

## Form and function of negation in German and Indonesian: Searching for equivalent construction of meaning

Sulis Triyono\*, Wening Sahayu, and Margana

*Applied Linguistics Departement, Postgraduate School, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta,  
Jl. Colombo No. 1 Yogyakarta, Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

### ABSTRACT

This study analysed form and function of negation in German including the complexity of negation construction in German and its equivalence in Indonesian language. This study was qualitative in nature, describing the nature of negation in German and Indonesian language in two books: Carolin Philipps' German novel, *Traume Wohnen Überall*, and Liliawati Kurnia's translation into Indonesian, *Mimpi Selalu Indah* as an instance of the negation realization in texts. The validity of the data was determined by experts' judgment and the reliability of the data by interrater and intrarater estimation. The data were analysed by using a correspondential method with a referential sorting technique involving reference to negation construction as a determiner, and a distributional method with an element distribution technique and a marker reading technique. The analysis indicates that there are six negation forms with respective meanings in German characterized by semantic similarity along with grammatical differences in the negation constructions in German and Indonesian. The findings show that German negation construction is considerably more complex. However, the different degree of complexity does not substantially influence the meaning making process in both languages; rather, tend to be mutually complementary. The findings of this study inform the way in which the meaning transfer of German-Indonesian and Indonesian-German should be made regardless of the complex negation in German.

**Keywords:** Negation construction; German; Indonesian; text analysis; semantics

**First Received:**

2 August 2019

**Revised:**

12 November 2019

**Accepted:**

24 December 2019

**Final Proof Received:**

18 January 2020

**Published:**

31 January 2020

### How to cite (in APA style):

Triyono, S., Sahayu, W., & Margana, M. (2020). Form and function of negation in German and Indonesian: Searching for equivalent construction of meaning. *Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 9, 675-684. doi: 10.17509/ijal.v9i3.23218

### INTRODUCTION

Every language exhibits a different pattern of negation (Kim, 2018). In other words, despite the similarities among languages, each language has a different negation rule (Zafra, Delor, Martín-Valdivia, López, & Martí, 2018). Generally, negation is a term operated within linguistic content which is usually identical to propositions. In other words, a negation is usually employed to express the reversed value of a particular expression (Jäger, 2008). Negation is considered to be *pragmatically universal* since all language varieties are believed to indicate functional negative propositions (Anderwald, 2002, 2005; Ladusaw, 1992). Since no language without negation has been found (Miestamo,

2007; 2008), and negated expressions can be observed in all languages, it can be asserted that negation appears in every recognized language (Ćoso & Irena, 2017). There appears to be a common phenomenon underlying the distinctive negation construction of each language (Sassoon, 2010; Borroff, 2006), namely, that negation can be accomplished through one or multiple negation constructions. (Breitbarth, 2014; Ormel, Crasborn & Els van der, 2013).

A study related to negation has become a fascinating topic for most of the language researchers. This might due to the negation complexity within all natural languages (Horn, 2010; Dahl, 2010; Kataoka, 2012). Recent studies on negation have focused on its

\* Corresponding Author  
Email: [sulis@uny.ac.id](mailto:sulis@uny.ac.id)

linguistic description of its use at sentence levels as a process of meaning-making in a certain context of language use (Beukeboom, Burgers, Szabo, Cvegie, Lonnqvist, & Welbers, 2019; Kavac, 2019; Macleod, 2019; Wilson & Hansen, 2019), the use and meanings of negation in classroom practices (Gil, Marsden, & Wong, 2017; Yang, 2017),

This study attempts to contribute to other studies of negation which focus on comparing its use and form in German and Indonesian language. The result of the study is expected to inform translation and teaching of German as a foreign language to speakers of the Indonesian language. This study is driven by the conceptual understanding of the negation of German and Indonesian language in which German negation differs in formation from that of Indonesian. German negation is categorized into (1) *die Satznegation* 'whole-sentence negation,' (2) *die Teilnegation* 'partial negation' or 'phrasal negation,' and (3) *einzelne Negationsformen* 'word or particle negation' (Winkler, 2017; Apelt, Hans-Peter, Margot, 1992). The difference can be seen, for example, in the following sentences:

- (1) *Er hat kein Geld.*  
'He has no money'

and

- (2) *Er hat das Geld nicht.*  
'He does not have the money'

The negation in the sentence is based on the semantic context, yet it is not determined by any process of negation of the lexical items. The meaning in example (2) is not quite the same as that in example (1); although it also refers to not having money, perhaps not having money at all. A possible additional meaning is implied: having something else. However, in Indonesian translation, those semantic matters are the same since no other meanings are explicitly found in the sentences. Both sentences (1) and (2) would most likely be translated into the same Indonesian sentence: *Dia tidak/tak punya uang.* Although it means that example (2) is, in example (1), about having no money, it may mean that the subject has something else, or something that is not money. In the phrase *kein Geld*, the negation by the word *kein* is clearly only on the word *Geld*. It merely refers to not having money. It is a matter of availability or quantity, not of identity. Thus, German has a complex pattern of negation that covers both lingual and semantic aspects. The lingual aspect is explicitly expressed by words, phrases, and sentences, while the semantic aspect is what is implied behind the lingual aspect in the form of the meaning of the negation. In lingual terms, negation constructions in German differ from those in Indonesian. Negation in Indonesian is in the form of words, phrases, sentences, and the absorption of a foreign element in certain words using a prefix. Meanwhile, the negation in German could be in the form of words, phrases, sentences, inter-sentence connectors, particles, and affixations using

prefixes and suffixes. In other words, not all German negation constructions appear in Indonesian.

Generally, the negation in Indonesian is expressed by such negative words as *tidak* or *tak*, *bukan*, *belum*, and *jangan* along with what could be called negative affixation. The Indonesian negation affix is borrowing and, thus, its occurrence is limited. The absorbed element pairs a prefix with a word, forming a new word. For example, {*non-*} pairs with *reguler* to form *nonreguler*, {*in-*} paired with *disipliner* forms *indisipliner*, {*ir-*} and *rasional* forms *irrasional*, and {*il-*} pairs with *legal* to form *ilegal*. In such cases, the prefix negates the meaning of the attached word. The Indonesian negation words such as those mentioned above could form phrases such as *tidak hadir* 'not present,' or *tak hadir* 'absent' and *tidak baik* 'not good,' *belum pulang* 'not yet home' and *belum genap* 'not even,' *bukan mahasiswa* 'not a student' and *bukan satu* 'not one,' and *jangan masuk* 'do not enter'. Thus, negation in Indonesian occurs when *tidak* 'no' or *tak* 'not' connects to a verb or an adjective, when *belum* 'not yet' connects to a verb or a numeral, when *bukan* 'not' connects to a noun or a numeral, and when *jangan* 'do not' connects to an imperative verb. Thus, the contribution of this study is more specifically to address the intricacy of negative construction in German and Indonesian negation which, which has not been much researched in the Indonesian context of language studies. Thus, this study examined indicators of negation forms, negation constructions, and negation meanings in German and their expression in Indonesian to identify the forms of negation acceptable both lingually and semantically in the Indonesian language.

### Identifying negation

There are two processes involved in identifying negation: analysing the occurrence of negation markers, and determining the scope of negation (Borroff, 2006; Hogenboom, van Iterson, Heerschop, Frasinca, & Kaymak, 2011). The occurrence of negation can also be observed through the negative spread and negative doubling. The negative spread is related to the expression used to display the negative feature, while negative doubling refers to the distinctive negative elements employed in a sentence (Aranovich, 1999; Herburger, 2000; Potts, 2010). German and Indonesian do not always use the same negation constructions. In linguistics, comprehension depends on two important elements - *signifié* (lexical meaning) and *signifiant* (intended meaning) (Hentschel & Harden, 2015; Verhaar, 1991, as cited in Saussure, 2019; Wagner, 2017). According to Verhaar (1991), three concepts are relevant in this context - intentional semantics, grammatical semantics, and extralinguistic factors.

Breitbarth (2014) described the development of German negation through three stages - old low German, middle-low German, and high German. According to Carr (1968), the negation in German generally takes two forms, namely, overall negation and a word or phrasal negation. The overall negation

construction in German is also found in Indonesian. However, the second form, which is a derived form with a variety of constructions, differs from any negation construction in Indonesian. This second form can be divided into seven types: negation word, word negation using *nicht* with an adjective, pragmatics-based negation, intensity-based negation, lexeme- or prefix-based double negation by *nicht* or *kein*, negation of single sentence, compound sentence, and inter-sentence connector, and negation particle *nein*. Carr (1968) identify several German negation forms, each of which is a *Verneinungselement*, or negation element, that is in combination with *nicht* 'not.' The word '*nicht*' changes *ein* 'one' into the word *nein* 'none,' *etwas* 'something' into *nichts* 'nothing,' *jemand* 'somebody' into *niemand* 'nobody,' *mal* 'time (in multiplication)' into *niemals* 'not even once,' and *irgendwo* 'anywhere' into *nirgendwo* or *nirgends* 'nowhere.' The word *kein* 'no or not,' when used together with a *Substantiv im Genetiv* 'noun in genitive form,' changes into *keinesfalls* 'in no case' or *keineswegs* 'not at all.'

According to Bloomer (1996), German negation forms fall into five categories: refusal, contradiction, denial, exception, and refutation. The category of refusal is further divided into an act of agreement, the act of contradiction, the act of intensification, and the act of generalization. The category of contradiction is further divided into contradiction through a particle, contradiction through a phrase, contradiction through a sentence, and contradiction through phrase combination in the sentence. This category includes other more complex instances of negation formation. The category of denial is divided into indefinite nominal phrase with the determiner *kein*; the pronouns *keiner* and *niemand* for negation; pronouns *etwas* versus *nichts*; adverbs *irgendwo* versus *nirgends*; and adverbs *irgendwann* versus *niemals*. The category of refutation is divided into: *Präfix* 'prefix' and *Suffix* 'suffix.' Examples of the use of *Präfix* for negation can be seen in the words *abnormal* 'abnormal,' *atonal* 'toneless,' *irregulär* 'irregular,' *nonverbal* 'nonverbal,' *inhuman* 'inhumane,' *illegitim* 'illegitimate,' and *atypisch* 'atypical.' Some words using *suffigierte Adjektive* 'adjective suffix' with a negative sense are *bleifrei* 'lead-free,' *respektlos* 'disrespectful,' and *abgasarm* 'air pollution.'

Helbig and Buscha (2005) identify six types of negation markers in German:

1. Those in negation in the narrow sense, such as *nicht*, *nichts*, *nie*, *niemals*, *nimmer*, *nirgends*, *nirgendwo*, *keinen*, *kein*, *keinerlei*, *nirgendwohin*, *keinenfalls*, *keinsweg*, *nein*, *weder... noch...'*;
2. several subordinations (such as *ohne dass*, *anstatt dass*, and *außer das*) and prepositions (such as *ohne*, *statt*, *außer*, and *anstell*).
3. specific word-formation devices: prefixes for adjectives and nouns (namely, *un-*, *a-*, *in-*, *des-*, and *dis-*), the prefix for verbs and nouns (*miss-*),

prefixes for verbs (*ent-*, *ver-*, and *ab-*) and suffixes for adjectives (*-los* and *-frei*);

4. specific antonyms among adjectives (such as *kurz* 'short' >< *lang* 'long' and *dick* 'thick' >< *dünn* 'thin') as implicit negation, especially in situations where, for example, a prefix such as *un-* cannot be used;
5. specific verbs, as implicit lexical negation markers, identifying negation in sub-clauses, all being verbs of refusal and denial. This is seen in the sentence, *Er bestreitet (es), im Kino gewesen zu sein*, 'He contradicted being at the cinema,' which implies *Er war nichts im Kino*, 'He was not at the cinema'; and
6. pluquam-perfect conjunction in unreal conditional sentences and requirement-related conditional sentences' (as an implicit morphosyntactic negation marker). When, for example, the following is stated: *Wenn des Wetter schön gewesen wäre, wären wir baden gegangen*, 'If the weather had been clear, we would have gone swimming,' it implies the following: *Das Wetter war nicht schön*, 'The weather was not clear' (see Engel, 1989; Paul, 2011; Katny, 2017).

German negation also includes the aspects of meaning and intensity of action. This is particularly apparent with particle negation involving the word *nein* 'not' and can be seen in the words *keineswegs* or *keinesfalls* 'not at all,' the phrases *in keinem Falle* 'in no case,' and *überhaupt nicht* 'absolutely not' as well as with other negation forms involving *Verneinungselemente nicht* in changing, for example, the word *jemand* 'somebody' into *niemand* 'nobody,' the word *mal* 'time (in multiplication)' into *niemals* 'not even once,' *irgendwo* 'anywhere' into *nirgendwo* or *nirgends* 'nowhere,' and *immer* 'always' into *nimmer* 'never.' Such negations are not found in Indonesian, but they would be recognizable through context.

The study reported here is based on the work of Grebe (1983), Engel (1989), Apelt et al. (1992), and Helbig and Buscha (2015), as their theories of negation forms and meanings complement each other and align with the principles used in the New Rules of the German Language. An in-depth examination shows that the grouping of negation markers into types by the four linguists are similar, so negation construction and semantic meaning in the lingual marking of German negation form are clear. In this research, only one term is used for negation markers with similar forms, while negation forms that clearly differ from each other are referred to by their original terms.

## METHOD

The data for this study are all the negation constructions (words, phrases, and sentences) in German and Indonesian, in the form of lingual units. The data were collected from the novel *Träume Wohnen Überall* (143

pages) by Carolin Philipps (2006) and translated into Indonesian by Liliawati Kurnia as *Mimpi Selalu Indah* (175 pages) (2008). The unit of analysis includes all German words, phrases, and sentences categorized as negation from the novel. The data were compiled from these two sources by using a reading-and-notetaking technique (Sudaryanto, 1996). Meticulous written notes were made on the entire corpus and collected in a database table containing negation in both German and Indonesian in the form of words, phrases, and sentences.

The data were analysed by using a correspondent and distributional method (Sudaryanto, 2015). The correspondent method was applied by using a referential sorting technique, with reference to negation construction as a determiner. The distributional method was applied by using an element of distribution technique to determine the markers of negation constructions, and a marker reading technique to determine the markers of negation constructions. The German negation constructions were identified by following the work of Helbig and Buscha (2005), whose naming of negation patterns was appropriate for the data set in *Träume Wohnen Überall*, and a search to discover the forms and meanings of Indonesian negation in translated work.

This study gained assistance from experts to validate the corpus data. Two experts were asked to verify the German negation forms and their Indonesian equivalents. Research reliability was determined by means of interrater and intra-rater evaluation (Brink, 1993; Werner, 1988; Thyer, Bruce, Cynthia, Franklin, Patricia, & Ballan, 2019).

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Forms and meanings of negation in German

The forms of German negation were grouped into six types, following Helbig and Buscha (2005), to facilitate understanding of German negation constructions and their Indonesian equivalents. This categorization aligned with the data set was obtained from *Träume Wohnen Überall*. The analysis found that the forms of German negation were thus identified in the following senses.

Negation in the narrow sense is negation in the form of simple construction. This form of negation can be directly used in German words, phrases, or sentences. Such simple constructions are grouped into those linked to words or phrases and those linked to sentences. Negation linked to words or phrase uses, for example, *kein*, *keine*, *keinen*, and *keiner*, while that linked to sentences uses, for example, *nicht*, *nichts*, *nie*, *niemand*, *niemals*, *sonst*, *kaum*, *keinenwegs*, *jedenfalls*, *nirgends*, *falls*, and *weder...noch...*. The negation forms (see Table 1) use *number* to refer to the frequency of occurrence of a form or marker of negation in the German novel and its Indonesian translation, and *gloss* to refer to the expression of the German negation form in Indonesian.

Table 1. German negation and Indonesian gloss

| No. | Form                    | Number | Indonesian Gloss                |
|-----|-------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1   | <i>Nicht</i>            | 432    | <i>tidak, bukan</i>             |
| 2   | <i>Nichts</i>           | 40     | <i>tidak sama sekali</i>        |
| 3   | <i>Keine</i>            | 35     | <i>bukan</i>                    |
| 4   | <i>Nie</i>              | 21     | <i>tidak</i>                    |
| 5   | <i>Kein</i>             | 18     | <i>bukan</i>                    |
| 6   | <i>niemand</i>          | 17     | <i>tidak ada</i>                |
| 7   | <i>Niemals</i>          | 9      | <i>tidak pernah</i>             |
| 8   | <i>Keinen</i>           | 8      | <i>bukan</i>                    |
| 9   | <i>Sonst</i>            | 6      | <i>jika tidak</i>               |
| 10  | <i>Kaum</i>             | 5      | <i>tidak pernah</i>             |
| 11  | <i>Nein</i>             | 4      | <i>tidak, bukan, jangan</i>     |
| 12  | <i>Trotzdem</i>         | 4      | <i>kecuali itu</i>              |
| 13  | <i>keener</i>           | 3      | <i>bukan</i>                    |
| 14  | <i>Keinsweg</i>         | 3      | <i>mengingkari</i>              |
| 15  | <i>Nein</i>             | 2      | <i>tidak, bukan</i>             |
| 16  | <i>Unmöglich</i>        | 2      | <i>tidak mungkin</i>            |
| 17  | <i>Jedenfalls</i>       | 2      | <i>jika tidak, selain itu</i>   |
| 18  | <i>Nirgends</i>         | 1      | <i>tidak pernah</i>             |
| 19  | <i>Keinenfalls</i>      | 1      | <i>menyangkal</i>               |
| 20  | <i>weder... noch...</i> | 1      | <i>tidak... maupun tidak...</i> |
| 21  | <i>Niemandem</i>        | 1      | <i>tidak seorangpun</i>         |
| 22  | <i>Anderen</i>          | 1      | <i>lainnya</i>                  |
| 23  | <i>Falls</i>            | 1      | <i>kalaupun tidak</i>           |

Any of the above forms negates another word with which it is paired. For example, the word *keine* 'no' and the word *Freund* 'friend' make the phrase *kein Freund* 'no friend.' The plural form of *kein Freund* is *keine Freunde* 'no friends.' This can be seen in the sentence *Wenn Lucian Aurolac braucht, kennt er keine Freunde* in the novel (Philipps, 2006), which could be equivalent to 'When Lucian needs Aurolac, he knows no friends.' Its translation into *Kalau Lucian membutuhkan Aurolac, maka ia tidak mengenal kawan* (Kurnia, 2008) in the Indonesian version may indicate that, among other things, plurality need not always be explicitly shown, just as the phrases 'he knows no friends' and 'he knows no friend' may differ little, if at all, in meaning.

A similar phenomenon can be found with *nicht*, *nichts*, and *nie*, though none of them is grammatically related to a word or phrase to which it is attached. Instead, its relationship is found at the sentence level, as in the following: *Sie mag die Ratten nicht...* (Philipps, 2005) *Ia tidak menyukai tikus-tikus besar itu...* (Kurnia, 2008); in English, it is 'She does not like the rats.' Thus, negation in the narrow sense can be determined from the marker that is attached to a word, phrase, or sentence (or clause) whose meaning is negated or denied.

### Subjunctions and prepositions

Negation markers of the second type are subjunctions and prepositions. Subjunctions such as *ohne dass*, *anstatt dass*, and *außer dass* serve as negation markers for the phrases or clauses to which they are attached. Although a subjunction only occurs once as a negation marker in the novel by Carolin Philipps, there may be other German negation markers in this form. One subjunction-level negation marker is *ohne dass*, as used

in the following sentence: *Aufstehen während des Essens ist eigentlich verboten, aber David hat immer eine Idee, wie man die Erziehen in ein Gespräch verwickeln kann, ohne dass sie ärgerlich werden* (Philipps, 2005), which was translated into Indonesian as *Berdiri selama waktu makan juga dilarang, tetapi David selalu saja mempunyai ide bagaimana dengan mudah ia mengajak berbicara seseorang tanpa orang tersebut menjadi marah* (Kurnia, 2008) or in English it was ‘Standing up during mealtime is also forbidden, but David would always have an idea of how to easily invite someone to talk to him without the person becoming angry.’ The negation marker in the aforementioned sentence is the expression *ohne dass*, which is equivalent to the Indonesian word *tanpa* (without). In this case, the negation marker of the type *einige Subjunktion* takes the form of the subjunctive expression that is attached to the clause *ohne dass sie ärgerlich werden*.

Prepositions are another group of the second type of negation markers in German, which include *ohne* and *außer* (see Table 2 for the frequency of their use in the novel)

Table 2. Preposition negation markers

| Preposition  | Number | Indonesian Gloss   |
|--------------|--------|--------------------|
| <i>Ohne</i>  | 42     | <i>Tanpa</i>       |
| <i>Außer</i> | 3      | <i>selain itu</i>  |
| <i>Trotz</i> | 3      | <i>kecuali itu</i> |

Negation marking with a preposition occurs by involving, for example, the word *ohne* (without) as a preposition and *Uhr* (clock, watch) as in the following clause:

..., *aber wann es etwas zu essen gibt, merkt man auch ohne Uhr* (Philipps, 2006).  
 ..., *tetapi kalau ada yang dapat dimakan, tentulah orang tahu tanpa melihat pukul berapa marah* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (... , but when there is something to eat, you know it even without seeing what time it is).

Though similar in origin to the English word *hour*, the German word *uhr* has acquired the meaning of a timing instrument such as a clock or watch, among others.

### Specific word-formation devices

German negation can be marked by the prefix or suffix of a word. Two prefixes, {*un-*} and {*miss-*}, and one suffix, {*-los*} serve as negation markers. The prefix {*un-*} means ‘not,’ and when it pairs with the adjective *angenehm* ‘pleasant,’ it becomes *unangenehm* ‘unpleasant.’ Similarly, the prefix {*un-*} pairs with adjectives to make new words such as *ungeduldig* (impatient), *unendlich* (unending), *unerträglich* (unbearable), *unauffällig* (unknown), *unerledigt* (not alright), *unhöflich* (disrespectful), *unmöglich* (impossible), and *ungewiss* (uncertain). The prefix {*miss-*} also means ‘not,’ and it pairs with the adjective *braucht* (well-treated) to make *missbraucht* (not well-treated); the suffix {*-los*} means ‘not or without,’ and it pairs with the adjective *verständnis* (considerate) to

become *verständnislos* (inconsiderate). Other words with the suffix {*-los*} as a negation marker are *atemlos* (breathless), *endlos* (endless), and *hilflos* (helpless). There are a total of 16 German negation markers in prefix and suffix form in the novel *Träume Wohnen Überall* (see Table 3)

Table 3. Negation markers with prefix and suffix

| Form             | Number | Indonesian Gloss |
|------------------|--------|------------------|
| { <i>un-</i> }   | 9      | <i>Tidak</i>     |
| { <i>miss-</i> } | 1      | <i>Tidak</i>     |
| { <i>-los</i> }  | 6      | <i>Tanpa</i>     |

### Specific antonyms

Specific antonyms are German negation forms represented as words with opposite meanings. Only some adjectival antonyms can be categorized as negation markers, and not all adjectives have antonym pairs. Some adjectives with antonyms functioning as negation markers in German are, for example, the word *kurz* (short) as the opposite of *lang* (long), *groß* (large) as the opposite of *klein* (small), and *schnell* (quick) as the opposite of *langsam* (slow). German adjectives such as *angenehm* (pleasant) as the opposite of *unangenehm* (not pleasant) and *ärgerlich* (angry) as the opposite of *unärgerlich* or the phrase *nicht ärgerlich* (not angry) are not included in this group of antonyms; in these cases, the related form with negation results from a morphophonemic process whereby a prefix is attached to the given adjective. Therefore, in German, the negation form from the antonym is referred to as a restricted or specific negation form since not all adjectives have antonyms without another element forming negation or a morphophonemic process.

The type of negation in German discussed here does not always involve the same grammatical form, as long as the semantic meaning is oriented toward negation. Sometimes, a form that is not an antonym is used. However, semantically, the meaning contained in the lexical item is a form of its negation. Take, for example, the expression *kurz vor* (short before), which was translated by Kurnia into Indonesian as *tak jauh* (not far). The expression *kurz vor* actually means ‘close to.’ The word *nichts* means ‘not at all,’ while *nicht* means ‘not.’ In the book, *nichts* is translated as *yang aman* (which is safe), and *nicht* is translated as *sangat* (very). It depends on the attached word or phrase, as in the following examples:

- (1) *Kurz vor der Stadtgrenze steigen sie aus und laufen das letzte Stück zu Fuß über die staubigen Straßen, die nicht asphaltiert sind* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Tak jauh dari batas kota mereka turun dan berjalan sedikit di atas jalan yang berdebu yang tidak diaspal* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Not far from the city limits, they got down and walked on the dusty unpaved streets).
- (2) *Da gibt eine Familie, da kann dir nichts mehr passieren* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Aku kenal sebuah keluarga yang aman untukmu* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (I know a family that is safe for you).

- (3) *Sie kann gar nicht so schnell kauen, wie sie möchte* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Sandale sangat lapar dan menyuapkan ke dalam mulutnya* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Sandale was very hungry and put the food into her mouth)

Therefore, the German negation form can be an antonym or a word with a semantic meaning of negation, as in the expression *kurz vor*, which is translated by Liliawati as *tak jauh* (not far). Although, as explained above, the word *kurz* means 'short' and the word *vor* means 'before', the meaning intended in Liliawati's translation is that of *tidak jauh dari perbatasan kota* (not far from the city limits), as in the translated sentence in Example (1). Likewise, in Example (2), the word *nichts* is translated into the phrase *yang aman* (which is safe), and in Example (3), *nicht* is translated as *sangat* (very). A negation marker in German can be in a sub-clause that results in a negation of meaning, as in *nichts mehr passieren* (nothing happens to you), inferring that it 'is safe for you.' The German sentence in Example (3) means that Sandale could not chew as fast as she wanted; from that, the translator has concluded that Sandale was very hungry and therefore ate quickly.

#### Specific German verbs

Specific German verbs have negation markers in the prefixes {*ver-*}, {*ent-*}, and *dan* {*ab-*}. The prefix {*ver-*} attached to the verb *liegen* becomes the verb *verliegen* and, attached to the verb *werten*, becomes the verb *verwerten*. The morphophonemic process with {*ver-*} and a number of other verbs produces *verbringen* (spend), *verkünden* (proclaim), *verfolgen* (follow), *verdrehen* (twist), and *verschenken* (give away). The prefix {*ent-*}, attached to the verb *sprechen*, creates the verb *entsprechen*, and attached to the verb *setzen* creates the verb *entsetzen*, and attached to the verb *langstürmen* creates the verb *entlangstürmen*. The prefix {*ab-*}, when attached to the verb *lehnen*, makes the verb *ablehnen*.

#### Unreality sentence

In German, an entire sentence can contain negation. This can be found in an unreality sentence that includes a negation marker. Conditional sentences, which are also part of this phenomenon, are shown in the following data.

- (1) *Keine fünf Minuten war sie weg gewesen, aber Rodica tat so, als sei das ein schweres Verbrechen* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Tidak ada lima menit Sandale pergi tetapi Rodica berlaku seakan-akan Sandale sudah berbuat satu kejahatan* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Sandale had been gone for not even five minutes, but Rodica behaved as if Sandale had committed a crime).
- (2) *Widerwillig folgt Lucian Sandale zum Krankenhaus. Den ganzen Weg über beschimpft er sie, als sei sie schuld an allem* (Philipps, 2006).

*Walaupun dengan terpaksa, Lucian mengikuti Sandale ke rumah sakit. Sepanjang jalan ia memarahi Sandale bahwa semuanya terjadi karena kesalahan Sandale* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Though unwillingly, Lucien followed Sandale to the hospital. Along the way, he angrily kept telling her that it was all her fault)

- (3) *Und wenn der Wind an diesem Tag aus einer anderen Richtung gekommen wäre, hätte Sandale den Bus sicher erreicht und wäre mit Lucian davongefahren* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Dan kalau saja angin hari itu bertiup dari arah yang lain maka Sandale pastilah dapat mengejar bus dan bersama-sama Lucian pergi jauh* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (And if only the wind that day had blown from another direction, Sandale would surely have been able to catch the bus and go far away with Lucian)
- (4) *Wenn man sie fragen würde, dann würde sie nur einmal in der Woche putzen lassen, aber niemand fragt sie* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Kalau orang bertanya padanya, maka ia akan mengatakan menyapu sekali seminggu saja sudah cukup, tetapi tentu saja ia tidak pernah ditanya* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (If someone had asked her, she would have said sweeping just once a week was enough, but of course she was never asked)
- (5) *Für einen Moment sieht es sogar so aus, als ob Martin aufspringen und davonlaufen wollte* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Untuk sesaat terlihat seakan-akan Martin mau melompat dan lari dari ayahnya* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (For a moment it seemed as if Martin would jump and run away from his father)

The negation in an unreal conditional sentence could mean ..., *als sei das ein schweres Verbrechen* (as if Sandale had committed a crime). This negation is indicated by the occurrence of *als sei*, which marks a condition as unreal. Other indicators of this type of conditional sentence are *wäre*, *hätte* or *würde*, *dann würde*, and *als ob*, which indicate the unreal conditional form as in Examples (3), (4), and (5). Each sentence describes a condition or state, such as someone committing a crime, which, in the context of the sentence, is opposite to the condition or state in reality (in this case, the person is in reality not committing the crime); the sentence has a meaning that is semantically the opposite of what is grammatically meant or, in other words, the sentence itself is a form of negation.

#### The complexity of negation construction in German and the equivalent construction in Indonesian

German negation forms come in six types. Although negation in German and Indonesian does not always take the same form, there is no semantically significant difference between them. German negation constructions and their equivalent Indonesian constructions are presented and discussed below.

- (1) *Wer ihn betrügt, macht das nur einmal und dann nie wieder, so wie Sandale* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Siapa saja yang menipunya hanya akan berbuat sekali saja, karena sama seperti Sandale* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Anyone who cheats on him would do it just once because it is as Sandale).

Example (1) above shows that the German sentence has a negation construction using the word *nie*, which is expressed as *sekali saja* in Indonesian. This indicates that the German negation form is not interpreted as a negation form in Indonesian, which is usually done with the negative words *tidak/tak* or *bukan*, but with the phrase *sekali saja*, based on the use of *nie wieder* (never again), which is finally re-expressed as *sekali saja* (once only) by Kurnia.

- (2) *Bravo! Bravo! Er hört gar nicht mehr auf, auch nicht, als die Truppe vom Lazar längst die Bühne verlassen hat und die Musik für den nächsten Tanz einsetzt* (Philipps, 2006).

*Bravo! Teriaknya dan ketika yang lain diam saja, ia melompat ke sebuah meja dan menjadi dirigen untuk semua. Semua ikut teriak, makin lama makin keras* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Bravo! He shouted, and when the others kept quiet, he jumped onto a table and became the conductor for all. All joined in the shouting, becoming increasingly louder).

Example (2) shows the negation construction with *nicht* in the phrases *nicht mehr* (no more) and *auch nicht* (also not). Grammatically, the negation construction implies the presence of 'no' or 'not' in the German sentence. However, in Indonesian sentences, no such word of negation is found. This demonstrates the existence of differences in negation constructions between German and Indonesian. In Indonesian sentences, no meaning of negation is found, so no form of negation is observed. Semantically, however, the German and Indonesian sentences have the same meaning. The phrase *nicht mehr*, implying something heard no more, is translated into the word *diam* (quiet), and the phrase *auch nicht*, implying that something is also not heard, is translated into the word *melompat* (jump), indicating what happened next. Here, the translator has exercised artistic licence and skipped a part of the story.

- (3) *Niemand klatscht, aber als Catalin auf seinen Platz zurückgeht, strecken sich ihm viele Hände entgegen* (Philipps, 2006).

*Tidak seorang pun bertepuk tangan, tetapi ketika Catalin kembali ke tempat duduknya, semua menjulurkan tangan untuk bersalaman* (Kurnia, 2008).

No one applauded, but when Catalin returned to his seat, all offered to shake his hand)

Example (3) uses the word *niemand* (no one) as a negation marker. There is a similarity between the German and Indonesian negation constructions; namely, both the German word *niemand* and the Indonesian phrase *tidak seorang pun* mean 'no one'.

- (4) *Es gibt tatsächlich eine Menge Reste, aber leider nicht viele, die sich noch verwerten lassen* (Philipps, 2006, p. 10).

*Ternyata memang terdapat banyak sekali sisa-sisa makanan, tetapi sayang tidak dapat diambil untuk dimakan* (Kurnia, 2008).

(It turned out that indeed there was a lot of food remaining, but unfortunately the crumbs could not be picked up to be eaten).

Example (4) uses the negation word *nicht* in the second clause; here, the German and Indonesian negation constructions are the same in both form and meaning.

- (5) *Für einen Moment sitzt Sandale bewegungslos in der Pfütze und holt tier Luft* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Tetapi karena sakit yang sangat menyengat Sandale tidak mempunyai tenaga untuk protes* (Kurnia, 2008).

(But because of very stinging pain, Sandale had no energy to protest)

Example (5) has a negation construction in a morphophonemic process using the suffix {-los} attached to the word *Bewegung* (motion). Indonesian lacks a suffix to indicate negation. Semantically, however, the German and Indonesian sentences are the same.

- (6) *Sandales Zahnschmerzen sind unerträglich geworden* (Philipps, 2006).

*Sandale merasa giginya sakit tidak tertahankan lagi* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Sandale felt his tooth becoming unbearably painful)

- (7) *Was ist an einer Gurke schon unhöflich?* (Philipps, 2006).

*Mengapa panggilan si Ketimun dikatakan tidak sopan?* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Why is the Cucumber nickname said to be impolite?)

Examples (6) and (7) show negation in the form of an attached prefix. In Example (6), {un-} is attached to *erträglich*, creating *unerträglich*, and in example (7), {un-} is attached to *höflich*, creating *unhöflich*. It is apparent that German negation construction originates in a morphophonemic process while the Indonesian does not. Semantically, however, the German and Indonesian sentences are the same. For example,

- (8) *Es gibt nicht ein Kind und nicht einen Jugendlichen am Bahnhof, die nicht mehrfach missbraucht wurden* (Philipps, 2006).

*Tidak seorang anakpun di daerah stasiun yang belum pernah mendapat perlakuan yang tidak senonoh* (Kurnia, 2008).

(Not a single child in the station area had ever received indecent treatment)

Example (8) shows a negation construction with the word *nicht* in some phrases as well as the negative prefix in *missbraucht*. The German sentence has four negation markers: three occurrences of the word *nicht* and one of the aforementioned negative prefixes. The Indonesian translation uses the word *tidak* twice.

However, there is another element of negation: *belum* (not yet) or (have not). Thus, semantically, the German and Indonesian sentences are the same.

- (9) *Aber Lucian ist weder vor dem Haus noch dahinter* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Tetapi, Lucian tidak juga terlihat di depan rumah* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (But Lucian has still not seen the house)

Example (9) has the negation construction of *weder... noch ...*, which is interpreted to mean the same as *tidak ini tidak itu* (neither this nor that) in Indonesian. Nevertheless, Kurnia's translation does not use this construction but fuses the whole phrase into the single word *tidak*.

- (10) *Grigore ist ihr gegenüber misstrauisch geblieben, ...* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Grigore masih saja curiga kepadanya, ...* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Grigore still remained suspicious of her, ...)

Example (10) has a negation construction using the word *misstrauisch*, which originates in the morphophonemic process of the prefix {*miss-*}, changing the word *trauisch* (trusting) into *misstrauisch* (distrustful). There is no prefix to mark negation in Indonesian. Therefore, in Liliawati's translation, the sentence contains the word *curiga* (suspicious), which is an Indonesian word that is negative in nature.

- (11) *Trotzdem sie es nicht, wenn die Ratten ausgerechnet ihre Brotreste, ...* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Meskipun demikian, ia tidak menyukai 682alua tikus-tikus itu menggigiti sisa rotinya, ...* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Though she did not like it when the rats took bites of her leftover bread, ...)

Example (11) has a negation construction using *trotzdem* (although) and *nicht* (not); the German and Indonesian sentences are the same in their negation construction.

- (12) *Außerdem hat er sein Geld zurückgekriegt* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Selain itu, ia telah mendapatkan sebagian uangnya* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Besides, he has got part of his money)

Example (12) has a negation construction using *außerdem*, which is expressed in Indonesian as *selain itu* (besides), (besides that), (other than that). 'Besides that' or 'other than that' implies 'not that'; the negation constructions of the sentences are similar.

- (13) *Ohne Pass darf ich nichts umtauschen* (Philipps, 2006).  
*Tanpa paspor aku tidak dapat menukar uangmu* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (Without a passport, I cannot exchange your money)

- (14) *..., ohne dass sie ärgerlich werden* (Philipps, 2006).  
*..., tanpa orang tersebut menjadi marah* (Kurnia, 2008).  
 (... , without the person becoming angry)

Examples (13) and (14) have negation constructions using *ohne* (without) and *nichts* 'nothing.' With the 'thing' in 'nothing' reduced to *uangmu* (your money) in the translation, there is a similarity in the negation constructions of German and Indonesian sentences.

Complexity arises because the negation constructions in German and Indonesian are quite different. In the German novel *Träume Wohnen Überall*, we identified 46 negation marker variants categorized into six types with a frequency of 601, compared to a frequency of 566 in the Indonesian version. Not all negation constructions in German can be expressed in Indonesian because of the difference in negation-related constructions between the two languages. Semantically, however, German and Indonesian have the same negation markers. A total of 601 German negation marker variants were found in the novel *Träume Wohnen Überall*, grouped into 46 types. All these variants, according to Helbig and Buscha (2005), can be categorized into just six negation types. The variants occurred at the following rate, with the frequency given in parentheses: *nicht* (342), *ohne* (40), *keine* (35), *nichts* (30), *nie* (21), *kein* (18), *niemand* (17), *kaum* (12), *niemals* (9), *keinen* (8), *sonst* (6), *nein* (4), *trotzdem* (4), *keiner* (3), *ungeduldig* (3), *nein* (3), *außerdem* (2), *keinesweg* (2), *jedenfalls* (2), *endlos* (2), *fassunglos* (2), *unauffällig* (2), *niemandem* (1), *nirgends* (1), *ne* (1), *trotzt* (1), *atemlos* (1), *missbraucht* (1), *anderen* (1), *unangenehme* (1), *doch* (1), *gegen* (1), *keinesfalls* (1), *ungewiss* (1), *weder...noch...* (1), *unendlich* (1), *unerträglich* (1), *bewegungslos* (1), *hilfslos* (1), *falls* (1), *womöglich* (1), *harmlos* (1), *unerledigten* (1), *verständnislos* (1), *unhöflich* (1), and *unmöglich* (1). Meanwhile, the variants and frequency of the negation markers in Liliawati Kurnia's work are likewise presented as follows: *tidak* (410), *tanpa* (35), *tak* (17), *belum* (16), *bukan* (14), *jangan* (10), *melainkan* (1), *selain itu* (3), *belum pernah* (2), *tiada* (1), *pernah* (1), *mustahil* (1), *dilarang* (1), *hampa* (1), *tidak pernah* (1), and *hendak* (1).

The findings of this study support other studies which show that negation has a particular grammar, a resource for making meaning (Beukeboom, et al, 2019; Wilson & Hansen, 2019). The role of negation is significant in language use that could make a stereotypical sense and more grammatically complex. This study shows more complexity of negation by comparing it with the Indonesian language to contribute to an interlingual study and language transfer. The findings of this study also show more potential analysis of Indonesian or German language such as in terms of the use of certain negation variants which produce more social and mental meanings (see Yang, 2017). Negation expands its use beyond the concern at the level of lexical sense; therefore, accurate use of negation is a crucial part of making meaning. Otherwise, interpretation may result in a variety of meanings which contribute to stereotypical inferences or conclusive

assumption see (Ansari & Hoomanfar, 2019; Wilson & Hansel, 2019).

## CONCLUSION

Complexity appears because the negation construction in German is quite different from that in Indonesian. In the German novel *Träume Wohnen Überall*, there are 46 negation marker variants categorized into six types of negation markers with a frequency of 601, negation markers of the novel are with a frequency of 566 found in the Indonesian version. Not all negation constructions in German can be expressed in Indonesian because of the difference in negation-related constructions between the two languages. Semantically, however, German and Indonesian have the same negation markers. Negation construction in German has clear rules and a variety of negation forms or markers, while in Indonesian, the construction is limited to negation forms or markers. Nevertheless, these differences do not substantially influence either language, so they can be mutually complementary.

Each German and Indonesian negation construction has its own negation marker or markers and there are similarities and differences between them. It is clear that both languages express similar meanings in their negation constructions; the differences occur in their grammatical constructions. The complexity of negation constructions in German is apparent when the expression of a negation construct is not found in Indonesian. Negation constructions in German have clear rules and a variety of negation forms or markers, while Indonesian has fewer negation forms or markers. Nevertheless, these differences do not substantially influence either language, so they can be mutually complementary. In Indonesian, negation does not occur in the form of prefixes and suffixes except in absorbed elements of foreign words, and such negation constructions in German have clear grammatical rules and functions.

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