.

Kata Kunci: morf terikat, makna gramatikal, tuturan informal.

### INTRODUCTION

The writing of this paper is inspired by my professor's experience related with writing proficiency of one of his PhD students under his supervision. His student in this matter is not aware that the use of Indonesian polimorphemic word *duluan* 'formerly' in one sentence of his thesis belongs to informal style, and improper to be used in thesis writing. In formal styles to which the thesis writing belongs, this word should be replaced by longer phrases *lebih dahulu* or *terlebih dahulu* 'formerly'. The other example was my own experience when I was in the library examining a thesis written by a post graduate student of public health department, Faculty of Medicine Gadjah Mada University, in occasion of giving a series of lecture on Indonesian for Academic Writting. The student wrote: *Setelah diberi obat keadaan pasien mendingan* 'After the patients got medicine, their condition were getting better'. *Mendingan* is the informal variation of *membaik* 'getting better'. So, the student's sentence for formal expression should be written: *Setelah diberi obat, keadaan pasien membaik* 'After the medecine was given, their condition is getting better'. These two trivial examples indicate that the knowledge and more importantly, the mastery of various style plays central role in the success of communication in general, and so does the mastery of formal style in formal register writing in particular.

Indonesian, like other languages which belong to Austronesian family group, relies its word formation mainly into four types. Those are affixation, reduplication, compounding, and alphabet based formation. Other types morphological processes, such as suppletion, internal modification, zero modification, and shortening base, are considered rare, or do not exist at all (See Bauer, 19-41) As such, Indonesian has many kinds of affix (prefix, suffix, infix, and confix (simulfix)) by which new words are created through inflectional as well as derivational processes. Those affixes have various complicated allomorphemic realizations and allosemic variations whose rules are not easy to formulate. In addition, some of Indonesian affixes have stylistic variations which are important to comprehend by all Indonesian experts and learners who want to understand the use of Indonesian styles and the differences among them for variety of purposes. Accordingly, this paper will try to invent and discribe the use of Indonesian informal bound morphs for enabling the experts and the learners recognize and avoid them when they are using Indonesian in formal occasions. Even though a lot of sociolinguistic issues have been studied by the linguists interested in sociolinguistic matters, without any clear reasons, the problem related with the use of Indonesian bound morphs has not got proper attention by them. With regard to these matters, this paper will address several problems which include: what are Indonesian bound morphs usually used in informal styles, what are the morphological rules and the varieties of meaning expressed by those bound morphs, and how should the words contained such morphs should better be expressed in formal Indonesian styles. Phonemic variations of morph, such as {-ken} and {-en} which constitute social alternations of {kan} and {-an}, are beyond the scope of this paper to consider since they belong to area of phonology instead of morphology, and bring no consequence to the semantic equivalences.

#### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Approximately several decades after Indonesian was declared to become formal language of the state of Indonesian Republic, despite the efforts of studying the history of adoption of Indonesian to be the national and formal language in Indonesia (Slametmuljana (1975); Anwar (1980); and Moeliono (1985); Samuel (2008)), the focus of Indonesian language studies is on the efforts of describing standard Indonesian, as seen in the works of many Indonesian linguists, such as Slametmuljana (1969), Keraf (1991), Ramlan (1981); Ramlan (1987), and it ended with the master piece work of Alwi et als (2010). Meanwhile, the existence of various regional variations within the language, has also been aware of by the Indonesian linguists, either related with Indonesian and local languages in Indonesia. Regional variations and dialectal issues have been topic of studies done by several experts, such as Muhadjir (1977), Ayartohaedi (1978), Lauder (1990). Bawa (1983), Mahsun (1994), etc. On the other hand, social and situational variations has also become objects of many scholars, such as Moeliono (1977), Ramlan et als. (1985), Poedjosoedarmo (1979), Rahardi (2001), etc. Because most studies are more focused on formal variations, the informal variations tend to be neglected. Accordingly, this study will give a lot of benefits especially for ease of recognizing the morphological forms of colloquial Indonesian, and finally the emergence of such informal forms in formal scientific writing activities can slowly be reduced.

Any language spoken by a lot of speakers of having various socioeconomical and cultural back ground, and used to serve amount number of communicative functions will certainly have variations (Wardaugh, 1986, 5; Wijana, 2012, 1; Wijana, 2014, 24-25). These variations can be distincted into various genres based on different sociolinguistic demensions, such as dialect, sociolect, register, style, etc. With regard to the style, this variation is differentiated along with degree of formality of the locution. According to Joss (1967) the situational style of language use can be classified at least into five categories. Those are Frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. And, what it is considered formal and informal in this paper seems involve the difference between formal and colsultative in one hand and casual and intimate on the other.

#### **METHOD**

This research begins with data collection which constitute informal Indonesian polymorphemic vocabularies obtained from various sources and evoked from my intuitive ability as an Indonesian native. Further, those vocabularies are given contextual use either by checking their uses in Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (Sugono, et als. 2014) or creating their artificial context through native intuition introspectively. The various meanings expressed by those informal vocabularies are tested by paraphrasing methods, and finally the identification is

carried out to discover their formal Indonesian correspondences. All data are presented in their ortographical transcription.

## **RESEARCH FINDINGS**

The following description is my research findings which concern several Indonesian bound morphs commonly found in the use of informal Indonesian, grammatical meanings which they possibly express, and how they are paraphrased for gaining formal speech styles.

Suffix {-an}

Bound morph {-an} in Indonesian has many functions, one of which is to express 'comparison', such as duluan 'more former', besaran 'bigger', kecilan 'smaller', tinggian 'taller, higher', etc. See (1) to (4) below:

(Ì) Masalah ini akan dibicarakan duluan. problem this will discussed This problem will be discussed formerly

(2) bigger stone this to be compared stone that

'This stone is bigger than that one'
(3) Kecilan mana, bolaku atau bolanya?
smaller which, ball I or ball he 'Which one is smaller, my ball or his?'

Tinggian mana Smeru atau merapi. Higher which Smeru and Merapi 'Which one is higher Smeru or Merapi'

In formal style, duluan, besaran, kecilan, and tinggian are respectively expressed using longer form phrases (ter)lebih dahulu 'first', lebih besar 'higher', lebih kecil 'smaller', and lebih tinggi 'higher', as shown by (5) to (8) below:

(5) Masalah ini akan dibicarakan terlebih dahulu problem this will be discussed earlier

This problem will be discussed first

a. Batu ini lebih besar dibandingkan dengan batu itu Stone this more big to be compared with stone that This stone is bigger than that one

b. Mana yang lebih kecil, bolaku atau bolanya? Which that more small, ball I or ball he 'Which one is smaller, My ball or his?

Mana yang lebih tinggi, antara Gunung Smeru dan Gunung Merapi? Which that more high, between mount Smeru and Mount Merapi? Which one is higher, between mount Smeru and Mount Merapi?

Some time {-an} occurs or attaches with an informal lexical unit taken from Indonesian dialect or local languages. From Jakarta dialect for instance, The use of Indonesian at least taken two informal lexical units, i.e, mendingan 'better', and buruan 'be hurry, be quick'. The former is derived from mending 'better', while the latter is done from pracategorial verb buru 'hunt'. The use of them can be seen in (9) and (10) below:

(9) Mendingan tinggal di rumah daripada keluar.

stay in house than

'It is better stay at home than go outside'

(10) Ayo buruan, jangan ragu! let be quick, do not doubtful

'Let us be hurry, do not hesitate!'

In formal styles, (9) and (10) are expressed like the following (11) and (12):

(11) Lébih baik tinggal di rumah daripada keluar. at house than More good go outside

'It is better stay home than go out side'

(12) Mari kita cepat-cepat, jangan ragu! Let we quick do not doubtful 'Let us go quickly, do not hesitate!

There are two words in Indonesian that are commonly used for indicating state of affairs. Those are (*be*)*gitu* 'like that' and (*be*)*gini* 'like this'. These two words can occur with {-an} in informal Indonesian, as seen in (13) and (14) extracted from Indonesian Standard Dictionary:

(13) Harap dikerjakan dengan rapi, jangan (be)gituan saja. hope is done with neat, don't like that just

'Please do it well, do not just like that!'

(14) Yang (be)ginian aja nggak bisa Which like this just not can 'Even just like this, you can not'

The formal equivalents of *(be)gituan* and *(be)ginian* are *seperti itu* 'like this' and *seperti ini* 'like that'. So the formal expressions of (13) and (14) are (14) and (15) below:

(15) Harap dikerjakan dengan rapi, jangan hanya seperti itu Hope is done with neat, do not only like that

'Please, do it well, do not just like that'

(16) Yang seperti ini saja tidak dapat

Which like this just not can 'Even just like this, you can not

Indonesian suffix {-an} which occurs with *sungguh* 'serious' or *betul* 'right, serious' can form informal adverbs *sungguhan* and *betulan* which all mean 'seriously'. The use of them correspond to (*secara*) *sungguh-sungguh* 'seriously' or *benar-benar* 'seriously' in formal Indonesian. Consider (17) to (20) below:

(17) Kalau belajar sungguhan, kamu pasti berhasil. If study serious, you sure successful 'If you study seriously, you would be successful'

(18) Betulan nggak kamu mau ke Bogor? Serious not you will to Bogor

'Is It serious or not, that you will go to bogor?'

(19) Kalau kamu belajar (secara) sungguh-sungguh, kamu pasti berhasil If you study seriously, you certain successful 'If you study seriously, you would certainly be successful'

(20) Apakah kamu benar-benar mau pergi ke Bogor? what You serious will go to Bogor?

'Are you serious that you will go to Bogor?'

In different context, beneran, betulan and sungguhan may act as attributes of noun phrases. In this matter beneran, betulan and sungguhan mean 'pure', 'genuine' or 'real' not fake 'artificial'. See The following (21) and (22):

(21) Di mana bisa mendapatkan madu beneran?

Where can get honey real?

' Where can I get pure honey?

(22) Ini radio betulan bukan radio mainan.

This radio real not radio toy 'This is a genuine radio not a toy radio'

(23) Ini kulit sungguhan bukan bohongan

This leather real not fakeasli

This is genuine leather, instead of artificial one

In formal styles they are respectively expressed by *asli* 'genuine' or *murni* 'pure', as shown by (24), (25), and (26) below:

(24) Di mana bisa mendapatkan madu murni.

Where can get honey pure

'Where can I get pure money'

(25) Ini radio asli, bukan radio mainan

this radio real, not radio toy

'This is a real radio, not a toy one'

(26) Ini kulit asli, bukan tiruan

This leather genuine, not immitation

'This is a genuine leather, instead of an immitation one'

For avoiding impoliteness, suffix {-an} is often used for forming euphemistic expressions. For instance to refuse the indecent referent of tahi 'shit' and various expressions referring sexual

activities, Indonesian speakers use {-an} attached to question word *apa* and demonstrativa *itu*. The use of *apaan* and *ituan* for such purpose found in one of Indonesian notorious Joker S. Bagios Ad (27) several decades ago and one line of the famous Indonesian artist's Bing Slamet's song that was popular in the sixties (28).

(27) Cepat-cepat emangnya apaan? quick certainly what?

'You always said quick, what do you think I am doing'

(28) Dasar sial pulang-pulang injak ituan base unlucky, going home step on that thing

'It is really unlucky, when returning home I stepped on shit'

To keep the nicety of advertorial and song style, those euphemistic expressions are not changed. Finally,  $\{-an\}$  can also be used in informal styles for expressing reciprocity. In this matter this suffix is used in combination of precategorical verbal base reduplication, such as *tolong-tolongan* 'help each other', *peluk-pelukan* 'hug each other', *pegang-pegangan* 'hand in hand', etc. In formal situation, they can be expressed by several other morphological forms, such as reduplication combined with  $\{me(N)-\}$ , such as *tolong-menolong*, reduplication combined with  $\{ber-an\}$ , such as *berpelukan*, *saling plus*  $\{me(N)-\}$ , such as *saling pegang*, *etc.* Consider (29). (30), and (31), and their respective equivalents, (32), (33), and (34):

(29) Sesama teman kita harus tolong-tolongan.

As friend we must help each other

'As friend we must help each other'

(30) Untuk melepas rindu, mereka peluk-pelukan For releasing the longing, they hugged each other 'For releasing the longing, they hugged each other

(31) Mereka berjalan pegang-pegangan. They walked hold each other

They walked hand in hand

(32) Sesama teman kita harus tolong-menolong

As friend we must help each other we must help each other

(33) Untuk melepas rindu, mereka berpeluk-pelukan For releasing the longing, they hug each other 'For releasing the longing, they hugged each other'

(34) Mereka berjalan saling pegang. They walked each other hold They walked hand in hand.

Suffix {-in}

Jakarta as the capital of Republic of Indonesia is viewed as one of the most prestigious cities in the archipelago. Accordingly, its Indonesian variety, the so called Dialect of Jakarta, are widely used both by people living in the capital city, and other people living out side it as well. Therefore, it is not surprising a lot of this dialect elements exert great influence to the use of Indonesian, and become informal Indonesian entities. One of those entities is suffix {-in}. This bound morph has complicated correspondence in formal Indonesian. When the affix is attached to question word like *ngapain* 'what for', the suffix has no equivalent. So, sentences like (35) corresponds to Formal Indonesian (36):

(35) Ngapain kita ke sana? What for we go there 'What for we go there?'

(36) Mengapa kita pergi ke sana?

Why we go to there 'Why do we go there'

When this suffix is attached to verb, it might correspond to {-kan} or {-i} in formal Indonesian. Consider (37) and (38) below:

(37) Tolong sampaiin salamku pada mereka. Help deliver greeting my to them 'Please say my compliment for them' (38) Aku mau ngelebarin kamar tidur I will to make wide room bed

'I want to widen my bed room'

(39) Dia sedang njemurin pakaian drying in the sun clothes She is 'She is drying the clothes in the sun'

pohon mangga itu (40) Mereka ngelemparin They throw frequently tree mango that

'They pelt that mango tree'

(41) Badu mau ndeketin Parti Badu want approach Parti Badu want to approach Parti

the suffix {-in} is used to express benefactive or causative meaning like in (37) and (38) the equivalent will be [-kan], and if it is done to express iterative (39) and (40), and locative action like (41) the correspondence would be {-i}. Consider (42) to (46) below:

(42) Tolong sampaikan salamku pada mereka Help deliver greeting I to them 'Help me to deliver my compliment to them'

(43) Saya akan melebarkan kamar tidur

will to cause wide room sleep

'I will enlarge my bed room'

(44) Dia sedang menjemuri pakaian He is drying in thesun clothes 'He is drying the clothes in the sun'

pohon mangga itu (45) Mereka melempari They hit by throwing frequently tree mango that

'They pelt that mango tree'

(46) Badu ingin mendekati Parti Badu want approach Parti Badu Want to approach Parti

Prefix {nge-}

In many local languages, such as Sundanese, Javanese, Madurese, Balinese, Jakarta dialect, etc., Indonesian {me(N)-} corresponds to {N-}. Accordingly, the Indonesian word membaca 'to read' is maca in Javanese and Balinese, and mbaca in Jakarta Dialect. The Indonesian word menulis 'to write' is expressed nulis in Javanese, Balinese, and Jakarta Dialect, and nolis in Madurese. The closed contact between the national language and the local languages enables the local languages influence the use of Indonesian. Therefore, the influence of the use of {N} in informal Indonesian is very extensive. See (47) to (49) below:

(47) Saya sudah nulis surat.

already write letter

'I have written a letter'

(48) Saya akan ngambil pragmatik will take pragmatics

'I will take pragmatics'

(49) Saya sudah mbaca semua buku Chomsky

already read all book Chomsky

'I have read all Chomsky's book'

However, the use of informal Indonesian nowadays is flooded by {nge-} which constitutes simplification of all allomorphemic nasal  $\{N\}$ - variations of Jakarta Dialect. See (50) to (52) below:

(50) Aku sudah ngebayar uang sekolah.

I already pay money school

'I have paid the school fee'

(51) Dia jarang ngerapiin tempat tidur. He rare to make neat place sleep 'He rarely tidied up the bed'

(52) Pelatih sudah ngelempar handuk.

Trainer already throw towel

'The trainer has thrown towel'

For formal expressions the last three sentences should be paraphrased (53) to (55) below:

(53) Saya sudah membayar uang sekolah.

Í already pay mo: 'I have paid the school fee' money school

(54) Dia jarang merapikan tempat tidur.

He rare to make neat place sleep 'He rarely tidied up the bed'

(55) Pelatih 'sudah melemparkan handuk.

Trainer already throw

'The trainer has thrown towel'

Prefix {ke-}

Prefix {ke-} such as found in kejebak 'untintentionally trapped', kepergok 'unintentionally found', keburu will be soon' belong to the informal style in the use of Indonesian. This prefix could be brought from Javanese or Jakarta Dialect as consequence of the intensive contact between the national language and the local variation, especially after independence. The use of them can be seen in (56), (57), adn (58) below:

(46) Tadi pagi saya kejebak kemacetan. Just now morning I unintentionally trapped traffic jam

This morning Iwas trapped in traffic ja

(57) Ali kepergok ibunya ketika sedang merokok

Áli was unintentionally found mother he when was smoking

'Ali was unintentionally found by his mother when he was smoking'

(59) Cepat saja beli, nanti keburu habis. Quick just buy, later it soon sold out

'Get it quickly, it will be sold out soon'

In formal speech situations, kejebak, kepergok, and keburu in the last three examples correspond to terjebak, terpergok, and terburu, as shown in (60), (61), and (62) below: (60) Tadi pagi saya terjebak kemacetan.

Just now morning I was trap traffic jam

This morning I was trapped in traffic jam

(61) Ali terpergok ibunya ketika sedang merokok

Ali was unintentionally found mother he when smoking

'Ali was unintentionally found by his mother when he was smoking'

(62) Cepat saja beli, nanti terburu habis. Quick just buy, later it soon sold out

'Get it quickly, it will be sold out soon'

In very small number of cases, {ke-} is unable to be corresponded with {ter-}, but must be done with {ber-} or {di-}. For instance, the informal Indonesian expression ketemu 'to be found' in certain contexts is more appropriete to be translated with ber-, and in other contexts should be corresponded with {di-}. Consider first the following (63) and (64):

(53) Saya ketemu ibunya di Pasar

meet mother he in market

'I met his mother in the market'

(54) Dia sudah berusaha mencarinya, tapi tidak ketemu.

but not found already try find it,

'Dia have tried to find it, but he could not find'

In formal context, (53) is expressed by (55), and (54) with (56).

(55) Saya bertemu dengan ibunya di pasar.

meet with mother he in market

'I met his mother in the market'

(56) Dia sudah berusaha mencarinya, tetapi tidak ditemukan

to find it, but not found He already try

'He have tried to find it, but he could not find'

## Confix {ke-an}

Indonesian has many informal expressions that are morphologically marked by confix or simulfix {ke-an}. There are at least three groups of {ke-an} that have such characteristics, i.e {kean} which expresses terlalu 'too much', one that expresses menderita 'suffering of', and one that axpresses dapat di 'potential'. Indonesian words such as kebesaran 'too big', kekecilan 'too small', kejauhan 'too far', etc., in which {ke-an} is attached to adjectives, belong to the first group. See (57) to (59) below:

(57) Dia memakai sepatu yang kebesaran

He wore shoe that too big

'He wore too big shoes'

sebesar itu kekecilan baginya (58) Gaji Salary as big as that too small for he 'Such amount of salary is too small for him'

(59) Rumahnya kejauhan dengan sekolahnya

House he too far with school he 'His house is to far from the school'

For more formal expressions Indonesian speakers use terlalu besar 'too big', terlalu kecil 'too small', and terlalu dekat 'too near'. Compare (57) to (59) above with (60) to (62) below:

(60) Dia memakai sepatu yang (ukurannya) terlalu besar.

He wear shoe that (size)

'He wore too big size shoes'

sebesar itu terlalu kecil baginya. (61) Gaji Salary as big as that too small for he Such amount of salary is too small for him'

(62) Rumahnya terlalu jauh dari sekolahnya House he too far from school he

'His house is too far from his school'

Meanwhile, the polymorphemic words such as ketinggalan 'is left by', kejatuhan 'is fallen by', kemasukan 'was entered by' which generally expresse 'to be suffered of' belong to the second group. See (63) to (65) below:

(63) Walaupun sudah bangun pagi, ia tetap ketinggalan.

Álthough has awake morning he still being left Although he had tried to awake early, he was still left

(64) Kepalanya kejatuhan sarang burung

Head he is fallen nest bird 'The nest bird fell on his head'

(65) Rumahnya kemasukan pencuri.

House he was entered thief

'The thief entered to his house'

In formal use, ketinggalan 'was left', kejatuhan 'was fallen by', and kemasukan 'was entered by' are commonly expressed with ditinggal 'is left', dijatuhi 'was fallen by', and kemasukan 'was entered by'. See (66), (67), and (68) below:

(66) Walaupun sudah bangun pagi ia tetap ditinggal.

Although has awake morning he still being left 'Although he had tried to awake early, he was still left'

(67) Kepalanya dijatuhi sarang burung

Head he is fallen nest bird 'The nest bird fell on his head'

(68) Rumahnya dimasuki pencuri

House he was entered thief

'The thief entered to his house'

Eventually, kedengaran 'can be heard', kelihatan 'can be seen', and ketahuan 'can be known', etc. belong to the third group since all of them have 'potential nuance'. Notice (69), (70), and (71) below:

(69) Suaranya kedengaran dari sini. Voice he can be heard from here

'His voice can be heard from here'

(70) Gunung itu kelihatan dari rumah saya.

Mountain that visible from house I

The mountain is visible from my house

(71) Perilakunya ketahuan dari omongannya.

Behaviour he can be known from talk he

'His behaviour can be known from what he says'

Kedengaran, kelihatan, and ketahuan respectively have formal correspondences dapat didengar or terdengar 'can be heard', dapat dilihat or terlihat 'can be seen', and dapat diketahui 'can be known'. So (69), (70), and (71) can be paraphrased into (72), (73), and (74):

(72) Suaranya dapat didengar/terdengar dari sini.

Voice hé can be heard from here

'His voice can be heard from here'

dapat dilihat/terlihat dari rumah saya. (73) Gunung itu

Mountain that visible from house I

'The mountain is visible from my house'

(74) Perilakunya dapat diketahui dari omongannya.

Behaviour he can be known from talk he 'His behaviour can be known from what he says'

It is interesting to note that in kebagian 'to get' the formal correspondence is not dapat dibagi 'can be devided', but mendapat 'to get', as seen in (75) below:

(75) Kita kebagian yang sukar-sukar.

that difficult We get

We get the difficult parts.

The formal expression for (75) is the following (76)

(76) Kita mendapat bagian yang sukar-sukar.

We get part that difficult 'We get the difficult parts'

*Kebagian* in example (75) would be impossible to be paraphrased dapat dibagi because sentence like \*Kita dapat dibagi yang sukar-sukar does not make any sense in the use of Indonesian.

## Closing Remarks

As a language whose word formation processes mainly rely on affixation, Indonesian has alot of affixes. Some of those affixes have complicated morphophonemic, allomorphemic, as well as allosemic rules. The research findings of this paper show that several Indonesian affixes have possibilities to be used in informal speech styles. Those are {-an}, {-in}, {nge-}, {ke-}, and {ke-an}. However, not all of their uses are informal in characteristics, but only several of them are. The informal use of {-an} is ones that expressing 'comparative', 'like this', and 'genuine'. Meanwhile, all {-in} uses are informal to express 'iterative', 'causative', and 'locative', and benefactive. All {nge-} uses are also informal for expressing active actions. All uses of {ke-} are informal to express unintentional passive, and only {ke-an} used to expresses 'too much', 'unintentional passive', and 'potential' are. All grammatical meanings of those informal affixes can usually be paraphrased for revealing their formal correspondences, and only in very small cases the correspondences seem linguistically rather strange and difficult to understand.

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