



**International Journal of
English Linguistics, Literature, and Education
(IJELLE)**

Vol. 1, No. 1, 2019

Universitas Veteran Bangun Nusantara

ISSN Print: 1566-102416 ISSN Online: 1566-105494

INTENTIONAL ENGLISH TYPOGRAPHY ERRORS ON FACEBOOK

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Abstract

This research aims to identify the linguistics unit used in intentional English typography errors, whether in the forms of word, phrase, clause or sentence. This research also has purpose to describe the types of intentional English typography errors, whether in the forms of omission, addition, substitution, or transposition.

This research was a kind of qualitative design that tried to describe the linguistic units and forms of intentional English typography errors on facebook. Data of this research were English words containing intentional typography errors used by the researchers' friends on facebook in writing their status or comments. The data were got from the source of facebook in which data were collected through an observation toward English typography errors on status or comments on friends' facebook accounts. The data then, were documented through facilities of *print screen* (capturing by computer) or *screenshot* (capturing by phone cellular). Next, the collected data were analyzed into three steps, namely reduction, display, and verification. To check the data validity, this research applied researcher triangulation.

This research resulted in collecting 93 data. The linguistic units consisted of 88 words, 1 phrase, and 4 clauses. The words involved 51 nouns, 8 adjectives, 13 verbs, 3 adverbs, and 13 greeting words. Then the linguistic units could be clasified in 65 substitution that can be categorized into 16 letter substitution and 49 sound substitution. There were also data belonging to 5 addition, 11 ommission, and 1 transposition. It was also found combined-forms, namely 6 substitution – addition, 3 substitution – ommission, and 2 addition – ommission.

Kata kunci: thypography, error, facebook

INTRODUCTION

Facebook is such a kind of social media that is mostly used by many people in the world to make interaction nowadays. It has many features that each has its own benefit. One of them is status space. It is a part that people mostly like because they can do everything for their creation and exploration, not only writing status or posting photos or videos, but also stating their feeling through available emoticon or stikers and tagging friends. They can also use camera to make a direct photo or video. Live-broadcast can be also done on facebook. Likewise, they can apply colorful background on their post to make it more

interesting. Even, they may use various language in posting their status. They may use native languages, national language or foreign languages. However, it often happens some deviations especially during using foreign language, like English.

Normally, language deviations occur because of the speakers' accidental or due to lack of knowledge, experience, or understanding of the language users. However, the phenomenon relating to the writing of status on facebook shows that people make the language deviations or distortions of typography on purpose or intentionally during their writing status activities. They do it for certain reasons, for example to make the words more interesting, more impressed funny, different from the others, and so on. For example, *upline* is written *aplen*, *update* is written *apdet*, *please* is substituted by *plis*, *facebook* is replaced *fesbuk*, *return* becomes *riten*, *baby* turns to *bebeb* or *beib*, *happy birthday* belongs *hepibesdey*, etc. Abbreviation and acronym are also applied to modify the words, like *happy birthday* often abbreviated *HBD* is written *hebede*, *on the way* abbreviated *otw* is written *otewe*, and so on. Even, the intentions come to the level of 'puns', namely by adding or subtracting the wrong form, for example *otewe* to be *ngoteweh*, *apdet* to be *uapdet*, *bebeb* to be *embebk*, etc. If it is observed, the forms include all levels whether words, phrases, or sentences.

Such phenomena of language deviations on facebook can be categorized as language errors because their occurrence relate to the understanding, ability, or competence. As stated by Brown that language deviations can be divided into two, namely error and mistake (1994: 205). According to Brown, errors occur associated with the factors of understanding, ability, and competence. While mistakes happen due to the failure to use language in accordance with the situation called performance errors. This type can occur both in using mother tongue and foreign language, and can be corrected by themselves if they have been told about it.

As English errors such as those that often occur on facebook are involved in written forms, then it can be classified as spelling errors (James, 1998: 129-139). James distinguishes errors in writing activities into two, namely misspellings and mechanical errors. Misspelling (spelling errors) are irregularities in writing phonemes by using graphem. While mechanical errors are errors relating to writing mechanism, such as punctuation, spaces, and so on. So James groups these mechanism errors including punctuation errors, typographical errors, confusables and dyslexic errors.

Punctuation errors are mistakes in using punctuation and distance in writing. While typographical errors are mistakes in typing specifically in printed (printed/ typed text) instead of hand written. While confusables are errors caused by confusion in words that have similarities, like *divorce* – *devoice*, *discrete* – *descreet*, and so on. Then, dyslexic errors are errors caused by a disorder or disease, such as aphasia or dyslexia that causes abnormality in the production of the language. Another expert, Bussmann (1996: 378) groups language errors based on several points, including modality (level of ability in language skills whether speaking, reading, writing, or listening), linguistic level (pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, style), types (omission, insertion, replacement, transposition), type (error in ability or performance), cause (interference, between languages), and norms and systems. Then errors in writing on facebook can be categorized as typographical errors because they relate to typing texts. As it is known that writing on facebook always utilizes computer technology or cell phones, so it surely requires typing by using keypads.

As there are many enough typographical errors on facebook, thus they can be described using error analysis, which is an analysis of the types and causes of language error (Bussmann., 1996: 378). Error analysis can mean the process of observing, analyzing, and grouping deviations from the rules of language and then find the system of errors (Brown, 1994:166). Similar to Brown, Crystal (1987:112) argues that error analysis is a technique of identifying, classifying,

and interpreting systematic forms of language deviations by someone using certain principles and procedure. These three concepts have the same perception that error analysis is the activity of defining, grouping, and interpreting or describing mistakes made by someone in language activities, especially in active skills such as speaking and writing. To obtain valid results, an error analysis is carried out based on a procedure starting from collecting, identifying, describing, explaining, and correcting the errors (Corder, 1967: 160-170).

After finding such language errors on facebook, then they should be identified their forms or types. If Bussman classifies the types of language errors into omission, insertion, replacement, transposition, Brown has the similar idea as Bussman that groups the types of language errors into addition, omission, substitution, and ordering. While Cook (2013) proposes four types of language errors, namely omission, insertion, substitution, and transposition.

Omission is leaving something out. It means that there are certain parts that are not included as they should be. While insertion is the act of **putting something inside something** else, or adding **something** to something else. So it is also called as addition. Then substitution means replacing something by something else. It involves sound substitution and letter substitution. The last transposition means moving to other place.

That the errors or deviations in writing status on facebook are not solely due to the lack of knowledge or understanding toward English rules, even tend to be made intentionally for some reasons, it seems that it will only happen through social media, in which informal style may occur. Then the wrong forms may be understood. The many mistakes causes curiosity, thus the research formulate the problems,, namely:

- a. What are the linguistic units that contain the intentional English typography errors on facebook, whether word, phrase, or sentence?
- b. What are the types of the intentional English typography errors on facebook, whether omission, addition, substitution, or transposition?

METHODOLOGY

The design of the research was qualitative method. According to Bodgan and Taylor, qualitative research is the procedure of research which produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words of people and behavior which can be observed (In Moleong, 2007: 3). Qualitative research is also called naturalistic research methodology. This research is done on natural setting. The researcher must not build some hypothesis, but the researcher can observe and give some interpretations from this research. Then this research observed linguistic phenomenon relating to intentional English typography errors on facebook. This research tried to describe the linguistic units the linguistic units and types of intentional English typography errors on facebook.

Data of this research were English words containing intentional typography errors used by the researchers' friends on facebook in writing their status or comments. The data were got from the source of facebook in which data were collected through an observation toward English typography errors on status or comments on friends' facebook accounts. The data then, were documented through facilities of *print screen* (capturing by computer) or *screenshoot* (capturing by phone cellular). Next, the collected data were analyzed into three steps, namely reduction, display, and verification. To check the data validity, this research applied researcher and theory triangulation because this research was carried out

by a team consisting of three persons and applied more than one theories.

DISCUSSION

Principally, language errors can be categorized into two types. The first, the errors belong to systematic deviations caused by a lack of knowledge of the language rules so that they make mistakes consistently. The second, the errors belong to systematic deviation from the language rules being studied. In common, both belong to systematic deviations, which means that the mistakes are made repeatedly. Even so, typographical errors on facebook are apparently intentionally done with many reasons, for example to look puns or just to be creative.

This research was carried out to answer two question about the linguistics units and the types of language errors on English typography errors on facebook. Then it resulted in collecting 93 data that would be analyzed using language error analysis with some steps, namely collecting, identifying, describing, explaining, and correcting the errors .

Linguistic Units

Intentional English language errors on facebook were found about 93 data. They could be classified into some linguistic units, such as 88 words, 1 phrase, 4 clauses.

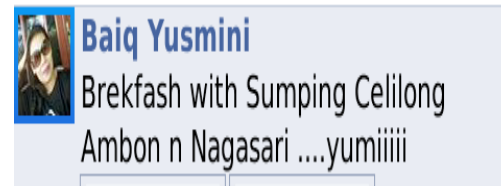
Word as the smallest of the linguistics units which can occur on its own in speech or writing can be divided into 51 nouns, 8 adjectives, 13 verbs, 3 adverbs, and 13 greeting words. Words appear as the most dominant language error on facebook, maybe because English is a foreign language so their competence toward it is still limited and words are the easiest part to understand.

Nouns

Among the words found as English language error on facebook, nouns are the most dominant words to be the error. The amount is 51 data. Nouns as words to name things, places, persons, or events are important parts of linguistics units. *Apline* is one of nouns being language errors found on facebook (01/N/SBN.Aplen) . *Apline* is a noun that comes from the word *upline* which has a higher network meaning. This word is known in business networks or multi-level marketing to show people who have a higher network. Likewise, *brather* is a noun from the word *brother* (10/N/SB.Brather).



Another noun *breakfast* can also occur in some error forms, they are *brekfast* (08/N/O. Brekfast) and *brekfash* (09/N/SO.Brekfash) that it has meaning a kind of meal in the morning.



Moreover, *crim* is a noun from *cream* (11/N/SH.Crim) It has meaning a kind of cosmetics. While *childs* is such a noun as a kind of error in area of plurality in which it should be *children* as its plural form from the singular *child* (14/N/SH.Childs).



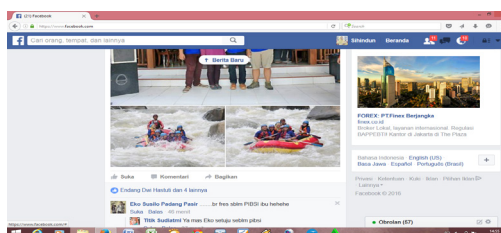
Another noun found on facebook being the errors is from the word *baby*. This noun may occur in some forms, such as *beib* (02/N/SB.Beib), *beb* (03/N/S.Beb), *bebeb* (04/N/SA.Beb), *emmbekkkk* (05/N/SA.Emmbekkkk), *embab* (06/N/SA.Embab), and *bebi* (07/N/SA.Bebi).

Likewise, the noun *friend* may appear in some errors, such as *fren* (20/N/SB.Fren), *frends* (21/N/SB.Frends), *pren* (22/N/SB.Pren), *prens* (23/N/SB.Prens), and *plend* (24/N/SB.Plend). Moreover, noun *guys* also stands in several errors, like *gays* (25/N/SH.Gays), and *gaess* (26/N/SB.Gaess). Further, noun *facebook* is also often seen in some forms, like *fesbuk* (17/N/SB.Fesbuk) and *pesbuk* (18/N/SB.Pesbuk).

Besides, there are still other nouns that may occur as errors found on facebook, such as *creambath* (12/N/O.Crembth), *customer* (13/N/SH.Costamer), *downline* (15/N/SB.Donlen), *doorprize* (16/N/SB.Dorpres), *film* (19/N/A.Filem), *surprise* (27/N/SB.Surprais), *heels* (28/N/SH.Hells), *honey* (29/N/SH.Hunny), *hastag* (30/N/SB.Hestek), *inbox* (31/N/SH.Inbok), *mother* (32/N/SB.Mather), *manager* (33/N/SB.Menejer), *mall* (34/N/SB.Moll), *nugget* (35/N/SB.Naget), *cheese cake* (36/N/SB.Cizkek), *supplier* (37/N/SB.Suplaier), *stock* (38/N/O.Stok), *sugar* (39/N/SB.Suger), *steak* (40/N/SB.Setik), *smile* (41/N/A.Smaile), *school* (42/N/SH.Skool), *accessories* (43/N/O.Acecories), *you tube* (44/N/SB.Yutub), *sales* (45/N/SH.Seles), *sweetty* (46/N/SB.Swity), *photoshop* (47/N/O.Potosop), *aftereffect* (48/N/SB.Apterepek), *peace* (49/N/SB.Piss), *job* (50/N/SH.Jop), and *fruit* (51/N/A.Fruite).

Adjectives

Adjective is a kind of word that has function as modifier (Matthews, 1997: 9). For examples, in the phrase *tall man*, *tall* modifies the word *man*. It describe the man is like. Some adjective are found as the forms of errors on facebook. One of them the word *mbois* that belongs to adjective *boyish* that means has *masculine characteristics* (55/ADJ/SB.Mbois). Another adjective, *fresh* occurs in such an error *fres* (58/ADJ/O.Fres). It has meaning *smells good* as it can be seen in.



Another adjective that can be found on facebook is *happy*. It is found in forms of *heppy* (52/ADJ/SH.Heppy) and *heppyi* (53/ADJ/SA.Heppyi). Other adjectives also appear on facebook in such forms, like *swit* (54/ADJ/SB.Swit) for *sweet*, *speksial* (56/ADJ/SA.Speksial) for *special*, *flexsibel* (57/ADJ/A.Flexsibel) for *flexible*, *lod* (59/ADJ/O.Lod) for *load*.

Verbs

Verb may also appear as error form on facebook. It is a word having position predicate in a sentence (Matthews, 1997: 395). It explains the action done by a subject, for example Rudi *runs* around the field. *Runs* is a verb to tell what Rudi does.

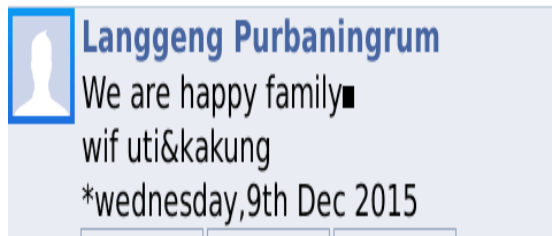
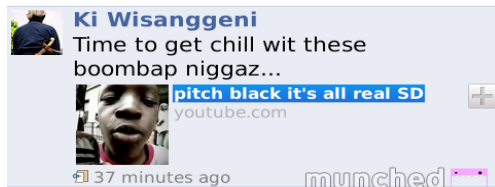
Verbs that may occur as errors on facebook, such as *upload* that occurs as an error of *aplot* (60/V/SB.Aplot). Another verb is *matching* that appear as *mecing* (66/V/SB.Mecing).



Other verbs may also occur as errors on facebook, such as *play* that appears as *pley* (63/V/SH.Pley), *cancel* appears as *cansel* (61/V/SH.Cansel), exist seen as *eksies* (62/V/SB.Eksies), *love* appeared as *lope* (64/V/SH.Lope), *love* may also occur as *luv* (65/V/SO.Luv), *match* occurred as *match* (67/V/T.Macth), *selfie* occurred as *selvi* (68/V/SO.Selvi), *check sound* seen as *cekson* (69/V/SB.Cekson), *invite* happened as *nginvit* (70/V/AO.Nginvit), *request* written as *reques* (71/V/O.Reques), and *update* seen as *apdet* (72/V/SB.Apdet).

Prepositions

Preposition is a kind of word to show direction. There are so many prepositions in English, namely *in*, *on*, *at*, *up*, *dow*, *below*, *above*, *with*, *within*, *without*, *before*, etc. Some prepositions found as errors on facebook. For example, preposition *with* may be found in forms of *wit* (73/ADV/O.Wit) and *wif* (74/ADV/SB.Wif).



It is also found a unique word, namely *otewe* (75/ADV/SB.Otewe). Actually is is an acronym of prepositional phras *on the way*, but by the facebookers it is often abbreviated into *otw* then often written *otewe* based on its pronunciation.

Emphaty words

Emphaty words are words said on certain situations involving thanking, apologizing, congratulating, etc. Thanking expressions may involve *thank you* or *thanks*. However, there are forms found on facebook relating to the words such as *tanks* (76/UC/O.Tanks), *tank's* (77/UC/AO.Tank's), *thank's* (78/UC/A.Thank's), *thangst* (79/UC/SA.Thangst), dan *thangs* (80/UC/SH.Thangs).



Other emphaty words include congratulating. One of congratulations are conveyed on someone's birthday. There are some of birthday's words identified on facebook, such as *Happy besday* (81/UC/SB.Happy besday), *Happy besdey* (82/UC/SB.Happy besdey), *Happy bezday* (83/UCSB.Happy bezday), *Happy bday* (84/UC/O.Happy bday), *Hepibetdey* (85/UC/SB.Hepibetdey), *Hepibesde* (86/UC/SB.Hepibesde), *hepibesdey* (87/UC/SB.Hepibesdey), and *Hebede* (88/UC/SB.Hebede).

Phrase

Phrase is a combination of minimum two words to build a meaning. It consists of a head and modifiers. The type of phrase will be determined by its head. Then there are some kinds of phrase, such as noun phrase, verb phrase, adjective phrase, adverb phrase, and prepositional phrase. However, only one noun phrase is identified on facebook. It is a kind of phrase in which a noun is the head, namely *uld luv* (89/F/SB.Uld luv).

Clause

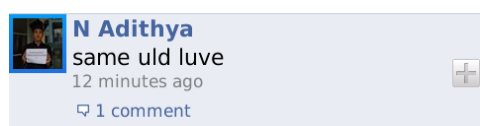
Clause is a construction of words in which it has components like a sentence, subject and predicate. Only one clause found on facebook, it is *love you*. But it appears in some forms, like *Luv u* (90/KL/SB.Luv u), *Luv yu* (91/KL/SB.Luv yu), *Lop yu por eper* (92/KL/SB.Lop yu por eper), *Lop yu pul* (93KL/SB.Lop yu pul).

Types of English typography error on facebook

Principally English typography errors on facebook refer to language errors, so it can be analyzed using error analysis to identify the types of errors and their causes. Some types of language errors, such as addition or insertion, omission, substitution, and transposition or ordering.

Substitution

Substitution is replacement, either in the form of letter or sound as the effect of pronunciation. Letter substitution is changing a letter in a word with another. It can be done intentionally or because of other reasons. There are some words experiencing letter substitution, such as love being *lope* (64/V/SH.Lope). In this word, letter *v* is substituted by *p*. This word also experiences a change in letter *o* that is replaced by *u*, either for love to be *luve* and old to be *uld* (89/F/SH.Uld Luve). Another word, *cancel* also shows the replacement from letter *c* to be *s* to be *ansel* (61/V/SH.Cansel).



There are still other words experiencing letter substitution, such as *inbok* replacing *x* to be *k* of *inbox* (31/N/SH.Inbok), *heppy* replacing *a* being *e* of *happy* (52/ADJ/SH.Heppy), *thangs* substituting *k* being *g* of *thanks* (80/UC/SH.Thangs), *gays* substituting *u* being *a* of *guys* (25/N/SH.Gays), *seles* replacing *a* being *e* of *sales* (45/N/SH.Seles), etc.

Sound substitution

It is substituting a part or parts of a word based on its pronunciation. For example, a word *baby* may be found in some forms based its pronunciation, such as *bebi* (07/N/SB.Bebi), *beib* (02/N/SB.Beib), and *beb* (03/N/SB.Beb).

Other examples of words written based on their pronunciation are *moll* from *mall* (34//N/SB.Moll), *surprais* from the pronunciation of *surprise* (27/N/SB.Surprais), *fesbuk* from *facebook* (17/N/SB.Fesbuk), *upline* is pronounced aplen (01/N/SB.Aplen), *downline* is written *donlen* (15/N/SB.Donlen). etc.

Addition

Addition is also called insertion is adding or inserting a letter or letters into a word. For example are word *filem*, it adds *e* for the word *film* (19/N/A.Filem), *smile* is added *a* being *smaile* (41/N/A.Smaile), *fruit* is added *e* being *fruite* (51/N/A.Fruite), etc.

Transposition

Transposition is a kind of error caused by the order. There is only a datum found on facebook identified as transposition. It is *match* being *macth* (67/V/T.Macth).

Combination

Combination occurs when there are more than one type of errors. It includes substitution and addition, substitution and omission,

Substitution and addition

Combination between substitution and addition may vary in many forms, such as *bebeb* (04/N/SA.Beb). This word belongs to *baby* that its pronunciation should be *beib* but it is often pronounced *beb*. For reason of uniqueness, people often add words being *bebeb*. The word *baby* may be also pronounced *emmbekkkkk* by adding some words of *e*, *m*, *m*, and 4 *k* (05/N/SA.Emmbekkkkk). Even it can be often pronounced *embab* by adding *e* and *m* and substituting *beb* being *bab* (06/N/SA.Embab).

There are also some combination of substitution and addition found, such as *hepppyyyiii* from *happy* (53/ADJ/SA.Hepppyii), *speksial* from *special* (56/ADJ/SA.Speksial), and *thangst* from *thanks* (79/UC/SA.Thangst).

Substitution and omission

Substitution may also be combined with omission, like it can be seen to the word *brekfast*

(09/N/SO.Brekfash). This word belongs to *breakfast* by omitting *a* and substituting *t* being *h*. likewise, the word *luve* (65/V/SO.Luv). It belongs to *love* by omitting *e* and substituting *o* with *u*.

Addition and omission

Addition and omission may happen in the same. As it can be seen on *nginvi* (70/V/AO.Nginvit). It belongs to the word *invite* by adding *g* and omitting *e*. Another word, *tank's* that belongs to *thanks* (77/UC/AO.Tank's) also experience addition of apostrophe (') but omitting *h*.

CONCLUSION

Principally typographic errors on facebook belong to language errors. There are some types of errors found on facebook, such as substitution, omission, addition, transposition and combination of some types of the . Due to the fact that it happens on social media, the errors may occur intentionally. Then, this is understood if the facebook users do it for the reasons of being unique, modern, new-fashioned, etc.

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