

**MEANING OF EMOTICONS IN COMMUNICATION USERS OF SOCIAL  
MEDIA WHATSAPP GROUP**



**A Thesis**

*Submit in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements For the Degree of Sarjana  
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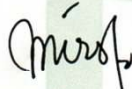
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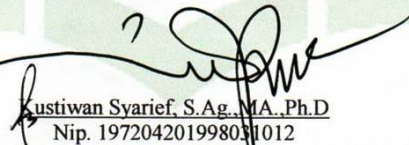
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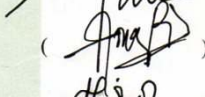
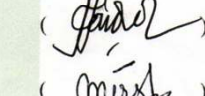



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## ABSTRACT

**Name** : Erni  
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This research discussed about meaning of emoticons in social media WhatsApp group. The research aimed at know the meaning of emoticons on the WhatsApp group. This research focused on analyzed the meaning of emoticon interpreted by the senders in WhatsApp group of 2014 English and Literature Department? and how are the meaning of emoticon interpreted the WhatsApp group who respond to the senders? and the objective of the research is to know meaning of emoticons interpreted by the senders in WhatsApp group of 2014 English and Literature Department and and to know meaning of emoticon interpreted the WhatsApp group members who respond to the senders using Roland Barthes Theory. Then, the data were analyzed using descriptive qualitative method to explain it. The researcher used interview as the instrument to find out the valid data. This research conducted in order to know the meaning of emoticon, especially in the use of Roland's semiotic theory, to analyzing the meaning of emoticon. The finding showed that connotative dominant other than Denotative meaning. The researcher concluded that emoticons that are inserted in the message text send not only to represent feelings of pleasure, difficulty, sadness, and happiness, but the use of emoticons can also be used to strengthen or reinforce the message text sent.

**Keywords:** *whatsApp group, emoticon, connotative and denotative meaning, Roland Barthes Theory, Descriptive-Qualitative Method.*

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background**

WhatsApp is a chat application that can be used to send text messages, pictures, sounds, locations, and even videos with friends who use the phone. Unlike the blackberry messenger that only allows the users to communicate with each other, WhatsApp is more cross platform, it means that even if you and your friends use a different phone that is, Iphone, Android, Nokia, and Blackberry, can still connect with each other (Jubilee Enterprise, 2012), WhatsApp also includes applications that are easy to use that resembles cellular call, where difference is WhatsApp uses internet data.

Existence of emoticons in online communication is an interesting phenomenon in the past few years. Emoticons are considered to add wealth information in communicating online (Gajadhar, J., & Green, J., 2005; 22). That's because almost everyone is active among social media to give each other news via short messages, both Facebook account, Line and BBM. Emoticon in chat is a symbolic device. The emergence of emoticons describes a change in a textual message. Where each send a short message is always associated with an emoticon that embraces each message. This evident after the emergence of emoticons users are more likely to insert emoticons in every message. In contrast, when sending short messages do not use emoticons even use very long text to explain their feelings. For that they are more interested in using emoticons to send short messages, they think by inserti

emoticons it will be easier to explain emotions or expressions, but emoticons also have an interesting and funny form.

There are several previous studies that have discussed the phenomena of emoticon such as, Eriana (2015) with the title of the research is *Pierce's analysis of icon and symbol on farume advertisements*, This study applied descriptive analysis method, through this method the researcher tries to describe, explain, and analyze the meaning of the signs and investigate its semiosis process using Charles Sanders Peirce's theory and the result showed that each advertisement had different sign and also different meaning. These differences had given different interpretation. And then Alfian, (2012) has stated in his thesis under the title of *Interpretation of Image Advertising by Using Peirce Semiotic Approach*. The objective of this study is to find out kind of visual signs in image advertising and the connotative meanings of those images advertising. In analysing of the data which were collected, the writer of this study used Peirce semiotic approach. The approach is utilized to analyze visual sign in image advertising. The result of semiotics investigate is depicted by utilizing descriptive method. It described about the visual sign and connotative meaning which are based on the three elements, they are representament (sign), object (kinds), and interpretant (mean), with this method he tries to explain and analyze the symbols, icons, and indices in the images advertising. be used in messages, this can strengthen a text message and can represent feelings of sadness and so on, emojis and emoticons can also be used to cover our feelings

Based on previous studies, the researcher concludes that many researchers have previously studied emoticons, emoticon usage, and adaptation of semiotic theories used to find the marks, unlike the current research the researchers will combine this concept and examine emoticons. The research continues to use social media but researchers use WhatsApp social media where we see the phenomenon of development at this time, the researchers will see semiotics in the use of emoticons in social media WhatsApp.

Barthes's theory (1964), is that denotation is a sign that actually refers to objects based on direct and definite truth shared by them. With this theory the researcher will analyze the meaning of emoticons on WhatsApp group social media. Whereas connotation is a meaning that refers to an indirect meaning, or meaning that is not in accordance with the contest. As in the use of emoticons, emoticons have direct and indirect meanings. Depends on the context and use of emoticons in sending messages and how we respond.

The fundamental thing that becomes the reason for researchers to choose this title because emoticons that have a variety of funny forms that are very helpful to express feelings and very popular among adolescents user of social media.

What the researcher doing about this thesis meaning of emoticon user of social media WhatsApp research is strongly related to Al-Qur'an surah Al-Hujurat verse 6 that is:

يَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن جَاءَكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَن تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا بِجَهْلَةٍ فَتُصْحَبُوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ

Translation

*O ye who believe! If a wicked person comes to you with any news, ascertain the truth, lest ye harm people unwittingly, and afterwards become full of repentance for what ye have done.*

*(Q.S. AL-HUJURAT : 06)*

According to Quraish Shihab (2002: 263) when someone comes to you brings important news, then be sure to seek clarity, namely to examine the truth of the information, so that we do not impose something unfortunate without actual knowledge. Therefore, the verse above emphasizes about the necessary or search for sources of truth in various ways, example visiting yourself and make interview or looking for sources to relatives or close friends to produce accurate news. The introduction is needed to get lessons and experiences from other parts to increase one's obedient to Allah, the effects of which will be reflected in the truth and peace of life that is beneficial in the world and in the hereafter.

## **2. Research question**

Based on the description of the above background, the problem formulated in this study are:

1. How do the meaning of emoticons interpreted by the senders in WhatsApp group of 2014 English and Literature Students AG 1.2 class?
2. How are the meaning of emoticon interpreted the WhatsApp group who respond to the senders?

### **3. Objective of The Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem, the purpose of the research will be conducted:

1. To know meaning of emoticons interpreted by the senders in WhatsApp group of 2014 English and Literature Students AG 1.2 class.
2. To know meaning of emoticon interpreted the WhatsApp group members who respond to the senders.

### **4. Significance of The Research**

#### 1. Theoretical

This research hopes to contribute knowledge in the field of semiotic related to emoticons.

#### 2. Practical

Practically, this research to apply the knowledge received by researchers during the students of English literature as well as provide input to anyone who wants to learn more about the emoticons.

### **5. Scope of The Research**

In this research, the research focus on semiotic analysis in the use of emoticons in media social WhatsApp group. The reason why the researcher using the theory from Roland because this issue can be analyzed by using Roland theory.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### A. Previous Study

Similar research has been conducted by:

Indrawati Susan 2014. With the title *Semiotic Analysis o Canon Camera Advertisements*. In this study, the writer chose the Semiotic analysis of canon camera advertisement as the subject to be analyzed using semiotic study based on Peirce's theory. Semiotic approach is employed in interpreting the sign, symbol, icon, and index in Canon camera advertisements. This study aims to identify: (1) What kinds of signs are used in the advertisements of Canon Camera based on semiotic analysis?, This study uses qualitative approach by document analysis because the study focuses on identifying sign, interpreting connotation found in Canon Camera advertisements. The writer found that there were 52 signs in total consisting of 28 icons, 11 indexes and 13 symbols. Most of the connotation meanings of the prited advertisements reflect a certain messages related to the theme or product that is promoted. Each sign has a very important role to build up expected additional idea of the advertisement. It has function to make clear, support and strong then up a particular message.

Alfian (2012) has stated in his thesis under the title *of Interpretation of Image Advertising by Using Peirce Semiotic Approach*. The objective of this study is to find out kind of visual signs in image advertising and the connotative meanings of those images advertising. In analysing of the data which were collected, the writer of this

study used Peirce semiotic approach. The approach is utilized to analyze visual sign in image advertising. The result of semiotics investigate is depicted by utilizing descriptive method. It described about the visual sign and connotative meaning which are based on the three elements, they are representament (sign), object (kinds), and interpretant (mean), with this method he tries to explain and analyze the symbols, icons, and indices in the images advertising.

Firmansyah (2015). With the title of research *A Semiotic Analysis on the Logos of Three Cafes in Malang*. In this research chooses three logos of cafes in Malang. Then, to get the meaning of the logos, the researcher analyzes them by using semiotic study. This research has three problems of the study to be answered: (1) What typology of signs are found on the logos of three cafes in Malang? (2) What are the connotations of the logos of three cafes in Malang?, and (3) What are the relationships between the sign connotation of the logos of cafes and the history, concept and goals of the cafes?. And use Descriptive qualitative research with content or document analysis is applied in this research. The data analysis is conducted by applying Pierce's theory (1931 in Chandler 2007) that is typology of sign. In order to interpret the meaning of the signs found, connotation theory offered by Chandler (2007) and Fiske (2012) are also used. The result of this research discovers that the icon, index, and symbol are found in the logos. The iconic signs are mostly applied and the symbolic signs are used more than the indexical one. The meaning of signs combination found in the logos is interpreted through connotation theory.

After looking at the three previous studies, the researchers concludes that no one use emoticon in the whatsapp as a object using Roland Barthes theory, analysis of Roland Barthes. Therefore the researchers decided to take an emoticon analysis to the users of the social media communication group WhatsApp students using Roland Barthes theory.

## **B. Pertinent idea**

### **1. Semiotic**

Talking about semiotics, there are three dominant contemporary models of what constitutes a sign, those of the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure and the American philosopher Charles sanders pierce and then Roland Barthes.

According to Daniel Chandler (2007: 33), Saussure defined a sign as being composed of a 'signifier' (signifiant) and a 'singified' (signifie). Contemporary commentators tend to describe the singifier as the concep to which it refers. for Saussure, both the signifier (the sound pattern) and the signified (the concept) were purely 'psychological'. Pierce in Sobur (2009: 41) state that sign is something which stands to somebody for something in some respect or capacity.

Besides that, Barthes in Sobur (2009; 41) state that semiotic is a science or method analysis signs. Barthes (1986) stated that images, gesture, musical sound, or anything can be a sign whatever their substance because semiotics aims to take in any system of sign

Semiotics is a text analysis approach that concern in structural while doing the analysis. Structural analysis focuses on how the system is signifying at conditional moment of history (Chandler 83).

From some definitions above, the researcher can include that semiotic is the science of signs or methods to analyze a sign to know a meaning contained in the sign itself.

## **2. Semantics**

Semantic is a linguistic sub disciplines discuss and review of the meaning with "meaning" as an object (Pateda, 2001:7). According to Katz (1972:1) stated that semantic is the study of linguistic meaning.

According to Verhar (1989:125) states that semantics is a branch of linguistics which possessed using that have a relationship with other social sciences such as sociology required and it can be shows the evidence that use certain words to express an intention can mark identity of a group of users.

## **3. Roland Barthes Theory**

Roland Barthes, in full Roland Gergerd Barthes, (he was Born Cherbourg 12<sup>th</sup> November 1915, and died on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1980, Frances). French essayist and social and literary critic whose writings on semiotics, the formal study of symbols and signs pioneered by Ferdinan De Saussure, helped establish structuralism and the new criticism as leading intelectual movements.

### **a. Denotative meaning**

According to Cruse (2006:45) states that the denotative of a linguistics expression is that aspect of its meaning which is involved in this potential for use in making true statement about the world. According to Raeske (1966: 31) states that denotative has reference only to what is conventionally understood by word. The denotative meanings of a word is thus void of any emotional or subjective overtones. When examining any word: a critic should differentiate between its denotative and its connotative meanings.

Leech (1974: 60) states that conceptual meaning or denotative meaning is also referred to as logical or cognitive meaning. These are basic propositional meanings that correspond to the main dictionary definitions. Such meaning is neutral and objective and contrary to other types of associative meanings.

### **b. Connotative meaning**

The connotative meaning is subjective because it depends on the reader or the interpreter that intends the sign. To find the connotative meaning, we should find the first meaning order too, which is denotative meaning. In short, connotation is determined by the codes to which interpreter has access (Chandler3).

In this study the research will use the theory of by Roland Barthes because Roland is a philosopher and logician. Roland semiotic model is also more flexible to be used for researching such as film, photos, videos, and other literary works unlike others that are more based on linguistic sciences.

In addition semiotics is also pragmatic where semiotics studying the relationship between signs with translators or users is about what we want to learn in a study, where researchers want to check what signs someone makes when they send emoticons and how those who see and interpret it.

#### **4. Emoticons**

Communication is the process of conveying messages or information from one to another (Keyton,2011). Communication means exchanging messages or opinions to the other person, both directly and indirectly, whether through certain social media networks such as telephone, internet, telegram. Communication can also be defined as the delivery process carried out by two people or even more than two people.

Communication is the sharing of information between different individuals. It includes the sharing of ideas, concepts, and written content. Communication is simply defined as the transfer of information from one place to another. This transfer of information can be conducted in different ways.

WhatsApp Messenger since they were launched. Emoticon or emoji is a chat facility presented in messenger such as Blackberry Messenger or WhatsApp in form of icon or image that shows expressions like sad, happy, shocked, impressed, scared, and so on. Emoticon could also be called as facial emotion, or combination of keyboard characters expressed along with a text message that shows the writer's mood (Crystal, 2001).

Emoticon is symbol typography or the combination of symbols that shows the mood, resembling facial expression, or in form of particular activity. It is used as non

verbal communication and emotion substitutes for text based message (Walther and D'Addario, 2001).

Emoticon is an icon with facial emotion shape which is usually used in text message to represent emotion and personality in interpersonal communication (Dunlap et al., 2016).

For that use of emoji, the emotion of message receiver will be triggered more strongly, and furthermore understanding the message meaning (Luminet et al., 2000).

When looking at explanations from some experts that emoticons are easier to use in interacting with opponents chat or more expressing the messages we will send. Emoticons are also created as a communication tool for the delivery of facial expressions, tone of voice or posture in written form.

Emoji to their unabridged dictionary. The Oxford Dictionary defines Emojis as “A small digital image or icon used to express an idea, emotion, etc., in electronic communication and originated in the 1990's from the Japanese words for e 'picture' + moji 'letter, character'.”

Emoticons also cannot be used haphazardly, emoticons must be used according to the feeling and content of the text or message so that it can have a more accurate meaning and represent the feelings or emotions of the sender (Stark and Crawford, 2015)

Emoticon can also help to express thoughts and feelings by using digital media with universally known facial expression (Mesquita et al., 1997). This really helps us in exchanging messages or can represent our feelings by linking one of the

emoticons to the message we will send.

According to Wolf (2000), Emoticons use multiple characters to express one's natural feelings, emoticons commonly used in short text messages, e-mail or internet forums such as chat rooms and blogs. Emoticons are created as compensation for the inability to convey tone of voice, facial expressions, or gestures in written communication. If we insert emoticons it will give the reader an idea of what we feel.

Users of emoticons as a form of communication can strengthen social relations in communicating communities. This form of communication is a form of communication that is called fatik communication. Fatigue communication is a way of maintaining close relationships within a society (Malinowski, 1923).

Based on the explanation above Emoticon is a pictorial representation of facial expressions using punctuation and letters, usually written to express one's mood. Emoticons are often used to warn a respondent of the intent or anger of a statement, and can change and improve the interpretation of plain text.

It can be concluded that emoticon is an effort or a tool to facilitate in communicating in social media, we also easier to understand the message because it can be asserted by including one of the emoticons that match the message content and what we feel.

In conclusion, social media, especially social media WhatsApp and the use of emoticons are very important in as a separator and explanation in messages or message to be sent.



## 5. Kinds of Emoticon

There are several types of emoticons that are used more often:

- a. The emoticons used to express shame are the smile face faces (smiling faces).

Unlike his name, this expression is used to show happiness, but there is also an element of shame. Seen from the eyes that are frowning but the mouth is smiling.



Example of the use of an emoticon that represents the emotion of embarrassment is "No interview yet" from the contents of the message from the sender of the message conveying his shame with the smiley face.


- b. face emoticons with closed eyes and hands in front of the mouth. These emoticons can be used as disclosures of shame supported by the red color on


the cheeks.



Examples of "thank you praise" of the emoticons used can already be explained that the sender of the message is embarrassed.

- c. The emoticons that are used for apologies are hand emoticons begging. The emoticons do have a variety of meanings, depending on the content of the message that is juxtaposed with the emoticon begging. The application of the emoticon begs for one of them is shown in the text message "Sorry, I use your Facebook account without asking permission". From the emoticons above, we

can see that he apologized for using his Facebook account without asking permission. 

- d. The sad emotion of the crying face can describe the sad feelings of someone indicated by teary tears. The emoticons are most appropriate when used to represent feelings of sadness. 

Examples of "broken heart or boyfriend asking to break" from the emoticon the sender uses emoticons sucked because of heartache, or the boyfriend asks to break up so that the emoticon is inserted in the text of the message.

- e. The emoticons used to give enthusiasm are clenching hand emoticons while showing large arm muscles. 

Examples Tomorrow I test, please pray for good luck, From the text I want to give encouragement to myself. 

Looking at some examples above emoticon is very supportive when we will send a short message, emoticons can also represent our emotional to our chat opponents, and facilitate the communication of someone.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODOLOGY RESEARCH**

This chapter presents the research methods and designs procedures to answer the research question. Discussion include: the study design, study subject, research instrument, collecting data procedure, and technique of data analysis.

#### **A. Research Design**

This study used the qualitative descriptive method. Moleong (2010:44) says that qualitative research is rooted tool, utilizing qualitative methods, conducting inductive data analysis, directing its research targets to find basic theories, descriptive, more concerned with processes rather than outcomes, focus, have a set of criteria to check the validity of the data, the research design is temporary, and than results of the research agreed by both parties, researches and research subjects.

The researcher used qualitative descriptive because it can help th researcher to collect and analyze data. This method explains and interprets the signature in the emoticon. According Sugiyono the qualitative method or interpretive method is a method associated with the interpretation of data collected. This research can use qualitative methods to analyze and interpret data about the sign collected from users of emoticons in WhatsApp with the refreshing of semiotica Roland theory as a theoretical framewor.

## **B. Data sources**

To analyze this research, researchers collect data from WhatsApp groups sent by members of the English literature department group AG 1.2:

1. Chat, The research get the data from the screenshot chat.
2. Informants from the member of WhatsApp group.

## **C. Procedure of collecting data**

The data in this research collect data from the conversation in group 2014 English and literature students focusing on the conversations that used emoticons that collect in some steps below:

1. Screenshot, The researcher do Screenshot a chat to collect data needed for research.
2. Interview, The researcher collected data using the interview method, the researcher will collect everything respondent said.
3. The researcher, interpreted meaning of emoticon based on the context messages in whatsapp group.

## **D. Technique of Data Analysis**

To analyze the data collected by the researchers, researchers collected all data and then interviewed sender and receiver about meaning of emoticons based on the context message using Barthes theory.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter deal with findings of the research and discussion of the results. The result were presented as data description that were taken from the WhatsApp group by English and Literature Students, and the discussion of further arguments and interpretation of the results were given.

#### **A. Findings**

In this part of the research, the researcher presents the results of the Semiotic Analysis of the Meaning of Emoticons in Communication Users of Social Media WhatsApp Group. After seeing in groups and context sentences that are included with emoticons, the research has found in the WhatsApp groups. The emoticons used by the WhatsApp group participants are interpreted by the participants from the member of group Egnlish and Literature Students A.G 1.2. In details the descriptive of the members of data analysis are as follow;

Figure 1



Based on the data analysis, the kinds of emoticons used by the WhatsApp group participants were 🍷, 😇, 😭, ❤️. The participants interview results show that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.


1. 🍷 Throw a kiss
  - 😊 Smile and light overhead
  - 😭 Crying loudly
  - ❤️ love
- a. 🍷🍷😊😭 *the senders use emoticons above as interpretation to show feeling of care, love and happy. However, the feeling sad still remains.*


After the researcher interviewed Nilam based on the context of the message and emoticons which Nilam used in the sending the message 🍷




Because she felling sad for leaving her friends which she holds most dear, for sure she will be missing the times when they were together. She would have to wait for a long time so that she can be together having fun with her friends again.


#### Extract 1

*BSI Yuli : Showed feeling kiss, confused, and sad so the tears keep flowing and then Yuli responds with the emoticon  in which Yuli shows the feeling of very sad for Nilam leaving.*

After the researcher interviewed Nilam based on the context of the message and emoticons which Nilam used in the sending the message. Yuli interpreted emoticon and she said that Nilam are felling sad because she is leaving for Manado, she cannot spent more with her like they always do before. And then Yuli respond using emoticon . After the researcher interviewed Yuli based on the context of the message and emoticons which Nilam used in the sending the message, Yuli said that she fells sorrowful because Nilam are leaving for manado.

*BSI Itong : she shows feeling effection, confused and very sad, but Itong responses with the emoticon  showing the feeling love.*

After researcher writer interviewed Sritong based on the context of the message and emoticons which Nilam used in the sending the message. Sritong interpreted emoticon and she said that Nilam will be leaving for Manado to go look for a job and Nilam was sad for leaving her friends. And

then Sritong responded with the emoticon , after the researcher interview Sritong about emoticon she said that she holds most dearest fellows for Nilam.

Based on the results of the interview above there are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Difference**



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is throw a kiss while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above is to show feelings of affection.



based on the dictionary emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Smile and light overhead while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above is to show a feeling of happiness.

### **Similarity**



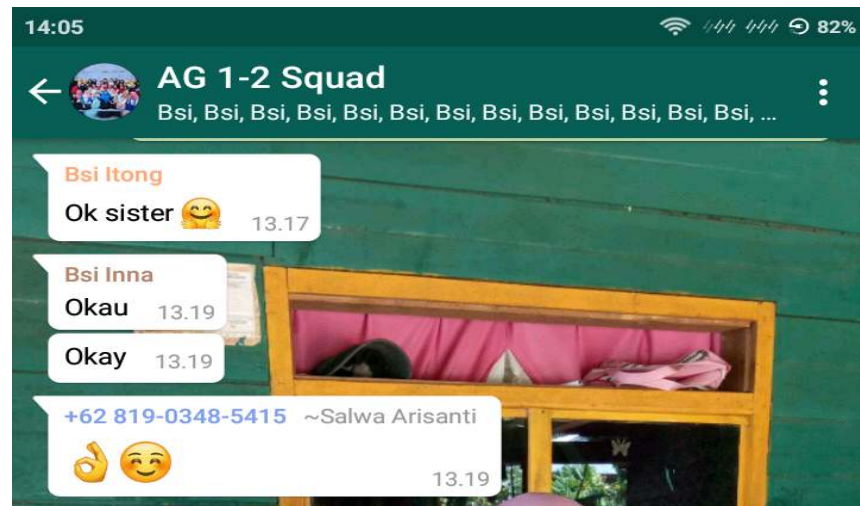
Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is love had the same meaning as the respondent.



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Crying loudly had the same meaning as the respondent.



Figure 2



Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were 😊, 😄, 👍. The results of the interview from the sender show that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

2. 😊 open and friendly

😄 very happy and grinning (menyeringi)

👍 oke

b. 😊 The sender uses emoticons 😊 it was interpreted that it shows feeling happy.

After the researcher interviewed Sritong based on the context of the message and emoticons which Sritong used in sending the message, she said

that she merasa glad that she could help her friend for not using the Indonesian language when sending a message to the group.

*Extract 2*

*BSI Salwa : she shows feeling happy, it shows feeling happy but it is exaggerating, because of the eyes playing. But Salwa responds with the emoticon 🙌 and 😊 Salwa shows feeling agree and shy while closing his eyes.*

After the researcher interviewed Salwa based on the context of the message and emoticons which Salwa used in sending the message, she was very happy in fact she was extremely happy and feeling like wanting to hug by lifting both of her hands in the front. And then Salwa responded with the emoticon 🙌 and 😊 after the researcher interviewed Salwa she also agreed of what her friends had to say for not using the Indonesian language, this research not only helping students for practicing the English language but also helps to make the pronunciation skills better. Salwa then feels extremely happy for she could upgrade her speaking skills along with her friends in the group chat.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

**Difference**



Based on the dictionary of emoticon meaning emoticon above is open and friendly while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above is showing feeling happy.



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons is very happy and grinning (menyeringi) whereas according to the sender the emoticons above show feeling of shame.




### Similarity





based on the emoticon dictionary the meaning of emoticons above is okay has the same meaning as respondent.

**Figure 3**





Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were , , . The senders of interview show that they interpreted both similarity and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

3.  Tears of joy


 Smile and pitched eyes

 closed mouth

c.   *The sender uses emoticons and it show feeling of happiness and smiley with pitched eyes.*

After the researcher interviewed Dila based on the context of the message and emoticons which she used in the sending the message, she felt happy for being able to remind her friends about the important of using the English Language on discussing some particular matter in a group chat.


### *Extract 3*


*BSI Dila : she shows feeling of happiness till ters and feeling of happiness with curved close eyes, but Dila responds with the emoticon  it show feeling happy with closing eyes.*

After the researcher interview Dila she said that she was very happy being able to help each other, for being able to remind her friends about the act of goodness, such as reminding ones for always using the English Language in every conversation in the group chat.


Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Difference**

 based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Tears of joy while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above is showing a very happy feeling.

 Based on the dictionary emoticon the meaning of emoticons is Smile and pitched eyes while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above is showing a smiley face with smiling eyes.

### **Similarity**

 Based on the emoticon dictionary the meaning of emoticons is closed mouth has the same meaning as the respondent.

**Figure 4**





Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were 😱, 😊. The senders of interview show that they interpreted both similarity and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.



4. 😱 cheering in fear
- 😊 Closed mouth
- 😊 Smile a little
- d. 😱 *The sender uses emoticon 😱 it shows feeling shocked and open mouth.*


After the researcher interviewed Yuli based on the context of the message and emoticons which she used in the sending the message, Yuli said that she was surprised and unaware that her friends Diana will be doing her proposal presentation for she never saw Diana going to the campus for her assistances with her supervision, makes her repeat asking with the word “Really?” for she thought it was impossible.

*Extract 4*

*BSI Dila : she shows feeling shocked, fear, then raised his hand and screamed, but Dila responds using emoticon  closing mouth and mispronunciation.*

After the researcher interviewed with Dila about Yuli about the emoticon and context of the message which she used she said that Yuli did not believe that Diana are about do her presentation and that is surprising for Yuli after reading the conversation above, and then Dila respond with the emoticon  she also unaware about her friends that are about the do a proposal presentation, and she would rather be quite.

*BSI Lilis :  she shows feeling screaming in pain because of seeing something horror, and then Lilis response using emoticon smile  that shows feeling happiness.*

After the researcher interviewed with Lilis about Yuli's emoticon and the context of the message which she used, Lilis said that Yuli feels shocked after seeing the conversation about one of her that are about to do her proposal presentation, she still find it hard to believed that her friends are really about to do her proposal presentation. And then Lilis responding with the emoticon , after the researcher interview with Lilis, she stated that she is smiling after figuring that Yuli is shocked over the conversation that they are having in the group chat, but still Lilis is happy for helping

Yuli to be sure that the conversation are in fact the real one and it is true that Diana are about to do her proposal presentation.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Difference**



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is cheering in fear while according to the sender of emoticons above shows a feeling of shock that opens the mouth.

### **Similarity**



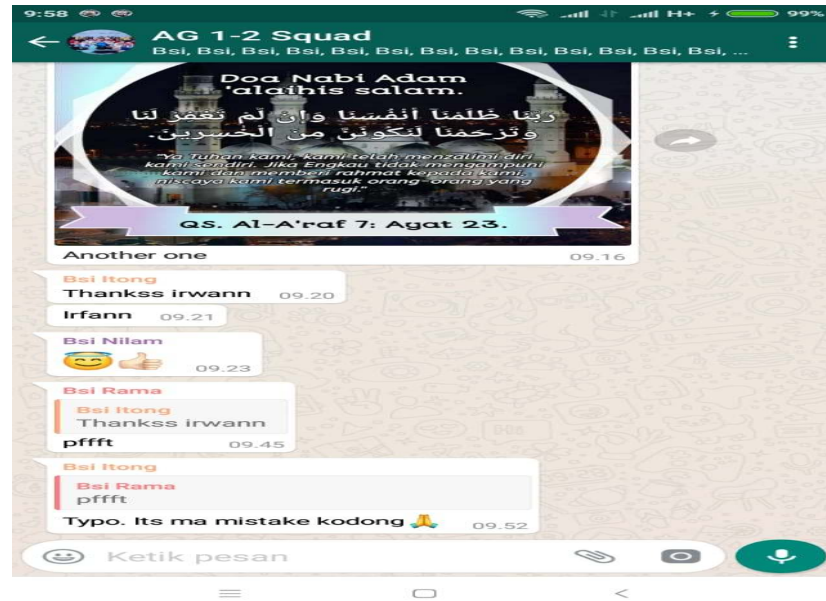
Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is closed mouth has the same meaning as the respondent.



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Smile a little has the same meaning as the respondent.



Figure 5



Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were 😊, 👍, 🙏. The senders of interview show that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

5. 😊 Smile and light overhead

👍 Agree

🙏 Apologize

F. 😊👍 *The sender uses the emoticon above which shows feeling happy, but confused and emoticon agree.*

After the researcher interviewed Yuli based on the context of the message and emoticons which she used in the sending the message she feels

happy and agreed with what her friends have to say in the group chat, because she thinks that this is a valuable lesson that can be used in the daily basis, Nilam was thankful to Erfan for because of him their knowledge are added and it is useful for the goodness of the world and afterlife. These prayer are extremely beneficial for them all in the future.

*Extract 5*

*BSI Itong : she shows feeling happy but confuses and emoticon agree, but Itong responds using emoticon 🙏 and shows apologize.*

After the researcher interviewed with Sritong about Nilam emoticon and context of the message which Sritong used, she said that Nilam feels happy to be able to acquired additional knowledge that are very valuable such as what happened in the group chat, and then Sritong responded with the emoticon 🙏. Sritong are apologizing to Erfan for the typo, she felt she had made a mistake to him. Sritong believed that name are the most valuable gift from the parents it is not right to be joke about.

Based on the results of the interview above there are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

**Difference**

😊 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Smile and light overhead while according to the sender of emoticons above shows a feeling of happiness but confusion.





### Similarity

👍 Based on the dictionary of emotion of the meaning of emoticons above is Agree, has the same meaning with the respondent.

🙏 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Apologize has the same meaning as the respondent.


**Figure 6**



Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were , , , , . The interview of senders show that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

6.  agree

 Tears of joy

 love composite


 closed mouth




e.  *the sender uses emoticon which shows feeling agree.*



After the researcher interviewed with Nilam about emoticon and context of the message which she used, she said that she will have to go with what her friends about to say, she too does not own staples shooter.

*Extract 6*

*BSI Itong : she shows the same meaning with the sender that is feeling agree.*


After the researcher interviewed with Sritong about Nilam's emoticon she also agreed with Nilam, she also did not own a staples shooter. But Sritong responded with emoticon  after the researcher interviewed with her about the emoticon and context of the message which Sritong used, she said that she likes joking to Yuli, she was happy when she was successfully play with her friend's feelings with the words that she said.

*BSI Yuli :  she shows similarities with the senders that is feeling agree, but Yuli responds with the emoticon   which shows feeling love is repeatedly with emoticon close the mouth.*

After the researcher interviewed with Yuli about Nilam emoticon, Yuli also agree with Sritong she too did not own a staplers shooter. And then Yuli respond to Sritong using the emoticon   she feels that she fall in love with what Sritong have to say that has affected her feelings then she was replying using the emoticon of love to express his love to Sritong who just play with her feeling. Then she add the emoticon closed mouth implying that she is embarrass for what she just said and begins to regret to have said it in the group chat.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Different**

 Based on the dictionary meaning of emoticons above is love composite, while according to the sender the emoticon meaning above shows a very insistent feeling.

😂 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Tears of joy, while according to the sender the emoticons above show emoticons that are very happy.




### Similarity

👍 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is agree having an equation based on the results of the sender's interview.

🤔 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is closed mouth has the same meaning according to respondents.


Figure 7




Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were, , , . The senders of interview show that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

7.  closed eyes



 Locking mouth

 Tears of joy


f.  The sender uses emoticon  which feeling blush and then her closing mouth.


After the researcher interview with Nilam about the emoticon and the context if her message, she said that she was embarrassed to Rama for sending a message that are contained embarrassment to him, while Rama are not joking about needing a staplers shooter to be used for his business.


#### *Extract 7*

*BSI Inna : interprets emoticon  which shows the same meaning with the sender she its show feeling blushed then closed her mouth, but Inna responds to the sender with the emoticon  she it show feeling like a keeping secret that cannot be discussed, so that it locks the mouth tightly.*

After the researcher interviewed with Inna about Nilam emoticon based on the context of the message, Inna said that Nilam are embarrassed for referring to a things which she did not possessed. She was referring to


the belonging of her neighbor that are working as a sofa repairmen, and then Inna responded with the emoticon . After the researcher interviewed with Inna she said that, she was sure for not owning a staplers shooter that is why she chooses for stay quite.

*BSI Nilam : she shows feeling blush and then her closing mouth, and then Nilam responses back with the emoticon  and that shows feeling always happy.*


After the researcher interviewed with Nilam about her emoticon she said that she is indeed are joking to light up the atmosphere of the group chat, and then she was responding with the emoticon  she felt happy knowing that his joke are delivred to Rama and successfully making the group laugh.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :


### **difference**

 Based on the dictionary of emoticon, the meaning of emoticons above is Tears of joy, according to the sender, the meaning of the emoticon above shows the meaning of a very happy.





 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is closed eyes while according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above shows feeling timid.


### Similarity

 Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Locking mouth based on the results of interview emoticons above having similarities with the respondents.


**Figure 8**



Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were , . The interview with the senders showed that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.


8.  Face tilted with tears of joy

 Tears of joy


g.  *the sender uses emoticon which shows feeling happy while tilting your head.*

After the researcher interviewed with Dila about the emoticon she sent, she said that she was very happy seeing her friends one by one are about to do theirs proposal presentation one step closer to graduate from Alauddin State Islamic University of Makassar.

*Extract 8*

*BSI Intan: she shows feeling happy then laugh so much that it tilts his head and then Intan responds to the sender with the emoticon  she shows feeling sad and feeling very deep pain.*

After the researcher interviewed with Intan about Dila's emoticon and also based on the context of her message, Dila felt very happy for she believed that she was about to finish his college at Alauddin State Islamic University of Makassar. Then Intan was responding with the emoticon

. After an interview with Intan and based on the context of the

message, Intan said that she felt sad because she still needs like two signatures to be able to do her proposal presentation while most of her friends one by one are done it, even made it to the closing presentation, that was what made Intan sad, she was left alone far behind by her friends.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Difference**

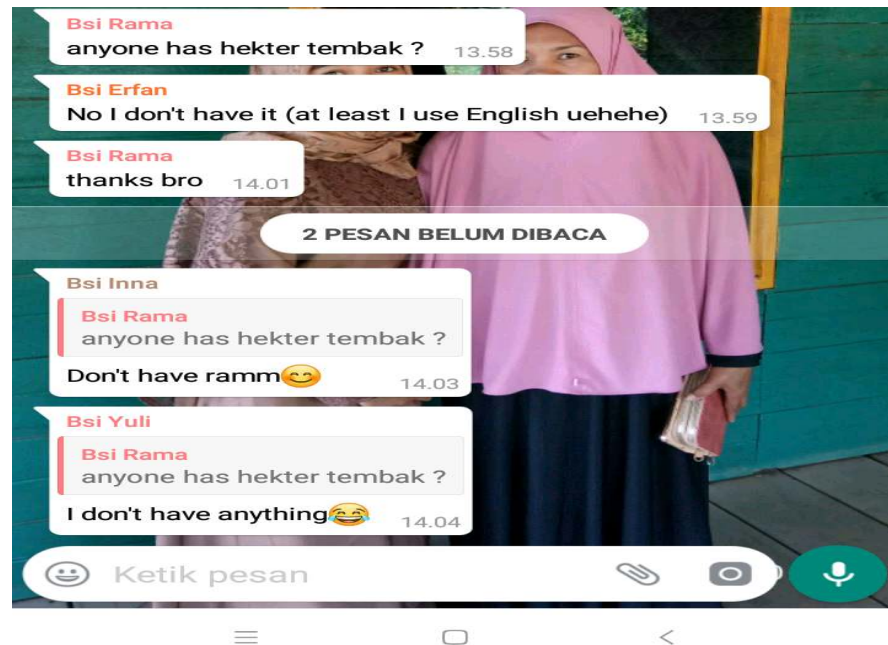


Based on the dictionary of emoticons the meaning of emoticons above is Face tilted with tears of joy while according to the sender of emoticons above shows a very happy and feeling of excessive laughter so that it tilts the head.



Based on the dictionary of emoticon the meaning of emoticons above is Tears of joy according to the sender the meaning of the emoticon above shows the emoticon meaning that is very happy.

### **Figure 9**






Based on the data analysis, the emoticon used by the WhatsApp group participants were , 😊 , 😂 . The interview of the senders showed that they interpreted both similarly and differently with the dictionary of emoticon.

9. 😊 very happy and grinning (menyeringi)  
 😂 Tears of joy  
 h. 😊 the sender uses emoticon 😊 , she shows feeling happy and blushing smile, smoothing her eyes and furrowing her brows.

After the researcher interviewed with Inna about emoticon on the message she was smiling respond to Rama that she did not own a staplers shooter for Rama to borrow.

*Extract 9*

*BSI Yuli : she shows feeling of happiness and a blushing smile, smoothing her eyes and furrowing her brows, and then Yuli responds with the emoticon  which shows feeling happy, but shedding tears).*

After the researcher interviewed with Yuli about Inna emoticon and message, she said that Inna wants to help rama, but she herself are not owning any staplers shooter. Then Yuli responding to Inna with the emoticon  After the researcher interviewed with Yuli based on the emoticon used in the message, she felt sorry for Rama, she as well did not possessed any staplers shooter, then Yuli used emoticon  However Yuli laughing to the sentence which Rama sent in the group chat "any one has hektar tembak". Yuli thinks that in the sentence with the words "hektar tembak" are seems quite funny for her, that is why she sent an emoticon of hardcore laughing.

Based on the results of the interview above here are several emoticons that have the same meaning and different meanings with the emoticon dictionary based on the sender and receiver :

### **Difference**



Based on the dictionary emoticon the meaning of emoticons is very happy and grinning (menyeringi) whereas according to the sender the emoticons above show a feeling of shame.



Based on the dictionary of emoticon, the meaning of emoticons above is Tears of joy, according to the sender, the meaning of the emoticon above shows the meaning is very happy.

## **B. Discussion**

In this part, the researcher are going to discuss bout the data that are found and also correlated it with the similar ideas that are connected with the previous study. This discussion are aimed to know the meaning of the emoticon which use at the WhatsApp group chat by students of the English and Literature Department class A.G 1.2. In this part of the discussion, the researcher analyzed the data using Roland Barthes theory. The researcher thinks that the data in this sample represent all the data that are mentioned in the previous research.

This research are fully design to analyze the meanings of the emoticon on the WhatsApp group chat and at the same time shows the meaning based on the context of the message conveyed by the senders and the receiver. Based on the sender, sometimes the emoticon that are sent are often could express what they really feels, however if one were to looks from the point of view of the receiver it is then to be misinterpreted, because people tend to only view emoticon as well as the context of the message without correctly interpret the real meaning of the message. Based on the theory of Roland Barthes, the one that are most productively used by the senders and recievers at the WhatsApp group chat from the data acquired, are the emoticon of tear of joy and emoticon closed mouth.

The findings of this research stated that there are several similarity with the three previous findings, which is the similarities on analyzing a symbol or icon on social media. Other than that, the three distinct research are also having its differences with this research, the previous findings concluded that they found the connotation of an advertisement not entire reflected a certain message which correlated with the things which are being promoted. And the second findings are analyzing about a pictures that are based on three elements, which is an object of representation and interpretation because one cannot entirely found the real meaning without correlating it with the three elements, and then for the third research which was analyze a logo and found that the result of the this research proved that icon, index, and symbol found on a logo. While, this particular research found that not all emoticon used is based on the context of the message that are being sent, sometimes people tend to send a message using an emoticon which did not have a relevant meanings to each other.

Based on the explanation above, it can be understood that the differences between the three previous studies and this particular research about emoticon are founded on the foundation that the fourth research are all focus on analyzing the meaning of a symbol.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

#### **A. Conclusion**

Based on the results of the data analysis in the fourth chapter before, the researcher puts forward some conclusion as follows.

Based on the result of the interview as well as the context of the message which used by the researcher, it can be concluded that not all emoticon that people used on a daily basis has a similar meaning with the context of the message. Sometimes, the real meaning of the emoticon which used by the senders are not entirely accurate with the context of the message, while for the researcher the researcher could concluded that the meaning of the emoticon constantly shifting based on the real context or the situation within the conversation at the group chat, whether it is happy or sad.

#### **A. Suggestion**

Based on the conclusions above, this study is intended to suggest readers or other researchers who are interested in analyzing the meaning of emoticons or signs in social media to learn about the meaning of semiotics by experts Pierce, Roland and others. Researchers also suggest that they study the semiotic theory of Roland, Pierce and others deeply to get the clearest meaning of messages of emoticons in the social media that are used or expressed in WhatsApp group.



In addition, other researcher can also choose other aspects to analyze, such as advertising end or film. The researcher hopes that this thesis will be useful for readers to improve or analyze this field. Researcher also hopes that this thesis can give several advantages and, become reference for readers, especially for of English and literature students.

The researcher also hopes that this research can add insight for me and especially to other readers. The researcher is aware that the results of this study are not yet perfect and still requires additional and suggestion to make this analysis even better.

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# APPENDICES



Symbol	Dictionary	Sender	Reciever	S D	R D
	oke	Itong : agree Yuli : sip Nilam: yes Lilis : oke	Vivi : oke Diana : oke Tika : sip Ummul: oke	D D D S	D S D S
	Smile a little	Salwa : happy Inna : simple smile Intan : Smile a little	Fitri : happy Sarina : Smile a little Asra : happy	D D S	D S D
	open and friendly	Mila : smile waved Tina : happy and with pitched eyes Fitty: happy and smile waved	Ayu: happy Dila : happy smile Zulfit: bahagia ingin memeluk. (happy want to hug)	D D D	D D D



	<p>Very happy and (grinning) menyiringi</p>	<p>Iin : smile and closing eyes Uci : blushed smile Fira : spoiled smile</p>	<p>Erfan : very happy Syarif : happy Mido : senyum sinis (cynical smile)</p>	<p>D D D</p>	<p>D D D</p>
	<p>Throw a kiss</p>	<p>Mita : wajah cium dengan kedipan mata (kiss with blinking eyes) Khalik : mengedipkan mata dan cium (wink and kiss) Rama : kiss lebay</p>	<p>Dila: kiss and mengedipkan mata (wink and kiss) Diana : cium and memainkan satu mata (kiss and play one eye) Tika : memainkan mata sambil cium (kiss and play one eyes)</p>	<p>D D D</p>	<p>D D D</p>
	<p>Smile and light overhead</p>	<p>Itong :(smile confused) Karmila : smile but confused</p>	<p>Mido : Smile and light overhead Salwa : smile but confused</p>	<p>D D D</p>	<p>S D D</p>



		Lilis : happy but confused	Nilam: smile but confused		
	Crying loudly	Tika : Crying loudly In: crying Asra ; very sadly	Ayu : very sad Inna : crying tersedu-sedu (sobbing) Mila : wajah menangis dengan mulut terbuka. (crying with your mouth open)	S D D	D D D
	love	Vivi : dear Salwa: love Tika : love	Diana : love In : love Mita: love	D S S	S S S






	Tears of joy	<p>Fitty very happy</p> <p>Zulfit : wajah di ambang tawa (the verge of laughte)</p> <p>Ummul : wajah tertawa dengan air mata keluar (tertawa dengan air mata keluar)</p>	<p>Inna happy</p> <p>Ayu : very happy</p> <p>Itong : wajah sumringah (happy face)</p>	D D D	D D D
	Smile and pitched eyes	<p>Diana: happy smile</p> <p>Ummul: senyum dengan mata melentik (smile with flexed eyes)</p> <p>Kartina : beatiful smile</p>	<p>Yuli : wajah senyum dengan pipi merah (smile with red cheeks)</p> <p>Sarina : happy smile</p> <p>Mila : senyum bahagia yang indah di pandang dengan pipi memerah (beautiful</p>	D D D	D D D





			happiness in sight with red cheek)		
	Closed mouth	Vivi : salah ucap (mispronunciation)  In : mulut bau (smelly mouth)  Tika : closed mouth	Salwa : closed mouth  Asra : closed mouth  Kartina (mispronunciation)	D  D  S	S  S  D
	cheering in fear	Karmila : fear  Kartina : wajah melotot ketakutan (cheering in fear)  Vivi ; wajah menjerit kesakitan (the face screamed in pain)	Zulfit : wajah menjerit dengan mata melotot (the face screamed with glaring eyes)  Itong : cheering in fear  Salwa : berteriak kesakitan (screaming in pain)	D  D  D	D  S  D



	agree	Diana : agree Mila : mantap (steady) Tika: agree	Vivi : agree Mita : agree Mido : mantap (steady)	S D S	S S D
	Apologize	Ayu : Apologize Ummul : Apologize Lilis : Apologize	Inna Apologize Salwa Apologize Diana : Apologize	S S S	S S S
	love composit	Tika : doble love Mita : love composite Mido: love composite	Sarina : love composite Asra : cinta yang bertubi-tubi (insistent love) Intan : dobel love	D S S	S D D

	Locking mouth	<p>Ummul : menutupi rahasia (cover up secrets)</p> <p>Vivi: locking mouth</p> <p>Itong : locking mouth</p>	<p>Iin : locking mouth</p> <p>Kartina : emoticon menutupi sesuatu (closing something)</p> <p>Zulfit : locking mouth</p>	<p>D</p> <p>S</p> <p>S</p> <p>S</p>	<p>S</p> <p>D</p> <p>S</p>
	Face tilted with tears of joy	<p>Salwa : tertawa berlebihan sehingga mengeluarkan air mata (excessive laughing so that it tears)</p> <p>Ummul: tertawa dengan memiringkan kepala (laugh with tilted head)</p> <p>Lilis ; menutup mata sambil tertawa keras dan kepala miring ke</p>	<p>Diana ; tertawa keras sehingga mengeluarkan air mata (laughing loudly so that it shed tears)</p> <p>Tika : laugh lebay</p> <p>Iin : di ambang tawa sehingga air mata mengalir. (the threshold of laughter so that tears flowed)</p>	<p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p>	<p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p>

		kanan. (close eyes while laughing loudly and head tilted to the right			
	Happy	Pute : happy Mita : happy Mido : happy	Vivi : happy Iin : happy Tika: happy	S S S	S S S
	gag	Ayu: gag Mila : gag Diana: gag	Asra : gag Salwa : gag Sriwah : gag	S S S	S S S
	think	Sriwah : think Intan : think Lilis think	Ayu: think Mita: think Pute: think	S S S	S S S

	Tongue sticking out	Vivi : mock Sriwah : pull out the tongue Tina: mock	Mila : pull out the tongue Diana : mock Zulfit : mock	D D D	D D D
	Smiling face with both eyes	Pute: fall in love first sight Mita : happy to see something Mido stunning smile	Intan very happy Uci : fall in love with something Ummul : fall in love	D D D	D D D
	A cold sweat	Lilis: sweat Lin: sweat falls Tika: laughing loudly to sweat	Intan : laughing happy Uci : laugh out loud Pute: happy that cannot be expressed	D D D	D D D

	angry	Milah : angry Karmila: angry Tina : angry	Diana : angry Zulfit : angry Ummul : angry	S S S	S S S
	Sad	Diana : sad Asra :sad Fira : sad	Sarina ; sad Salwa : sad Dila : sad	S S S	S S S
	fist	Iin : boxing Vivi : fist Tika : boxing	Diana : boxing Ummul : boxing Intan: boxing	D S D	D D D
	Thermometer	Intann : sick Uci : bite the thermometer Sriwah : sick	Pute : sick Mido : sick Mita : sick	D D D	D D D
	sleep	Nilam : sing Inna : sleep Ayu : sing	Vivi: sleep Iin : sing Diana : sing	D S D	S D D

	Mask	Inna : flu Diana : sick Tika : flu	Intan : mask Vivi : flu Ummul : sick	D D D	S D D
	Fighting	Sriwah : Fighting Karmila : Fighting Fira : Fighting	Fitty : Fighting Mita : Fighting Pute : Fighting		



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