THE FORM AND MEANING OF LANGUAGE REGISTER IN FOOTBALL FAN POSTS ON TWITTER ACCOUNTS

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Abstrak

Penelitian bentuk dan makna register bahasa dilatarbelakangi oleh interaksi penggemar sepak bola di media sosial yang menunjukkan fenomena bahasa berupa penggunaan istilah-istilah khusus dan unik. Istilah berupa kata, frasa, ataupun kalimat yang digunakan secara khusus oleh suatu kelompok tertentu merupakan register bahasa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendefinisikan dua jenis register bahasa—terbuka dan tertutup—serta menjelaskan maknanya dalam interaksi penggemar sepak bola. Penelitian mempergunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif dengan data dari unggahan akun @idextratime. Metode pengumpulan data mempergunakan metode simak catat. Sementara teknik analisis data yaitu dengan reduksi data, klasifikasi data, dan analisis isi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan 98 register bahasa, terdiri atas 69 bentuk register tertutup yang bersifat teknis dan resmi; serta 29 bentuk register terbuka yang bersifat dinamis dan informal. Sementara itu, pada aspek makna register bahasa, data dibagi ke dalam empat kategori; teknik bermain, posisi bermain, istilah teknis, dan ungkapan slang. Makna register yang ditemukan mengalami penyempitan, perluasan, dan pergeseran makna tergantung pada konteks penggunaan. Penggunaan metafora pada data register yang ditemukan menunjukkan perbedaan dengan ragam bahasa dalam konteks di luar sepak bola. Oleh karena itu, register bahasa dalam komunitas sepak bola di media sosial tidak hanya merepresentasikan suatu kegiatan olahraga, tetapi menjadi wujud identitas kelompok penggemar sepak bola.

Kata Kunci: *register bahasa, sosiolinguistik, sepak bola, media sosial.*

Abstract

Research on the form and meaning of language registers is motivated by interactions among football fans on social media, which reveal linguistic phenomena in the form of the use of specific and unique terms. Terms in the form of words, phrases, or sentences that are used specifically by a particular group constitute a language register. This study aims to define two types of language registers—open and closed—and explain their meanings in football fan interactions. The study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with data from posts on the @idextratime account. The data collection method used is observation and note-taking. Meanwhile, the data analysis techniques used are data reduction, data classification, and content analysis. The results of the study show 98 language registers, consisting of 69 forms of closed registers that are technical and formal in nature, and 29 forms of open registers that are dynamic and informal in nature. Meanwhile, in terms of the meaning of language registers, the data is divided into four categories: playing techniques, playing positions, technical terms, and slang expressions. The meanings of the registers found experience narrowing, broadening, and shifting meanings depending on the context of use. The use of metaphors in the register data found shows differences with language varieties in contexts outside of football. Therefore, the language register in the football community on social media not only represents a sporting activity, but also embodies the identity of football fans.

Keywords: language register, sociolinguistics, football, social media.

1. INTRODUCTION

Social media has become an important space for football fans to express themselves, discuss, or simply communicate. The development of digital media has made it easier for fans to access the latest content and information (Andrijanto et al., 2024). This has led to the rapid growth of football fan communities. It is not surprising that there are various football communities or football fan communities spread across the world, including in Indonesia. These communities can be easily found both offline and online through social media. Online football fan communities can be found on Twitter, now known as X, which is a text-based social media platform. One of the platforms that serves as a communication space for football fans is the @idextratime account. This account is active in presenting football-related news, as well as serving as a medium for interaction and discussion among football fans.

The use of social media as a means of communication has a major impact on language because it gives rise to new forms of language with a wide variety of variations (Pratama et al., 2022). Through interactions between the @idextratime account and its followers, various distinctive interaction patterns have emerged. These patterns can be studied from a sociolinguistic perspective because they show the relationship between language and the context of its use in society (Chaer & Agustina, 2014). Sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies language and its use in society (Chaer, 2014). In line with this, Kridalaksana (1982) defines sociolinguistics as the study of language that examines the influence between linguistic and social behavior. The interaction patterns on the @idextratime account are reflected in the use of foreign terms, vocabulary, or expressions that are often only understood by members of the community.

The use of specific terms that are unique to a particular field is a form of language variation

Halliday (1978). Meanwhile, Wardhaugh & Fuller (2015) argue that variation is the use of different structures to express the same meaning. On some occasions, speakers can switch language variations that reflect interests and relationships (Fishman, 1972). There are two types of language variation, namely based on *use*s and based on *user* (Holmes, 1992). Language variation based on use is divided into three types, namely variety, context, and register. Variety is determined by formal or informal speech situations, context is determined by social situations or relationships, while register is determined by factors related to the purpose of use in relation to a particular field of work or situation related to a particular group.

Yule (2010) views register as a conventional way of using language according to a particular context or situation. Meanwhile, Wardhaugh (2010) defines register as a set of linguistic elements associated with a particular occupational or social group. Halliday & Hassan (1989) categorize register into several categories, ranging from closed and limited styles or registers to relatively free and open ones. Limited registers can be identified by their narrow meaning, limited scope, and specificity. Meanwhile, open registers have more diverse, broad, and unlimited meanings.

The use of language influenced by social context can be reflected in the interactions of football fans who have their own unique terminology. This terminology is formed based on shared knowledge of watching football matches. The terms used in interactions between football fans are not limited to technical and standard language, but also include new terms that are dynamically created through interactions on social media. This means that the register in football fan interactions is not limited to technical terms in the game, but also includes creative, metaphorical, and expressive terms. Therefore, the form and meaning of the register used in football fan accounts on Twitter needs to be studied.

Research examining the field of linguistics, particularly that which focuses on language registers in football fan interactions, is relatively scarce. However, there are several studies that focus on this field, including a study by Ismawati & Supriyanto (2022) which analyzed the forms of language register in the book *Sepak "Dolar" Bola*. The results found 13 forms of register words and a hundred forms of phrases whose meanings were divided into two, namely denotative and connotative. The research by Wijayanti & Fatimah (2022) analyzed the forms and meanings of registers in the speech of the host of the program "Mancing Mania" and found a style of language in the form of intensive noun modification and dominant use of English, as well as distinctive language through features such as complexity, syntactic reduction, noun modification, and hyperbolic expressions.

Rismaya et al. (2022) research analyzed Indonesian words as register markers on Twitter using morphological analysis. The results found five methods of word formation as registers, including affixation, abbreviation, anagram, hybrid, and syllable change. They also found that these words were used to express feelings, mockery, greetings, and misspellings. The research by Lestari et al. (2023) analyzed register forms in thrift shop sales on Instagram and TikTok, finding the use of registers in the form of word shortening, acronyms, abbreviations, code mixing, greetings, word combination, inflection, and derivation.

The research by Ilawati & Kuntoro (2025) examined scientific articles on language registers in various social spaces, finding that registers include specific words, phrases, abbreviations, and reduplications, as well as communicative functions such as instrumental, interactional, representational, and regulative. The study by Prasanty & Kuntoro (2025) explains the forms, contexts, and functions of language registers in the communication of farmers in Pejawaran, Banjarnegara. The results found various forms of registers used by farmers in Pejawaran, including nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives, and through these registers, they can show their local social and cultural identities.

Previous studies have shown similarities in analyzing language registers present in various social groups. The objects studied in previous research include books, television programs, interactions on social media, and communication in community settings. However, to date, no study has specifically highlighted language registers in interactions between football fans on Twitter. Thus, this study presents something new by making interactions between football fans on Twitter the main object of study. The analysis conducted not only focuses on the form of register, but also explains the meaning of the register words found. Thus, this study is expected to add to the understanding of the forms of language registers in interactions on social media, especially in the football fan community.

This study discusses the specific forms and meanings in football fan interactions on Twitter. Through sociolinguistic analysis, this study will examine (1) the language register forms in football fan posts on Twitter; and (2) the meaning of language registers in football fan posts on Twitter. Based on this focus, the purpose of this study is to identify the forms of register and analyze the meaning of the language register found in football fans' posts on Twitter. Therefore, this study is expected to identify various terms used by football fans on Twitter, thereby facilitating the understanding of the meaning of the terms found.

2. METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach, as stated by Sugiyono (2014) that qualitative research is research on natural objects that develop as they are. The data source used in this study is football fans tweets on Twitter. The data in this study consists of words, phrases, and sentences contained in posts from the

@idextratime account. The use of research data sources from social media, particularly Twitter, was chosen because social media has a unique communication dynamic, allowing this study to provide a new perspective on how football fans interact in the public sphere. Therefore, the @idextratime account was chosen because it has high publicity and is easily accessible to many parties.

The method used in providing data was the observation and recording method. The observation method is a method carried out through listening to language use (Mahsun, 2017). Data was obtained from repeated observations of posts on the @idextratime account. Furthermore, the data was linked to Halliday & Hasan (1992) theory of language registers, which divides registers into two types, namely limited and open registers. The study classified the register data found into four categories—playing techniques, playing positions, technical rules, and slang expressions—as a reference in meaning analysis.

Data analysis was carried out through the following stages: (1) data reduction to select the data obtained; (2) data classification to categorize data based on its context of use in communication; (3) content analysis and presentation of findings in narrative form. The analysis used a matching method, which was carried out by comparing elements outside of language, concerning meaning, context, and others (Mahsun, 2017). The data, in the form of football terms, was then matched with lexical meanings, namely meanings listed in language dictionaries. In addition, metaphorical data was analyzed by describing the relationship between lexical meanings and the context of use. This study not only revealed the form of language register but also explained the meanings contained therein.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on observations and documentation of the @idextratime account, 98 language register data were found. The data found shows that the language variations formed based on the context in the realm of football are very diverse. This led to the discovery of different language register forms from the data found.

Forms of Football Language Register

Based on an analysis of language register data found in interactions among football fans, particularly in posts on the @idextratime account, it can be seen that there are two types of language register. Closed register is formal and technical, while open register is flexible and contextual.

Closed Register

A closed register can be defined as a register that has a narrow, limited, and fixed meaning, so that its meaning tends to be known only by individuals within the community. A closed register can be identified by the use of technical, formal terms, standard terminology, and rules bound by professional fields. The closed register form in the @idextratime account post is as follows.

"*Ini match gaada **VAR** ya?*" (IT:37)

The data above shows the closed register form of the word *VAR*. This word is an acronym for *Video Assistant Referee*, which refers to technology that helps the main referee review decisions through video replays. The register of the word *VAR* can be categorized as a closed register because it has a technical meaning and is bound to the rules of football. The word *VAR* has a fixed and clear meaning, and its usage does not change meaning outside the context of football. The attachment of meaning to the rules of the game makes the word *VAR* a closed register form because it is formal, narrow, and not open.

"*Gooollllll Gakpo!!!! Cakep sih pergerakan Wiirtz Eketike di skema gol ini. BTW ga **offside** kah??*" (IT:39)

Based on the above data, the word *offside* is found to be a closed register form. This word can be categorized as a closed form because it has a clear and unambiguous meaning. The word *offside* refers to a rule in football which states that a player is *offside* if he receives the ball while positioned behind the last opponent player and closer to the opponent's goal. Based on this definition, it can be seen that the meaning of the word *offside* is technical and clear. Its formal, narrow, and clear meaning allows the word offside to be categorized as a closed register form.

"*Arsenal cuma cetak 1 gol doang dari 5 xG lebih*" (IT:72)

The closed register form in the data above is indicated by the word *xG*, which is an abbreviation of the phrase *expected goals*, a performance metric used to measure the probability of scoring a goal based on the opportunities created by a team. The word *xG* is used formally in the realm of match analysis and reporting. Its function as one of the parameters in football match analysis makes the meaning of the word *xG* fixed and narrow. This characteristic of meaning categorizes the word *xG* into a closed register form.

"*Trent inverted, Bellingham agak maju ke depan, Shaw ganti Walker. Cakep sih ini*" (PB:93)

The term *inverted* refers to a player's position on the opposite side of the field from their dominant foot. For example, a player who is left-footed plays on the right side. The meaning of the word *inverted* is consistent because it is understood consistently in football fan interactions. Based on the use of the word *inverted* in relation to modern football tactics analysis, as well as its narrow, fixed, and clear meaning, this word is categorized as a closed register.

Open Register Form

An open register is a register with unlimited scope, unofficial, broad meaning, and closely related to social context. Language registers in this form tend to be flexible and not bound by rules. Open registers can develop dynamically and are more understandable to the general public without specific knowledge in a particular field. Based on data collected from posts on the @idextratime account, the following forms of open registers were found.

"*Gambaran nilai raport kelas unggulan nih bos, yang oren sendiri siap dipacking dikirim ke Arab*" (US:25)

The data above shows the language register form in the word *dipacking*. The word *packing*, which comes from English, has the prefix *di-* added to it, following the pattern of Indonesian. This shows the style of language used in informal interactions between football fans. The word *dipacking* does not have a standardized meaning because it is not bound by technical rules in football. The free use of the word *dipacking* and its open meaning categorize this word as an open register form.

"*Madueke licin banget gilakkk*" (US:41)

Based on the data above, it was found that the word *licin* is used to describe players who are agile, fast, and difficult to stop. There is no standardization of the meaning of the word *licin* in the technical rules of football. The word *licin* is dynamic because it is used expressively in interactions between football fans. The word *licin* is categorized as an open register form of language because it has no official meaning in the context of football, and its meaning is dynamic, broad, and unbound.

"*Jujur agak sedih liat duo CB Chelsea yang super medioker ini*" (US:49)

The term *medioker* in the realm of football refers to a team or player who is considered to have poor abilities. This term comes from the English word "mediocre" which means ordinary or average. The term then underwent a narrowing of meaning because it was used to subjectively assess a team's performance. Based on its flexible use and broad meaning, the term *medioker* can be

categorized as an open register form. In addition, the use of the word *medioker* is free because it is not bound by the official language system or technical rules in football.

"*Lagi-lagi **umpan manja** Jens Raven gagal dimanfaatkan astagaaa*" (US:77)

The open register form in the data above is indicated by the phrase *umpan manja*. The phrase *umpan manja* is used by football fans to refer to the beautiful and accurate passing skills of football players. Based on this understanding, it is known that the phrase *umpan manja* is free and open because it has no official meaning. In addition, the use of the phrase *umpan manja* is not regulated in certain conditions. The expressive use of the phrase *umpan manja* in communication allows this phrase to be categorized as an open register.

Meaning of Language Register

The meaning of register analyzed in this study is the specific meaning of a word or phrase in posts on the @idextratime Twitter account. To facilitate the process of analyzing the meaning of the language register used by football fans on Twitter, the data was first classified into four categories, namely (1) playing techniques, (2) playing positions, (3) technical terms, and (4) slang expressions. This was done to identify differences in the context of language use, thereby facilitating the analysis of meaning.

Meaning of Playing Techniques Register

The first category is playing techniques, which includes terms related to the methods or movements used to control the ball during a match. The terms grouped in this category refer to the physical movements or technical skills that players use to kick, control, and pass the ball. The following language register data was found in interactions between football fans on Twitter.

"*Itu namanya tendangan **cuek** dari Mane ya ges ya*" (TB:10)

Based on the data above, there is a language register for the word *cuek*, which has the lexical meaning of indifferent or careless. However, in the realm of football, this word has undergone a shift in meaning as an expression to describe a technique in playing the ball. The word *cuek* refers to a football player's technique of passing or kicking without looking directly at the target or the ball. Through this technique, players look in another direction without paying attention to their opponents or teammates, creating an impression of indifference or carelessness. This word is an adaptation of international football terminology, which refers to this technique as "no-look" literally meaning "not looking." The word *cuek* is not interpreted literally by football fans, but contextually as kicking without paying attention to the ball.

"*Saka kenapa **panenka** ke samping sih, kalo tengah udah goal itu*" (TB:31)

The word *panenka* comes from a football player, Antonín Panenka, who created a unique penalty kick in the 1976 European Cup final (Williams, 2018). The term *panenka* refers to a penalty kick technique that involves gently chipping the ball towards the center of the goal. This technique became increasingly popular and was imitated by many football players, causing the term *panenka* to undergo a shift in meaning. The term is no longer understood as the name of a football player, but is used as a term to refer to one of the penalty kick techniques.

"*Vini dengan assist **backheel** untuk Valverde*" (TB:40)

The term *backheel* is used to refer to one of the kicking techniques in football. This term comes from the English word, which lexically means the back of the heel. In the context of football, the word *backheel* is used to refer to the technique of kicking the ball using the back of the heel. The *backheel* technique is often used suddenly to surprise and deceive opponents. The football fan community does not interpret the term *backheel* as a part of the body, but rather as a technique in playing football.

"*Rodrygo* **nutmeg** *Khusanov, Mbappé menipu Gvardiol*" (TB:58)

The register of language in the above data is indicated by the word *nutmeg*, which refers to a technique of deceiving an opponent by passing the ball between their legs. The word *nutmeg* is adapted from 19th-century English slang used by merchants when they successfully tricked buyers (Williams, 2018). In the context of football, the word then underwent a shift in meaning. The word *nutmeg* is not interpreted as the act of deceiving buyers, but rather as a feint because it is considered an act that humiliates the opponent. In Indonesian, the term *nutmeg* is often referred to as *kolong* or *mengolongi*, which have similar meanings, namely passing the ball between an opponent's legs.

"*Umpan Brahim Díaz ke Rodrygo, Jude Bellingham* **dummy** *run narik pemain Real Betis,* **tendangan pisang** *Rodrygo. BAM*" (TB:65)

The data above shows two language registers, namely the word *dummy* and the phrase *tendangan pisang*. The word *dummy* comes from an English term meaning a fake doll. In the context of football, this word is interpreted as a feint technique whereby the player allows the ball to roll without touching it. The *dummy* technique is performed by the player by standing still and not reacting to the ball. This is then considered to be like a fake doll that cannot move. Meanwhile, the phrase *tendangan pisang* is used to refer to a kicking technique where the ball travels in an arc through the air. This term is a metaphor used to describe the trajectory of the ball, which resembles the shape of a banana. In international football terminology, the *tendangan pisang* technique is referred to as a *curved shoot* or *banana kick*.

Meaning of Playing Position Register

The playing position register category refers to terms used to indicate the roles and positions of players on the field. Playing positions refer to the tactical structure of football, for example, players are positioned as forwards, midfielders, or defenders. The use of terms in this category facilitates understanding of the different roles of players in a football match.

"**Gelandang** *pembuka ruang sudah tak sabar ingin masuk*" (PB:15)

The data above shows the language register in the form of the word *gelandang*. In KBBI (2008), the word *gelandang* refers to a vagrant, i.e., a person who does not have a permanent residence. Meanwhile, in the realm of football, the word *gelandang* is used to refer to the position of a midfielder. This position has various more specific subcategories, such as defensive midfielder, attacking midfielder, and wing midfielder, which indicate different roles in the game. The duties and responsibilities of *gelandang*, who are required to assist in both defense and attack, mean that *gelandang* do not have a fixed position on the field. Therefore, *gelandang* is a word used to refer to players who play in the center. The word *gelandang* in international football terminology is referred to as *midfielder*.

"*Kanan kiri ngacir semua* **sayap** *Saudi*" (PB:22)

Based on the above data, it was found that the word *sayap* lexically means the part of an animal's body (birds and insects) used for flying. However, in the context of football, the word *sayap* has an expanded meaning that refers to the position of players on the left or right side of the field. The use of the word wing to refer to a player's position on the field is a metaphorical term in football. This is because the position of players on the sides of the field is likened to being on the outside of the field, like the wings of a bird. This word is an adaptation of international football terminology, which refers to this position as *wing* or *winger*.

"*Gelandang* **pengangkut air** *dari Tangerang*" (PB:45)

The term *pengangkut air* is a subcategory of the midfielder position that has the responsibility of winning the ball from the opponent. Williams (2018) revealed that the term *pengangkut air* originated from a taunt by French player Cantona, who said that Deschamps was nothing more than a water carrier. This term refers to a manual labor job in France, namely *porteur d'eau*, whose job is to fetch water to be delivered to restaurants or other places. Meanwhile, in football terminology, the phrase *pengangkut air* is defined as a player whose job is to win the ball from the opponent to be passed to a teammate. The term *pengangkut air* in international football terminology is referred to as *water carrier*.

"*Mainoo **false nine** kah ini ceritanya?*" (PB:78)

The term *false nine* comes from English, consisting of the word *false* meaning fake, and the word *nine* in football, which refers to a player who plays as a striker. The phrase *false nine* refers to a tactic in which the striker does not just wait for the ball in the opponent's penalty area, but is assigned to drop back into the middle of the field. This serves to deceive the opponent's defense, creating open space for other players. Therefore, the phrase *false nine* is a term that indicates a playing position.

Meaning of Technical Term Register

The technical term category includes vocabulary used to explain the rules or situations that occur in a football match. These terms are categorized based on their official nature and common use in match reports.

"*Benfica mending pamit aja ga sih **turun minum** ini*" (IT:6)

Based on the data above, the phrase *turun minum* was found in the language register. Lexically, this phrase is formed from two words, namely the word *turun*, which means to move downward, and the word *minum*, which means to consume water. However, in the context of football, the phrase *turun minum* is not understood literally based on its constituent elements. This phrase is an idiom that means a break to drink. The phrase *turun minum* is an adaptation of the international football terminology, water break. *Turun minum* is an official rule of the international football federation if the temperature is above 32 degrees Celsius. In football, *turun minum* does not mean moving to a place to drink, but rather a transition from active play to a break to drink.

"*Kok bisa cuma 2 pemain jadi **pagar hidup** itu?*" (IT:47)

The phrase *pagar hidup* consists of two words, namely *pagar*, which means a barrier, and *hidup*, which means something that still exists and moves. Meanwhile, according to KBBI (2008), a *pagar hidup* is a fence made of trees. However, in the context of football, the phrase *pagar hidup* refers to a line of players whose purpose is to block the opponent's free kick. This phrase is a metaphor to describe the formation of players who line up to block the ball, similar to the concept of a fence that functions as a barrier. International football terminology refers to the term *pagar hidup* as a *wall* or *defensive wall*.

"*Woylah itu yang nyerang sosmednya Pratama Arhan perkara gol **bunuh diri**, ga nonton apa doi mainnya solid sepanjang turnamen woy kocak*" (IT:85)

The term *bunuh diri* (suicide) in KBBI (2008) is defined as the act of killing oneself, which is a literal meaning in real life. However, in the context of football, the term *bunuh diri* has undergone a shift in meaning to describe a situation where a player scores a goal against his own team. This is one of the processes of metaphorical meaning formation in football terminology. The term *bunuh diri*, which originally meant the act of killing oneself, has changed in meaning to refer to an act that harms one's own team in the context of football.

"*Onana ini cerdik, begitu liat pemain mau placing dia langsung geser ke **tiang jauh***" (IT:90)

The above data shows the language register in the form of the phrase *tiang jauh*. Lexically, the word *tiang* refers to a long stake that is planted, while the word *jauh* means not close. Therefore, lexically, the phrase *tiang jauh* can be interpreted as a post that is located in the distance. However, in the context of football, this phrase has a narrower meaning, referring to the position of the goalpost that is far from the ball carrier. Thus, *tiang jauh* does not only mean a marker of distance, but has become a technical term in football. The phrase *tiang jauh* has an antonym, *tiang dekat*, which means the position of the goalpost that is close to the ball carrier.

"*Pedro Neto dengan **assist** yang sangat apa untuk gol pertama Josh Acheampong bagi Chelsea!*" (IT:94)

The word *assist* comes from English and means to help. In the context of football, this word means a pass that ends in a goal. This shows that the word *assist* has undergone a narrowing of meaning from a general act of helping to a specific act of helping in a football game. The word *assist* is used to record a player's contribution to the game, even if they did not convert the ball into a goal. The word *assist* has been absorbed into Indonesian football terminology as *asis*.

Meaning of Slang Expressions

The slang expressions category refers to non-standard expressions used in informal interactions between football fans. The distinctive terms category includes nicknames and distinctive terms that are dynamic in nature, as they are constantly evolving in line with trends.

"*Pelatih lain pasti bakal bermain **parkir bus** jika punya 9 pemain di lapangan, tapi doi malah bermain dengan garis pertahanan setengah lapangan*" (US:7)

The language register found in the above data is the phrase *parkir bus*. Lexically, the word *parkir* means the act of placing a vehicle in a certain place. Meanwhile, the word *bus* means a large public transport vehicle, so lexically the phrase *parkir bus* means placing a bus in a parking lot. However, in the realm of football the phrase *parkir bus* has undergone a shift in meaning. A large parked bus has become a metaphor for a total defense strategy in football. This strategy is carried out by stacking all players on the defensive line with the aim of blocking the ball. The players gathered together in the defensive line are then described as a bus blocking the road.

"*Damn jangan ngaku ngaku **demit** kamu dilan*" (US:19)

Based on the above data, the word *demit* was found to be a form of register. Lexically, this word comes from the word *dedemit*, which is a supernatural being or evil spirit. However, in the realm of football, the word *demit* means a Real Madrid supporter. This word was formed by shortening the phrase "*dedek Madridista*" to *demid*. The word *demid* then underwent a phonological shift due to the similarity in pronunciation between the sounds /d/ and /t/ in Indonesian. The similarity in sound makes the word *demit* easier for speakers to recognize.

"*Respect buat tim ini yg gak terlalu ngincer juara **piala ciki**. Karena prioritas mereka saat ini adalah premier league*" (US:35)

The term *piala ciki* is a combination of two words, namely the word *piala*, which lexically means a cup with a foot as a competition prize, and the word *ciki*, which refers to a brand of snacks called *Chiki*. In the context of football, the term *piala ciki* is not interpreted as a cup in the form of a snack. However, it has become a metaphorical expression to refer to a competition that is considered to be as prestigious as a snack, which is considered cheap. Therefore, the term *piala ciki* has become an expression used by football fans to belittle a competition that is not prestigious or does not have any added value.

"*Terakhir kali Burnley degradasi dari EPL itu musim 2014–15, jadi Burnley bukan **tim yoyo kidz***" (US:32)

The above data shows the language register in the form of the phrase *tim yoyo*. Lexically, a *yoyo* is a toy similar to a spinning top that is tied to a string so that it can spin up and down. This word then underwent a broadening of meaning among football fans. The word *yoyo* is not interpreted as a toy, but as a description of a football team that is promoted to the highest division and then relegated back to the lower division the following season. Therefore, the inconsistent performance of a football team is then described metaphorically as a yoyo game that goes up and down.

"*Marselino ini woyyy camat Oxford they said*" (US:91)

The register of language in the above data is indicated by the word *camat*, which lexically means the head of government who leads at the sub-district level. However, in the context of football, especially in the fan community in Indonesia, the word *camat* has undergone a shift in meaning. In the realm of football, this word has become an acronym for the phrase "*cadangan mati*" (dead reserve). The word *cadangan* refers to a player who does not immediately take the field and is prepared as a substitute. Meanwhile, the word *mati* means something that is lifeless or immobile. The term *camat (cadangan mati)* then refers to players who are rarely or never played. Therefore, in the data (US:91), the phrase *camat Oxford* does not mean the head of the Oxford region, but a reserve player on the Oxford team.

Based on the analysis of posts from the @idextratime account, two forms of language register were found, namely closed and open registers. A closed register can be defined as a register that has a narrow, limited, and fixed meaning, so that its meaning tends to be known only by individuals within the community. The closed register is reflected in the use of technical terms directly related to the formal rules of football, such as *VAR, offside, xG*, and *inverted*. Meanwhile, the open register can be interpreted as a register with a broad and informal meaning, which is closely related to the social context. The open register tends to be flexible and not bound by rules, so it can develop dynamically and be more easily understood by the general public without specific knowledge in a particular field. The open register is found in informal interactions among football fans, such as the words *dipacking, licin, medioker*, and *umpan manja*. This is in line with Halliday & Hasan (1992) register theory, which states that register categories can vary from narrow and restricted to more free and open.

In addition to register forms, language registers have meanings that are distinctive, unique, and different from other communities or groups. Register meaning is found through social meaning based on the context of its use in football, namely playing techniques, playing positions, technical terms, and slang expressions. This social meaning is necessary to understand the context of language use. This is in line with Wardhaugh (2010) opinion, which states that meaning is connected to the interpretation of the speaker's intention based on certain cultural or social conventions. This study shows how language registers in the interactions of football fan communities, particularly in posts on the @idextratime Twitter account, are not only a representation of a sporting activity but also a manifestation of the identity of football fan groups. Therefore, this is in line with the opinion of Halliday & Hassan (1989), who describe registers as a reflection of social processes involving people.

4. CONCLUSION

Research on posts from the @idextratime account reveals language registers in football fan interactions on Twitter. The analysis found 98 instances of language register usage divided into two forms: closed and open. Closed registers refer to technical terms and are related to the technical rules of football, while open registers are dynamic and have broad meanings. Based on

the data found, 69 data points were categorized as closed register, while 29 data points were categorized as open register. These findings show that even though football discourse is rooted in the official terminology of the game, the fan community continues to develop new vocabulary that is creative and contextual. In addition, analysis of the meaning of language registers shows variations in the process of meaning formation and change in football fan interactions. Overall, 21 data items were found to have lexical meanings related to playing techniques, 13 data items related to playing positions, 30 data items related to technical terms, and 34 data items related to slang expressions. However, this study has limitations in terms of the data analyzed, as it was taken from only one source, namely the @idextratime account. This means that the language register studied is limited to the style of that account. In addition, this study has not yet revealed the register on platforms other than Twitter, which may have different styles of language. Nevertheless, this study shows how football fan communities build identity through the use of distinctive language. This is expected to contribute to the understanding of sociolinguistic studies, particularly in terms of language register. Furthermore, the study shows how social media has become a space for linguistic innovation, which can serve as a reference for other researchers to expand their studies on interactions in other digital communities.

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