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WORDS CONFUSE INDONESIAN LEARNERS (FALSE COGNATES)

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ABSTRACT
This article entitled “Words confuse Indonesian learners” (false cognates) is written to help English teachers and students be aware that there might be confusion in their teaching and study. Data encountered in this writing are taken from reading a newspaper in NTT called TIMEX and TV news called METRO for one month from December 2022 to January 2023. The research results show that false cognates confuse Indonesian English learners 1. One meaning or single word but changed here and there, 2. Different substances, terms used in Indonesian context and meaning, 3. Acronyms that are not accustomed to English speakers, 4. Shorten words, which, when we refer back to English, have different meanings; 5: literary translation, 6. Word class changed, and 7. Words added.
Keywords: Words confuse, Indonesian learners, False cognates

INTRODUCTION
It is interesting to pinpoint that many Indonesian words are derived from various languages and, of course, the development of words derived from those languages, such as English, taken here, which might have some changes and modifications to suit the need of language borrowers. An intention to look forward to those words from English in their differences from Indonesian is the main point to be talked about here. A month of detailed research on a Kupang daily magazine "TIMEX" (Timor Express) From early December 2022 to the end of January 2023 and Metro TV News, concerning cognates as words in the English language which are similar to form and meaning in the Indonesian language are not because of they are related languages. Still, both languages are used in the field of Indonesian Education.
Research concerning this writing shows a considerable number of Indonesian words taken from English, neglecting the words' originality, being adapted and modified to sound like Indonesian words, but initially, they came from English. This is called "cognate," as shown by the following:
Example:
Table 1. Cognate, which is recorded from consonant /b/ as:

B**lack garlic** The black color intense, smelling bulb is used as seasoning in meats, slads, etc.	**Bawang putih hitam** Its name is “bawang putih” but because it has black in color so it is callled “bawang putih hitam”

Looking at the above sample, one can predict that several cognates are found in Indonesian from English. Besides, one can easily find words that lead readers to different meanings and forms. The latter is labeled “False cognates’ which are the main focus of this discussion.

This section concerns what is called in linguistic terms "borrowing." It is "a word or phrase which has been taken from another language and used in other languages. When a borrowing is a single word, it is called a **loan word**” (Richards *et al*., 1989, p. 30). For example, Indonesian has taken the word "hop" From English, which means "jump," into Indonesian "hop la ."This, of course, reflects borrowing or loan words mentioned above. However, when this word is developed into another word, "grasshopper," for example, it is difficult for Indonesian students to see that the word "hopper" comes from the word "hop" + er, which means an insect that hops in the grass. Indonesian learners try to associate the word "grasshopper" with the Indonesian word “belalang" instead of developing their understanding of the word "hop," as mentioned above. It indicates that this kind of language borrowers understand the words they borrow with independent knowledge without looking at another development side of the language they borrow.

Many English words are still borrowed and actively used in Indonesian from various local or foreign languages (Wikipedia, 2016). The main concern of this paper is about cognates/ borrowing from English into Indonesian. Why is English being borrowed? It is because English is an International language used in Education, and most scientific books are written in English. Therefore, it must be accepted that borrowings from English are found in Indonesian. Since cognates from English is so huge, this writing specializes in false cognates, which some writers tend to use the word "false friend" (Merecka *et al*., 2021). Even many experts still argue about the term used as a false friend to replace false cognates. The writer uses the word false cognates to avoid misunderstanding and argument about this term.

"False cognates, a word which has the same or very similar form in both languages, but which has a different meaning in each. The similarity may cause a second language learner to use the word wrongly" (Richard *et al*., 1989, p. 103). This might lead learners of English as a foreign language to miss the idea in the foreign language due to the confusion between the two languages. An example for Indonesians who learn English arises when there is an English question directed to them:

First example:

- A teacher shows a folder to his students and asks: What is this?
- Students: That is a map

Table2. Description of first examples

Map (English)	**Map (Indonesian)**
A drawing or other representation, usually on a flat surface, of all or parts of the earth's surface, ordinarily showing countries, bodies of water, cities, mountains, etc.	Case of stiff paper for letters or saving documents

The word map for Indonesian students is similar to a folder in Indonesia. Therefore, they tend to answer the teacher from their confusion. Map in Indonesian is a case of stiff paper for letters or saving documents, as shown above.

Second Example

- Teacher: You did not come to school yesterday, did you?
- Student: Yes, I did not come yesterday.

The correct answer should be: I did not attend school yesterday. The Indonesian answering question influences this: "Ya, saya tidak datang kemaren" (I did not attend school yesterday). For Indonesian, the second answer is correct, but it is to the way English people answer this type of question. The above answer "has the same or similar form in both languages but has a different meaning. The similarity may cause a second language learner to misuse the word (Richard *et al.,* 1989, p. 103).

METHOD

This is a descriptive-qualitative study where explanations of data have been elaborated in words rather than numbers to be interpreted (Bogdan & Biklen, 2007; Afrizal, 2014). Data from newspapers and Metro TV news were collected on 10 December 2022 to 15 January 2023 and focused on borrowing words. The data have been classified based on 5 Indonesian consonants known as / a, u, i, e, o / and 17 consonants known as / b, c, d, f, g, j, k, l, m, n, r, s, t, v, w, y, z/. Consonants concerning /x / and /th / are not in this writing.

DISCUSSION

This section concerns what is called in linguistic terms "borrowing." It is "a word or phrase which has been taken from another language and used in other languages. When a borrowing is a single word, it is called a **loan word**" (Richards *et al*., 1989, p. 30). For example, Indonesian has taken the word "hop" From English, which means "jump," into Indonesian "hop la ."This, of course, reflects the borrowing or loan word mentioned above. However, when this word is developed into another word, "grasshopper," for example, it is difficult for Indonesian students to see that the word "hopper" comes from the word "hop" + er, which means an insect that hops in the grass. Indonesian learners try to associate the word "grasshopper" with the Indonesian word

“belalang" instead of developing their understanding of the word "hop," as mentioned above. It indicates that this kind of language borrowers understand the words they borrow knowledge independently without looking at another development side of the language they borrow.

Many English words are still borrowed and actively used in Indonesian from various local or foreign languages (Wikipedia, 2016). The main concern of this paper is about cognates/ borrowing from English into Indonesian. Why is English being borrowed? It is because English is an International language used in Education, and most scientific books are also written in English. Therefore, it must be accepted that borrowings from English are found in Indonesian. Since cognates from English are so huge, this writing specializes in false cognates, which some writers use as "false friends" (Merecka *et al*., 2021). Even many experts still argue about the term used as a false friend to replace false cognates. The writer uses the word false cognates to avoid misunderstanding and argument about this term.

"False cognates, a word which has the same or very similar form in both languages, but which has a different meaning in each. The similarity may cause a second language learner to use the word wrongly" (Richard *et al*., 1989: 103). This might lead learners of English as a foreign language to miss the idea in the foreign language due to the confusion between the two languages. An example of Indonesians who learn English arises when an English question is directed to them. The word map for Indonesian students is similar to a folder in Indonesia. Therefore, they tend to answer the teacher from their confusion. Map in Indonesian is a case of stiff paper for letters or saving documents, as shown above.

Second Example

- Teacher: You did not come to school yesterday, did you?
- Student: Yes, I did not come yesterday.

The correct answer should be: I did not attend school yesterday. The Indonesian answering question influences this: "Ya, saya tidak datang kemaren” (I did not attend school yesterday). The second answer for Indonesian is correct, but it follows how English people answer this type of question. The above answer "has the same or similar form in both languages but has a different meaning. The similarity may cause a second language learner to misuse the word (Richard *et al.,* 1989: 103).

Some experts come out with different terms as false friends and real friends (Merecka *et al*. 2021), "False friends" have the same meanings as "False cognates" and “real friends the same as "real cognates." Therefore, the terms "False cognates" and "Real cognates" are used in this writing.

Following are data on Indonesian false cognates described in the forms of vowels and consonants in separate tables taken from two sources: a Kupang daily magazine called "TIMEX" and a Television (TV) news program "Metro TV" for one month starting mid-December 2022 until mid of January 2023. The false cognates found from both media are in the table regarding vowels and consonants.

4.1. The English and Indonesian Vowels

Following are false cognates from English found in Indonesian described in tables starting with the five Indonesian vowels /a, u, i,e, o/.

Table 3. Vowels

English-Indonesian Vowels	English	Indonesian
/a/	**Academy** Private high school, any school for special training which may take several months or several years	**Akademi** Any school that runs special Education or training for 3-4 years after High School. "Sekolah yang menyelenggarakan spesial pendidikan atau training untuk 3-4 tahun setelah SLA"
	AC Alternating current	**AC** Air Conditioner
	Alternative Providing or being a choice between two or less strictly, among more than two things	**Alternatives** A medication for accelerating body nutrition. Being a choice between two or more than two things. "Obat pemacu fungsi nutrisi tubuh" "Pilihan di antara dua atau beberapa kemungkinan"
/e/	**Engineer** A person who makes engines, a person who operates any engine, machine or mechanical equipment or apparatus	**Insinyur** Scholars with architecture, electricity, mining, agriculture, machine, animal husbandry background, etc. "Sarjana teknik sipil, listrik, peternakan prtambangan, pertanian, mesin, dsb (lulusan perguruan tinggi)"

	Economic About economy	**Ekonomis** - About economy - Economic - "Tentang ekonomi" - "Berhemat"
	Emancipate To set free, release from bondage, set free from certain authorities and supervision	**Emansipasi** Release from bondage Equal rights in various aspects of life - "Pembebasan dari perbudakan"; - "persamaan hak di pelbagai aspek"
/u/	**Utility** Usefulness; the greatest happiness of the greatest number	**Utilitas** Usefulness "Faedah, kegunaan, manfaat"
/i/	**Invent** To find, to discover	**Inventarisasi** Register, data collection "Pendaftaran atau pencataan, pengumpulan data"
	Instruct To communicate knowledge, to teach	**Instruksi,** Order, teaching, direction "Perintah, arahan; pelajaran, petunjuk"
/o/	**Ounce** Unit of weight - Avaoirdopois equals 28.3495 grams - Troy equals 31.1035 grams	**On** equals 100 grams "Ons sama dengan 100.gram
	Overhead Projector Do not find such an abbreviation	**OHP** Short of Overhead Projector "Singkatan dari Over Head Projector"

	Order Social position, arrangement, rank, ask, etc.	**Order** Order "Memesan"

The above data show that all five Indonesian vowels known as / a, u, i, e, o / provide examples of each concerning false cognates. Each example shows variations in forms and meanings based on the Indonesian way of interpreting each word. As a summary of the above data, we can see that:
Indonesians are fond of:
1. Having only one meaning to one word, but each word has various meanings in English—E.g., Utility, order.
2. Using acronyms, therefore, borrowing longer phrases from English tends to be changed into abbreviations unfamiliar with English. E.g., AC and OHP, which have different meanings in English.
3. Having other meanings, e.g., academy, alternative, Engineer, economic, emancipate, invent, incubate, interpret, ounce.
4. Having two meanings Eg. Alternatives, economic, instruct, incubate

Table 4. Vowels variation in percentage

No.	Variations	Words found	Percentage
1.	Having only one meaning	Utility, order	11.77%
2.	Using acronyms	AC, OHP	11.77%
3.	Having other meanings	Academy, alternative, Engineer, economic, emancipate, invent, incubate, interpret, ounce.	52.94%
4.	Having two meanings	Alternatives, economic, instruct, incubate	23.52%
Total	Variations	17 samples	100%

The above figure representing Indonesian Vowels shows that 11.77% of false cognates coming from English have only one meaning, 11.77% in the form of acronyms that are not accustomed to English, 52.94% have different purposes, and 23.52% have two meanings compared to the original English words.

4.2. **The English and Indonesian Consonants**

The second presentation of the following table shows false cognates found in Indonesian coming from English and quoted based on Indonesian consonants.

Table 5. CONSONANTS

Consonants	English	Indonesian
/b/	**ballpoint pen** A kind of pen that has a ball on its point	**bol point** Indonesian use the words bol point without using the word pen Bol pen has a different connotation; bol does not explain anything about pen
	B**lack garlic** Black color strong-smelling bulb used as seasoning in meats, slads, etc.	**Bawang putih hitam** Its name is "bawang putih" but because it has black in color so it is callled "bawang putih hitam"
	Breakfast The first meal of the day	**Breakfast** An early meal in the morning until about 10 o'clock
/c/	**Cleaning service** (V) Act of cleaning	**Cleaning services** (N) The person who serves cleaning
	Command To give an order	**Command- Komando** (N) Order
	Complex Something that has parts difficult to understand or explain	**Complex - Complex** A group of houses or buildings
/d/	**Deal** To portion out; to give; to consider; to do business; to distribute playing cards to the player.	**Deal** To do business

/f/	**finger** Any of five jointed parts projecting from the palm; any of these other than the thumb; 8 fingers, two thumbs and ten toes	**finger** Five fingers for each hand and foot; a total of 20 fingers
	Family A unit consisting of parents and children	**Family - Family** All members of the family and relatives
	Fabric Anything constructed or made of parts put together; structure; building; the basic framework structure of anything. Material made from fabrics	**Pabrik** Any construction with machines to produce a certain amount of product for the sake of business. Machine
	Food Republic, A nation that produces food	**Food Republic,** Ready meal product
/g/	**Glass** A complex, brittle substance, usually transparent or translucent, made by using silicates with soda or potash, lime and some rapidly to prevent crystallization	**Gelas** Drinking vessel (Gelas Plastik) From any material
	Garage A closed shelter for an automotive vehicle or vehicles A business establishment where automotive cars are stored, repaired, serviced, etc.,	**Garasi** Carport
	Good night When you want to go to bed	**Good night/ Selamat malam** The time between sunset to sunrise

	Hop One of the meanings is: to make a short leap or leaps on one foot.	**Hop la** Jump with both feet, especially for little children.
/j/	**Jury** A group of people sworn to hear the evidence and inquire into the fact in a low case and to give a decision following their findings A group of people, often experts, are selected to decide the winners and award the prizes in a competition or a context.	**Yuri (one)** **Tim yuri (more than one)** Juri (maybe one, maybe more than one person)
/k/	**Keeper** A person or thing that keeps; a guard, as of prisoners, animal, football.	**Keeper** Football guard
/l/	**Lotion (hand and body lotion)** A kind of lotion for hand and body protection	**Hand body** Han body - used for the same purposes.
/m/	**Map** A drawing or other representation, usually on a flat surface, of all or parts of the earth's surface, ordinarily showing countries, bodies of water, cities, mountains, etc.	**Map** Case of stiff paper for letters or saving documents
	Mobile (Adj) One meaning of this word is moving easily	**Mobil** (N) Automobile
/n/	**No, he doesn't go** No, ... does not	**Ia, dia tidak pergi** Yes, he does not go

/p/	**Percentage** Given part or amount in every hundred	**Presentase/prosentase** Given part or amount in every hundred
	Picnic (N) An outdoor party provided by members and eaten in the open air, in the mountains, beach, woods, seashore, in the yard, including its journey	**Picnic** A journey to a specific place to the country or the beach.
	Pound A unit of weight: Avoirdupois = 454 grms The troy pound = 373.2 grams	**Pon** A unit of weight that is equal to 500 gram .
/r/	**Rain forest** A dense, evergreen forest occupying a tropical region has abundant rainfall troughout the year.	**Hutan hujan, hutan tropis,** A dense, evergreen forest occupying a tropical region has abundant rainfall throughout the year.
	Remote control Controle from a distance; in space; far off; far away	**Remot** Controle from a distance;
	Recipe A list of materials and directions for preparing a dish or drink	**Resep** Doctor's written order (English now commonly used prescription)
/s/	**Safari** A journey or hunting expedition	**Safari** Long trip
/t/	**Teens** Those aged between 13 – 19 years old	**Teens**

		Those aged between 11 – 19 years old
	Title The word can mean the name of a book, a picture, a story, etc.; it can also show the occupation or the rank of a person, but only sometimes used to indicate a high social status	**Titel** Refers to a university degree
	Tape recorder A device for recording on magnetic tape	**Tape** A device for recording on magnetic tape (tape)
/v/	**View** Some of the meanings are: A seeing of looking as in inspection or examination; Survey; inspection Seen; picture;	**View** Panorama; vision
/w/	**White coffee** Coffee mixed with milk.	**Kopi Susu** Coffee mixed with milk.
	Watermelon A large, round or oblong, edible fruit with a hard green rind and juicy, pink or red pulp coating many seeds. **Rock melon**	**Melon** A large, round or oblong, edible fruit with a hard green rind and juicy, pink or red pulp coating many seeds. **Semangka**

/y/	**Yell** To cry out	**Teriakan yell yell** To cry out
	You You do it	**Bapak/ibu** Sir/madam, do it
	Zone Some of the meanings are An encircling band, stripe, course, etc.; any section in the city restricted by law for a particular use; five Climatologic lines.	**Zona** Includes particular area for something

Consonants that do not have false cognates /x, th

Table 6. Percentage of words regarding consonants

No.	Variations	Words Found	Percentage
1.	One meaning	Deal, hop, jury, mobile, picnic, remote, view	7=17.07%
2.	Acronyms	WC	1= 2.44%
3.	Different meanings	Breakfast, cleaning, command, complex, finger, fabric, food republic, garage, good night, jury, keeper, map, no, he does not, percentage, pound, rain forest, recipe, safari teems, title, white coffee, Mellon, you, zona.	24= 58.53%
4.	Two meanings	---	
5.	Shorten words	Ballpoint pen, hand and body lotion, tape recorder	3= 7.32%
6.	Literary translation	Black garlic	1= 2.44%
7.	Word class changed	Command, cleaning service	2= 4.88%
8.	Words added	Hop, yell, Stay	3= 7.32%
TOTAL		41 words	100%

One meaning: as in words: deal, hop, jury, mobile, picnic, remote, view. These words are borrowed and used as a single word but have changed here and there to match Indonesian Pronunciation. Words "deal, hop and jury" stay the same Pronunciation as in English, but others have changed words: " mobile, picnic, remote, view" become*" Mobil, piknik, remot, few."*

Different meanings: as in words: breakfast, cleaning, command, complex, finger, fabric, food republic, garage, good night, jury, keeper, map, no, he does not, percentage, pound, rain forest, recipe, safari teens, title, white coffee, Mellon, you, zona. All these words are used in the Indonesian context as they mean to Indonesian, as described in the above table about words beginning with consonants.

Acronym as in Water closet = "WC" is a short form that is not found in English.

Shorten words: as in "ballpoint pen, hand and body lotion, tape recorder." This group of words is shortened into the combination of two words only to become *"bol point, hand body and tape,"* which, when referred back to English, have different meanings.

Literary translation: as in "black garlic" to become bawang putih hitam. The word garlic in English means "bawang putih" (white onion), and black garlic to become "bawang putih hitam."

Word class changed as in "command (V), cleaning service (adj) ."Into all nouns becomes " Komando and cleaning service (person who cleans room, house, garden etc.)
Adding words: as in "Hop, yell, Stay with us" to become "*hop la*, *teriyaki yell yell, tetap stay..."*

Since these words are used very often in daily news and TV program, they are spread easily within the community, and more members of the community become familiar with such foreign words and expressions. Therefore, in time those false cognates grow easily among the community members. The community of users of this word can grow to the point where even people who know little or nothing of the source language understand and even use the novel word themselves. The new word becomes *conventionalized*: part of the borrowing or loanword.

www.ruf.rice.edu/_kemmer/words04/structure/borrowed.html)

The above statement shows that all borrowings or loanwords that come to Indonesia to be either cognates or false cognates have become conventionalized to be Indonesian and spread easily through media of communication such as magazines and TV programs.

CONCLUSION

Summing up the writing, it is vivid to Indonesian that our language borrows a huge number of words from English known as cognates, and a part of the words belong to false cognates that confuse Indonesian English learners. It is found that those false cognates consist of a). One meaning, those words are borrowed and used as single

word but have changes here and there to match Indonesian Pronunciation. Some stay the same Pronunciation as in English, but others have undergone changes. b). Different meanings are those words used in the Indonesian context, and the meaning is similar to the Indonesian context. c). Acronyms that are not accustomed to English speakers. d). Shorten words are groups of words that are shortened into a combination of two words only which, when refered back to English, have different meanings. e) Literary translation, Eg. the word garlic in English means "bawang putih" (white onion) and black garlic to become "bawang putih hitam" f). Word class changed as in "command (V), cleaning service (adj) ."Into all nouns as "Komando and cleaning service (person who cleans the room, house, garden etc. g). Adding words: as in "Hop, yell, Stay with us" to become "*hop la*, *teriakan yell yell, tetap stay..."*
In addition, contextual and lexical meanings in Indonesian stay the same, which is very different compared to English.

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