RESEARCH ARTICLE

MORPHOSYNTACTIC ANALYSIS OF THE TANDAGANON GAY LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT

People with shared experiences and interests like gays or even students create a language that binds them. A language of every group is peculiar since a language of a particular group is different from other languages (Flores, 2011). Everyone could not escape from the alluring and colourful language used by gays because it is funny and it is more fun to say it that is why some of us are influenced by gay language (Cayabyab in Camalig, 2016). This study claims that there is an internal variation of the gay language as a socioliect, from its internal etimologies. This paper has an aim to identify the morphological processes of the gay language; analyse the affixes formed in the gay language in terms of nouns, verbs, and adjectives; identify the basic structures/patterns of the gay language; analyse the structure of the gay language; and identify the language variety of professionals, non-professionals, and non-gay users of the language. The study found out that the morphological processes of the gay language are allusion, creative letter reversal, creative suffixation, internal syllabic retention, language phrasing, letter retention, letter substitution, lexical adoption, past tensing, reversal/jumbling, rhyme association, syllabic duplication, syllabic substitution, and total syllabic distortion. The affixes formed in the gay language in terms of nouns are ating, che, chenes, ching, d, er, ever, ification, in, ing, ingsing, is, iting, lin, ling, ring, and sing. In terms of verbs, the affixes formed are alin, che, ching, d, ed, elin, ever, ga, gi, gikyupi, han, i, ing, ipa, ipan, ka, ma, mag, maka, mu, nag, nagpa, pag, paga, and pagka. In terms of adjectives, the affixes formed are che, chenes, d, ed, ever, in, ing, ious, kyu, lin, pagka, and y. The basic structure/patterns of the gay language are Subject-Verb, Subject-Verb-Object, Subject-Adjective, Verb-Subject, Adjective-Subject, and Adverb-Subject-Adjective. The gay language possesses distinct characteristics in terms of their basic structure or observable patterns namely Subject-Verb, Subject-Verb-Object, Subject-Adjective, Verb-Subject, Adjective-Subject, and Adverb-Subject-Adjective. The language variety of professionals, non-professionals, and non-gay speakers is determined by their registers, lived experiences, and language etymology. The social experiences of the gay language speakers define the creativity and depth of their construction. The wider their social experience, the more unique and complex their utterances may become.

INTRODUCTION

People with shared experiences and interests like gays or even students create a language that binds them. Since gays or even those who are not gays also use the variety of language that gays utilize, there is still a great influence of English language in the kind of language that can be seen in the registers that they are using. This phenomenological qualitative research is a study on the morphosyntactic analysis of the gay language as an existing sociolect among peculiar groups such as the gays. This study will Identify the morphological processes of the gay language; analyze the affixes formed in the gay language in terms of nouns, verbs, and adjectives; identify the basic structures/patterns of the gay language; analyze the sentence structure of the gay language; and identify the language variety of professionals, non-professionals, and non-gay users of the language. Lunzaga et al. (2011) mentioned that the language of the gays has now earned respect from the communities and it

also has been infused in the mainstream languages of the society. Bendulo et al. (2011) also added that gayspeak is not an exemption in the documentation of existing languages for posterity reasons to which the gay language is part of the evolution and changing nature of language. The study of Felisilda et al. (2011) revealed the use of morphological processes in the gay language for the purpose of shielding themselves (gays) from chasms of the heterosexuals. Thus, gays construct their language. Change has been part of people's lives (Altintas et al., 2007:np). Every creature in the world undergoes changes. Even the farthest land, miles away to the most single soil of the beaches cannot escape this inherent change set for all. That is why, the addage that goes "nothing is permanent in this world except change" affirms to the latter which stands to be true that anyone can prove right, even through the test of time, life, and history. A language of every group is peculiar since a language of a particular group is different from other languages (Flores, 2011). Even gays have words which are peculiar only to them. These words are not just words without meaning. These words are used in expressing one's feelings and in referring to things. The gay

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language in a technical term shows their creativity. It may be that they invent their own language to show to other people their difference from them. In this undergoing change, language also experiences changes. Due to the changes in the society, language is also affected. In the changing generations there have been changes in sounds, words, and grammar of various languages of a particular community. We can know a person's status and social belongingness, work, education, culture, place of residence, and religion through the language being used. (Gavilan, 2015:np) Due to these changes, there is a need to have a morphosyntactic analysis in the gay language as part of the said change in language. However, according to Rafel (2010), gayspeak is the most unstable and malleable of all languages. There is a need to conduct this study in order to have a proper documentation of the said variety of language since it differs from year to year. Therefore, documenting the gay language is important for posterity reasons. Moreover, if the said variety is dying, the study can be an aid in providing language documentation as posited in the language modernization and intellectualization theory. No language is superior or inferior as a truth based on the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, it is therefore implying that documenting this language variety as a sociolect is a need for posterity reasons. Everyone could not escape from the alluring and colorful language used by gays because it is funny and it is more fun to say it that is why some of us are influenced by gay language (Cayabyab, cited in Camalig et al., 2016). Hence, the need to conduct the study is considered a necessity for language progression as a development. Since sociolect is a social variety of language, it is significant that users have an established basis about this language variety as documented through a morphosyntactic analysis. The analysis dealt on the registers that compose a peculiar group of speakers. To the aforementioned statement, there is an interest by the researcher to study and perform morphosyntactic analysis of its register and then come up with a vocabulary list contained in a mini-dictionary. This is study is further important since language is not static. Language moves and progresses as our society takes a step forward for improvement. Thus, many sub-languages are formed and created for different purposes. Through this study, there can be reference in understanding future literature written today.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Design: The qualitative design was used in this study. In the analysis and discussion of the gathered data, the descriptive method was utilized. Qualitative research design is based on a social constructivism perspective. Sample sizes can be as small as one but in this study, the sample size is 15, distributing 5 each for the three groups of informants. The data collection process used in this research design was interview with the use of picture instrumentation to obtain a Corpus-based data and archival or content data in the analysis (Boyd in Groenewald, 2004). The study employed survey research. To Trochim (2006), survey research is one of the most important areas of measurement in applied social research. In this study, the researcher involved asking questions to the informants. A one-on-one in-depth interview was done in clarifying some unclear items in the recorded utterances of the informants.There were informal conversations with the informants after recording. In addressing the research questions, the researcher utilized the Corpus-based Approach so that data collected would be

naturally-occuring. The researcher used research prompts with guide questions in eliciting responses from the informants. The informants' utterances were recorded. Qualitative Data Analysis (QDA) was used to identify the morphological processes of the gay language; analyze the affixes formed in the gay language in terms of nounds, verbs, and adjectives; identify the basic structure/patterns of the gay language; analyze the sentence structure of the gay language; and identify the language variety of professionals, non-professionals, and non-gay users of the language. Qualitative Data Analysis (QDA) is the range of processes and procedures which from the qualitative data collected, it is moved into a form of explanation, understanding or interpretation of the people and situations being investigated. QDA is usually based in the interpretative philosophy in which the idea is to examine the meaningful and symbolic content of the qualitative data obtained. (http://onlineqda.hud.ac.uk/Intro_QDA/what_is_qda.php)

Research Environment: The study was conducted within the City of Tandag, Province of Surigao del Sur. The City of Tandag was chosen as the research locale since it is the only city in Surigao del Sur with an organized and supported (by the LGU) organization of gays named City Angels of Tandag. The said organization have both professional and non-professional members. The City of Tandagis a fifth income class city and the provincial capital of the province of Surigao del Sur, Philippines, in the island of Mindanao.

Research Informants: This study involved 15 qualified informants as defined in the criteria set by the researcher. Since purposive sampling was utilized, a non-probability sample was used which was chosen based on the characteristics of the informants as demanded by the objectives of the study. Five of them were professionals, another five were non-professionals and there were also five who were non-gays but are speakers or able to speak the language. Informants qualified as those who were overt gays, well-versed in the use of the language, which means can speak and understand the said language. Informants also qualified as those who were non-gays but are using gayspeak in their casual conversations. These informants use gayspeak with members of their group or their friends and colleagues who are straight. As mentioned earlier, the sample size for a qualitative research using purposive sampling can be as small as one. However, there are three groups of informants. Thus, there will be five informants who will qualify as professionals, non-professionals, and non-gays. Five informants per group shall ensure reliability of data for one or two alone may be enough. But to ensure saturation point is reached, five is set as informants for each of the groups.

Sampling Technique: The informants of the study were selected purposively. The informants were those who are (1) overt gays, (2) well-versed, and (3) non-gays who were actually using gay speak in their everyday conversations with members of their group and even with their straight colleagues and friends. They were informants residing and coming from the various barangays of the City of Tandag.

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents

GAYS	No. of Informants	NON-GAYS	No. of Informants
Professionals	5	Professionals	3
Non-Pofessionals	5	Non-Professionals	2
Total Population: 15 Informants			

Table 1 above shows the distribution of respondents in the study. All informants were selected purposively. Needless to say, all the informants met the criteria set by the researcher. From the gays, there were five professionals and also five non-professionals. On the other hand, from the non-gays but speakers of the language, there were 3 professionals and two non-professionals. With this number of informants, saturation point in obtaining qualitative data was reached. Hence, there was no need to find for more informants.

Research Instruments: Qualified pictures validated by outside experts were used by the researcher in obtaining a Corpus-based data from the informants. There was only one questionnaire for obtaining the demographic profile of the informants. The demographic profile questionnaire identified the research informants which only included their name (optional), highest educational attainment, and two follow-up questions under the highest educational attainment. The other part of the data gathering process was through the use of the qualified pictures on obtaining a Corpus-based spoken discourse of the language. Research intrument and prompts are found on the appendices.

Data Gathering Procedure

- Securing Consent and Informed Consent from Identified Informants
- One-on-one Visit to Informants

- Recording Audio Data
- Transcription of Audio Data

- Coding of Data
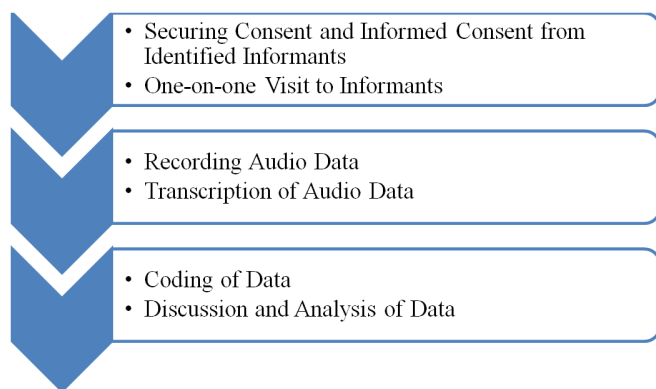- Discussion and Analysis of Data

Figure 2. Flow of the Study

The researcher began by securing the consent and informed consent forms with the identified informants of the study. After the forms have been secured, the researcher then went one-on-one with the informants of the study to elicit responses from them through the use of research propmts in forms of photos with guide questions. Then, the utterances of the informants were recorded. After the recording of data, informal conversations were conducted by the researcher to the informant in order to clarify some unclear items in the audio file. After that, the audio data was transcribed. The transcript was then coded for ease in the analysis part. After data has been coded, qualitative data analysis was deployed to treat the coded data, addressing the research questions. The study employed a Corpus-based Approach in which all data needed was gathered one at a time after every informant. Observing proper protocol, the informants were requested to freely comment on the self-administered prompts. The identified informants' naturally-occuring discourses were recorded. The researcher immediately conducted informal conversations with the respondents to verify if there were unclear items in the recorded data as well as on clarifying meanings of the words being used. Biber et al. (1994) illustrated the use of Corpus-based Analytical Technique to address the range of issues present in the current study like this. They mentioned two main strengths of the Corpus-based approach.

One is that text corpora provide a large databases of naturally-occuring discourse, enabling empirical analysis of the actual patterns of use in a language.

"These strengths are illustrated with respect to three areas of applied research: (1) English grammar; (2) Lexicography; and (3) ESP and register variation." Moreover, reaching the saturation point in qualitative data gathering was considered. Data Analysis Procedure: The data which were primarily qualitative were subjected to morphosyntactic analysis. In here, the vocabulary/registers or expressions of the gays were examined in terms of their structure and meaning and the morphosyntactic patterns evident in their conversations. Validation of Terminologies: The vocabulary list of the gay language registers was validated by gays with the following criteria: fluent speakers of the language, professionals, and are preferably with inclination to language.

RESULTS

Morphological Processes of the Gay Language: After the researcher's interview with the research informants, the following morphological processes of the gay language were identified namely allusion, creative letter reversal, creative suffixation, internal syllabic retention, language phrasing, letter retention, letter substitution, lexical adoption, past tensing, reversal/jumbling, total syllabic distortion, syllabic duplication, syllabic substitution, and rhyme association.

Affixes Formed in the Gay Language

Nouns: The informants use nouns without prefixation but only infixation and suffixation. Most of which is suffixation namely ever, che, sing, ing, ring, ification, ching, is, in, d, iting, ating, chenes, ingsing, ling, and lin. On the other hand, only one infix is evident in their nouns which is er. These affixes are formed out of the speakers' creativity in the use of the medium. Some are derived from the English language like d and ing, among others. Others are also derived out of rhyming to the word being inflected like picturingsing and the rest out of creativity due to sound coordination like kyudlawching and placelin, among others (KII1, KII3, KII5, KII11, KII12, KII13, KII14, KII15, KII16, KII18, KII19, KII20, KII21, KII22, KII23, KII24, KII27, KII28, KII30, KII31, KII33, KII34).

Verbs: Gayspeak, as a language of gays and even non-gays, uses affixation in its verb registers. Present in the language are prefixation and suffixation. As what the words showed, prefixes used in they gay language are mag, maka, pagka, pag, gi, ga, i, nagpa, nag, ipan, ka, paga, gikyupi, mu, ipa, ma, and ga. On the other hand, suffixes used are alin, ed, ever, ing, sing, han, che, ching, elin, and d (KII1, KII3, KII4, KII6, KII10, KII11, KII13, KII14, KII15, KII16, KII17, KII18, KII19, KII20, KII21, KII22, KII24, KII27, KII30, KII32, KII33, KII34). Adjectives: The informants of the study used adjective gay registers with prefixes and suffixes in its affixation. The prefixes present in the gay language adjectives are kyu and pagka. On the other hand, the suffixes present are lin, y, ing, in, che, chenes, ious, ed, d, and ever (KII1, KII4, KII7, KII9, KII10, KII13, KII21, KII25, KII26, KII27, KII28, KII30). Basic Structure/Patterns of the Gay Language: From the utterances produced by the informants of the study, there are basic observable patterns evident from among them. While

there are five (5) basic structures in the English Language, the gay language has six (6) observable basic patterns namely adjective-subject, adverb-subject-adjective, subject-adjective, subject-verb, subject-verb-object, and verb-subject. From the six gay language structures mentioned above, some of the observable patterns are similar to the structure of the English language like subject-verb and subject-verb-object.

Language Variety of Professionals, Non-Professionals and Non-Gay Users of the Language: This study provided some relevant and essential information about the gay language. Not just about the language itself, it also provided data about the differences among speakers who are using the language. These differences in language use which is referred to as language variety can be attributed to speakers categorized as Professionals, Non-Professionals, and Non-Gay Speakers of the Gay Language. The language variety was traced to their utterances through the Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

DISCUSSION

Morphological Processes of the Gay Language: Allusion. The words of the gay language use allusion to elicit meaning in their conversations. They use words to which they can associate something or someone, be it a person, a place, or a situation (KII27, KII8, KII11). For example, one of the informants used DENR or the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (KII27) in describing an image which shows trees or the environment in general. Creative Letter Reversal: Some of the informants use creative letter reversal in the words that they utter. They do it by reversing the last letters of the word and adding creativity to it by supplying a prefix of his/her own choice which he/she finds fitting to the ears either through rhyme or other creativity. Take for example the word er-ok (KII12) which means dako. The last two letters of the word dako are k and o. These letters are being reversed. Hence, it turns to ok. Then through creativity, a prefix er is supplied to the reversed letters forming er-ok.

Creative Suffixation: This morphological process utilized in the gay language is one of the most commonly apllied. What happens in creative suffixation is that the original work is being affixed with a creative suffix of their own choice. One of the few suffixes used are ing, in, and ever among others (KII19, KII13, KII30, KII33, KII19, KII13, KII33, KII27, KII19, KII18, KII33, KII13, KII11, KII13, KII10, KII1, KII24, KII24, KII12, KII13, KII11, KII34, KII12, KII27, KII25, KII29, KII32, KII3, KII5, KII27, KII18). Sample words for creative suffixation are peacefulin (KII10) and peoplelin (KII1). In this case, using 'lin' as the creative suffix. Internal Syllabic Retention: This is another commonly used morphological process in the gay language. In internal syllabic retention, there is/are syllable/s which can be noticed internally or found at the center part of the word. The rest of the syllables are being substituted with creative affixes. These internal syllables are culled out from the word of origin (KII22, KII28, KII1, KII11, KII14, KII13, KII31, KII33, KII21, KII33, KII34, KII22, KII34, KII22, KII34, KII11, KII15, KII34, KII34, KII34, KII11, KII21, KII12, KII19, KII13, KII20). See for example the word 'gikyupikitasing' (KII22). This word means 'gipakita' in the Tandaganon dialect. So how did it become 'gikyupikitasing'? Through internal syllabic retention, the internal syllables retained are 'ki' and 'ta'. The rest of the syllables were substituted with

creative affixes 'gikyupi' and 'sing'. Language Phrasing: anguage phrasing has been used by the speakers of the gay language. In this morphological process, phrases are used to associate the meaning to what is being described or meant by the speaker. These phrases may be in Filipino or English (KII10, KII7, KII24, KII12, KII11, KII6, KII11, KII12, KII12, KII29, KII4, KII3, KII6, KII8, KII11, KII28, KII30, KII29, KII2, KII6, KII28, KII29, KII28, KII22, KII28, KII12, KII13, KII27, KII30). Trying to examine the phrase 'house and lot' in KII6 and KII8, it was used by the informant to refer to just a house building but preferred to use the phrase house and lot. Another phrase 'Ilog Pasig' in KII11 was used by the informant to refer to just a river. Letter Retention:Another unique morphological process used in the gay language is letter retention. What makes it unique is that only a letter is left in the gay word from its origin. The rest of the letters or syllables are being substituted with creativitiy, be it an affix or just another letter (KII16, KII16, KII18, KII30, KII23, KII23, KII3, KII21, KII2, KII21, KII1). In the gay word 'er-o' in KII16 which means 'tao', only the letter o is evident in the new gay word. The first syllable of the word 'ta' is being substituted with a creative syllable 'er' forming the gay word 'er-o'. Other words using letter retention are 'wez' in KII2 which means nothing or 'otralens' in KII21 which also means tao.

Letter Substitution: In letter substitution, only one alphabet is being changed in order to produce a new word (KII1). For instance, the word 'looy' which means pity is altered to a gay word 'kooy' in KII1. The first letter of the word which is 'l' is substituted with letter 'k'. The letter to be substituted may depend on the creatvity of the speaker. It may also be a syllable like 'shu' in order to make a word like 'shuoy' which means the same 'pity'.

Lexical Adoption: In this morphological process of the gay language, the gay word adopts a lexicon from existing languages like Filipino or English while affixation is also supported. In some sort, the association of something to another which is implicitly suggested by the lexical item being adopted is evident (KII27, KII25, KII30, KII30, KII30, KII26, KII16, KII3, KII7, KII8). For example, in KII27, the gay word 'gahandelin' is used to mean that someone is holding. The lexicon being adopted is an English word which is 'hand'. This is associated to the intended meaning since the hand is used in holding something. Other words are 'grassland' (KII25) and 'magworkalin' (KII30) to mean 'grass' and 'to work' respectively.

Past Tensing: This may be the simplest of all the morphological processes used in the gay language. The existing word which may be Filipino or English is being inflected with 'd' or 'ed' in order to transform the word into its past tense even if other words are not plausible for tense inflection (KII33, KII32, KII33, KII30, KII30, KII27, KII30). Examples to this are the gay words 'ipagoed' in KII33 and 'irecycled' in KII32. Notice that the word 'go' is not plausible for tense inflection but it is possible in the creativity of the gay language.

Reversal/Jumbling: This is another morphological process utilized by the gay language speakers which only involves reversal or jumbling of letters of the word (KII23). The word

'otaw' in KII23 is an example of a gay word which undergoes reversal/jumbling of letters.

Rhyme Association: Rhyme association is a fun morphological process in the gay language. The way how someone or something is called is being associated to another word, farther from meaning, as long as at least a syllable rhymes with the original word being meant by the speaker (KII17, KII20). See for example 'makanosibalasi' in KII17. This gay word was used to mean 'in order to know'. Why was this so? The sound of the word 'know' is also found in the gay word 'makanosibalasi', the reason why it was used to mean 'in order to know'. This may also happen in English. Another word in rhyme association is 'Tres Marias' in KII20. This was used to refer to trees since there is a similar sound found in 'Tres Marias'. People, things, events, among others are used in rhyme association.

Syllabic Duplication: In syllabic duplication, there is a syllable from the original word being duplicated and creatively developed with substitution of affixes (KII4, KII4, KII26, KII30). 'Kyutataever' in KII26 and KII30 was used to refer to 'bata'. The syllable 'ta' was duplicated. Another is 'kiki' in KII4 to mean 'laki', from which the syllable 'ki' was duplicated.

Syllabic Substitution: Syllabic substitution showed that gay words are derived from subtituting the first syllable of the word with creativity. This is a widely used morphological process used in the gay language by the informants. One common syllabic substituion used by the informants was 'kyu' like 'gikyuba', which means 'giguba' (KII21). The gay words 'kyubig' in KII4 and KII9 and 'kyuman' in KII8 also used the syllabic substitution 'kyu' which meant 'tubig' and 'human' respectively. Hence, syllabic substitution is evident for both English, Filipino, and Tandaganon languages.

Total Syllabic Distortion: This is another fun morphological process evident in the gay language. Words of this process are sometimes hard to understand but fun since the speaker is free to replace the syllables of the original word into something very creative but has rhyme relation to the word of origin (KII1, KII3, KII2, KII2, KII16, KII21, KII22, KII11, KII21, KII21). Let us take for example 'berba' in KII1. This gay word means 'saba'. Both words have rhyme relations. However, depending on the speaker, the syllables are replaced with more creative ones like 'erfa' to mean 'gwapa' and 'kakyuksan' to mean 'kasakyan' in KII3, KII2 and KIIKII16. According to Daniels (1985:18-36), speakers of all languages employ a range of styles and a set of subdialects or jargons. These styles and set of subdialects or jargon are called registers, and registers are learned after the grammar itself is learned. Human beings utilize language, therefore possessing culture. Human language is unique. It is complex even in written form. It is the central feature of all human cultures.

Affixes Formed in the Gay Language

Nouns

ating. The suffix ating is evident in the word airplanating.
che. The suffix che is evident in the gay words tanumche, jusurache, mermotche, kyubentache, and er-oche.

chenes. The suffix chenes is evident in the word kyutasanchenes.
ching. The suffix ching is evident in the words kyunalching, kyudlawching, and juhayching.
d. The suffix d is evident in the word machined.
er. The infix er is evident in the word buildering.
ever. The suffix ever is evident in the words picture-ever, kyupaever, kyutataever, kyukyanan-ever, function-ever, control-ever, kyulaud-ever, Kyumo-Kyumo-ever, kyunhundred-ever, and kyucialization-ever.
ification. The suffix ification is evident in the words picturification and treesification.
in. The suffix in is evident in the word peoplin.
ing. The suffix ing is evident in the words picturing, planeting, foresing, and healthening.
ingsing. The suffix ingsing is evident in the word picturingsing.
is. The suffix is is evident in the words junakis and plantis.
iting. The suffix iting is evident in the word iboniting.
lin. The suffix lin is evident in the word placelin.
ling. The suffix ling is evident in the word Mountain Apoling.
ring. The suffix ring is evident in the words miningring, mountering, tetaring, and tatering.
sing. The suffix sing is evident in the words kyusakansing, kyukidsing, kyumansing, kyuosing, and kyuarsing.

According to Sapir (cited in Panopio & Rolda, 2000), language is a purely human and a non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and drives through voluntarily produced symbols. In the case of gay language, symbols represent something or anything else. Numbers, words, marks, colors, emblems and designs are considered symbols. Those of which are found in the gay language.

Verbs

alin. The suffix alin is evident in the words muworkalin, nagworkalin, and pagkaworkalin.
che. The suffix che is evident in the word magkyucycleche.
ching. The suffix ching is evident in the word kyug-oching.
d. The suffix d is evident in the word irecycled.
ed. The suffix ed is evident in the words showinged, ibanned-ever, and ipagoed.
elin. The suffix elin is evident in the word gahandelin.
ever. The suffix ever is evident in the words recycled-ever and ibanned-ever.
ga. The prefix ga is evident in the words gahandelin and gaberbak.
gi. The prefix gi is evident in the words gipaybak and gikyuba.
gikyupi. The prefix gikyupikita is evident in the word gikyupikitasing.
han. The suffix han is evident in the word kyunaltihan.
i. The prefix i is evident in the words ikyucycle, ibanned-ever, and irecycled.
ing. The suffix ing is evident in the words cigarette smoking and cutting of ribbons.
ipa. The prefix ipa is evident in the word ipagoed.
ipan. The prefix ipan is evident in the word ipankyutagkyutag.
ka. The prefix ka is evident in the word kakyukyan.
ma. The prefix ma is evident in the word makyukpan.
mag. The prefix mag is evident in the words magkyumpo, magjubak, magkyucycleche, magkyunomkyunom, and magworkalin.
maka. The prefix maka is evident in the words makakyuut, makakyuba, makanosibalasi, and makakyukay.

mu. The prefix mu is evident in the word muworkalin.

nag. The prefix nag is evident in the word nagkyuwa.

nagpa. The prefix nagpa is evident in the word nagpaseenzone.

pag. The prefix pag is evident in the words pagkyubak and pagkyulising.

paga. The prefix paga is evident in the word pagakyutolkyutol.

pagka. The prefix pagka is evident in the words pagkaworkalin and pagkaberbak.

sing. The suffix sing is evident in the words pagkyulising and gikyupikitasing.

The researcher found out that only infixation is not utilized by the gay language while many of the registers use prefixation and suffixation. Notice that there are similarities with the affixes of the noun registers and that of the verb registers. Take for example the suffixes ing, che, ching, sing, ed, ever, and d, they are also present as suffixes which can be found in the noun registers of the gay language. While there is only one infix found in the noun registers which is er, and the absence of prefixation, the verb registers do not possess infixation and there is much prefixation than suffixation. This result can be associated to infitive verbs in the English language. Infinitives to jump or to walk for instance, can be compared to gay verbs magjubak or magkyucycleche. The above analysis is supported by Gianan (2008) who said that gay lingo is a portmanteau of Taglish and Carabao English. In a way, people started asserting themselves in speaking in English through gay lingo even though they know that it is grammatically wrong. It has been a way of poking fun at the society and being proud of the social status and then eventually breaking the barriers of communication between speakers. This affirmed that gay lingo is one of our inherent rich languages that is also part of our present culture. Despite the many people's opposition, gay language has really been stuck in the daily routine of speaking. It has added color and fun in the ordinary conversations of people and in a way had boosted the morale of the fellow Filipinos when it comes to speaking.

Adjectives

che. The suffix che is evident in the word paytomche.

chenes. The suffix chenes is evident in the word kyutasanchenes.

d. The suffix d is evident in the word simpled.

ed. The suffix ed is evident in the word simpled.

ever. The suffix ever is evident in the words gorgeous-ever, jubot-ever, and conservative-ever.

in. The suffix in is evident in the word peacefulin.

ing. The suffix ing is evident in the words blackening and virgining.

ious. The suffix ious is evident in the word plentious.

kyu. The prefix kyu is evident in the words kyulooy and kyutaas.

lin. The prefix lin is evident in the word erfalin.

pagka. The prefix pagka is evident in the word pagkakyuamod.

y. The suffix y is evident in the word leafy.

In the adjective registers of the gay lingo, the affixes used by the informants of the study are only prefixation and suffixation. There is no infixation evident in the words uttered by the participants. The result is consistent with the verb registers which also revealed no infixation and only one

infixation in the noun registers. Moreover, the adjective registers have more suffixation than prefixation. It is consistent with the noun registers which have no prefixation and opposite to verb registers which have more prefixation than suffixation. Both verb and adjective registers have no infixation. There are similarities in the affixes shared by the gay language registers. For instance, the prefix pagka is also a prefix in some of the gay language verb registers. Moreover, the suffixes ing and che, among others,are suffixes also evident in the noun and verb registers. The most shared affix in the gay language are the suffixes. There is quite a wide variety of prefixes among nouns, verbs, and adjectives, while infix is seldom used. Gay language truly mirrors and reinforces the culture of freedom. It is the freedom to expand the Filipino vocabulary and the freedom to express ourselves in a more creative and wittier way. It is also the freedom from dictation given by the society. As seen in the status of the gay language now, it is in the mainstream of Filipino communication and consciousness. It now shows no signs of fading. Whatever is the future of this language, Filipinos' lives would never be the same without the flamboyant jargon called gay lingo (Gianan, 2008). Language is evolving. With its changing nature, an existing language needs to be documented for posterity reasons. Gay language is not an exemption to this. The gay language has to be analyzed especially in terms of its morphology (Lunzaga et al., 2011).

Basic Structure/Patterns of the Gay Language: Subject-Adjective is the most commonly used structure in the utterances of the gay language speakers. On the other hand, the structure that is least used by the speakers of the gay language is the pattern Adverb-Subject-Adjective. Below is a sample utterance from the Key Informant Interviews which fall under the structure Subject-Adjective. "Shudems sab na mga kyuksur, wish pagkakyuamod gihapon an mga tatering or mga otralens kay shuun ho gikyuba an kyukidsing." –(KII21) (This picture also shows people who are not mindful of the environment. There you can see that they are destroying the mountains.). The subject is the "kyuksur" (picture) and is being described by the adjective "wish pagkakyuamod" (no sympathy) and is being complemented by "gihapon an mga tatering or mga otralens kay shuun ho gikyuba an kyukidsing" (Children or people. See, they are destroying the mountain).

A sample utterance in the pattern Adverb-Subject-Adjective is presented below. "Kyuper kyudayaw kyuguro sa kyungin kay presko." –(KII2a) (I believe that the air is very clean since it is very fresh.)

The adverb "kyuper" (super) modifies the adjective "presko" with respect to the subject "kyungin" (wind). However, in the case of the gay language, instead of the adverb modifying the verb, it modifies the adjective in the sample utterance above (which is also plausible in the English language) following the subject of the sentence. As stressed by Baker (2002), gay language can be considered as a linguistic phenomemon that has its own discourse. Baker expressed that the study of the ways gay people use and structure their language will give people an insight into the construction and maintenance of the gay identity across multiple contexts. Speakers produce words or language which only them know and use it. It serves as the identity of the group. The language they produce is now their register.

Sentence Structure of the Gay Language

Subject-Adjective: An picture na jusaching, land area, rice terraces, kyuun mga kuan plentious na mga grassland. – (KII25) (The other picture shows ricefield. There are many grasses.). Sentence 1 shows the structure Subject-Adjective. The subject of the sentence is "an picture na jusaching" or the other picture. It is being followed by the adjectives in forms of nouns desribing the subject namely "land area, rice terraces" and "plentious na mga grassland." Since the gay language uses language phrasing from both Filipino and English as one of its morphological processes, it (the process) is evident in Sentence 1. Hence, the adjectives land area, rice terraces, and grassland do not literally mean terraces and so on. It only describes that what the speaker saw in the photo is a land, planted rice, and grass. Due to language phrasing as part of the gay language's creativity, those phrases are used as adjectives modifying the subject. Besides, unlike the English language, we use a verb before the adjective in the structure Subject-Verb-Adjective. However, it is plausible in the gay language that sentences have structures which do not use verb anymore just like in Sentence 1. From saying "An picture na jusaching," it is directly followed by the adjectives and does not expressly say in English "The other picture shows...". There is the absence of verb in the structure Subject-Adjective.

An shudems, gorgeous-ever na gahandelin nan treesification. –(KII27) (This one shows an old man holding the tree.). Sentence 2 also follows the structure Subject-Adjective. "An shudems" or "this" in English is the subject of the sentence referring to the photo being talked about. In this sentence, we can notice that there is again the absence of a verb for the subject is directly followed by the adjective "gorgeous-ever na gahandelin nan treesification" (old person holding a tree). The adjective 'gorgeous-ever' is complemented by the phrase 'na gahandelin nan treesification.'

Verb-Subject: May mga fish-fillet, kyuhoy, mga kyulding, kyukyanan sab. –(KII6b) (There are fishes, trees, buildings and cars as well). Sentence 1 follows the pattern Verb-Subject. 'May' means This is/are. In this case, the utterance uses linking verb to refer to the subject 'fish-fillet' (just fish in English), 'mga kyulding (buildings), and 'kyusakan sab' (ricefield as well). May Tres Marias na mga wind mills. –(KII6c) (There are three windmills). Similar to Sentence 1, Sentence 2 also uses a verb in the beginning of the sentence to refer to the subject 'Tres Marias na windmills' which means 'three windmills.'

Subject-Verb: Isa ka junaknak na kiki nag holding hands sa kyutaas na kyuwayan sa may kyubig na kyuper ka lipa. – (KII4) (A boy is holding on a tall bamboo tree on a polluted pond.), Similar to the English language, the basic structure Subject-Verb is also evident in the gay language utterances. Sentence 1 for example has the subject 'isa ka junaknak na kiki' which means 'a son' followed by the verb 'nagholding hands' which means 'holding' 'sa kyutaas na kyuwayan sa may kyubig na kyuper lipa' (A son holding a bamboo in a very dirty water or pond). Kyusa ka kyumay na tanum min kyubo sa kyupa na kyuper cute. –(KII5) (A little plant grows on soil. It is very cute). Sentence 2 is another gay language utterance using the Subject-Verb structure. The subject 'kyusa ka kyumay na tanum' (A little plant) is followed by the verb 'minkyubo' (grows) and is complemented with 'sa kyupa na super cute' (in a small mass of soil).

Subject-Verb-Object: An shukems ma berba sa first honors na picture, an mga kyuhoy kyuper kooy. –(KII1) (What I can say on the first picture is that I feel pity on trees.). The structure Subject-Verb-Object in the gay language is also similar to one of the basic structures of the English language. However, there are little variations since words in the English language are labeled individually while in the Gay language, phrases are used to mean a word like 'an shukems' for 'I' and 'mga kyuhoy' for 'trees.' The subject 'an shukems' (I) is followed by the verb 'maberba' (say) and then the object 'sa first honors na picture' (in the first picture) and then complemented by another noun 'an mga kyuhoy' (trees) and an adverb 'kyuper' (super) and adjective 'kooy' (pity). Sa third honors na picture, sa soks ya seenzone, isa ka tao na gaholding hands sa isa ka little erfa na tanumche. –(KII3) (In the third picture, what I see is a person holding a little plant over his palms.)

Another utterance using the basic structure Subject-Verb-Object is Sentence 2. The subject of the sentence is 'third honors na picture' (third picture). The verb 'soks' (I) is complemented by the verb "yaseenzone' (see) as it leads to the object of the sentence which is 'isa ka tao' (one person). It is then complemented by another verb 'ga holding hands' (holding) to define what the object does. Another adjective 'isa ka little erfa' (small and beautiful) is used to define the noun 'tanumche' (plant).

Adjective-Subject: Murag boy scout ini na kiki kay kyungod sa iya kyunyu sa liug. –(KII4a) (I think he's a boyscout because of his neckerchief.).

Sentence 1 shows the basic gay structure pattern Adjective-Subject. The adjective 'boy scout' is used to define the subject 'kiki' (male/man). An adverb 'murag' (maybe) is added to express uncertainty. Nouns 'kyunyo' (neckerchief) and 'leog' (neck) are added to further describe the subject which is identifed with a pronoun 'kiki' (male/man). Forever alone an tanumche. –(KII5a) (The plant is alone.) Sentence 2 shows the basic pattern of the gay language which is Adjective-Subject. 'Forever alone' (only one) is the adjective used to describe the subject which is identified as a noun 'tanumche' (plant). Since the gay language uses the dialect as the basis of its utterances, it is using ligatures like 'na' and 'an'.

Adverb-Subject-Adjective

Kyuper kyudayaw kyuguro sa kyungin kay presko. –(KII2a)

Sentence 1 shows the baisc pattern of the gay language which is Adverb-Subject-Adjective. The adverb 'kyuper kyudayaw' (super) is followed by the subject 'kyungin' (hangin) which is described by the adjective 'presko' (fresh). Judian kyureho sa first honors na wez pagkaerfa. –(KII2c) (It is not like the first picture which is not really good). Sentence 2 shows the basic pattern of the gay language which is Adverb-Subject-Adjective. The adverb 'judian kyureho' (not like/similar) is followed by the subject 'first honors' (first picture) which is described by the adjective 'wez pagkaerfa' (not beautiful). The gay language uses elements from Filipino and English as well as celebrities' names and trademark brands. They give them new meanings in different contexts. It is largely localized within gay communities. Speakers of the gay language use words derived from the local languages or dialects including

Tandaganon (Maruja, 2007). The study of Ochieng (2013) also supports the results where the phenomenon touches every level of language to mention phonology, syntax and semantics, either directly or indirectly. The study gave an evidence that there is a high level of inter-dependency where the morphological structure of words is just but syntactic derivations.

Language Variety of Professionals, Non-Professionals and Non-Gay Users of the Language

Registers: The gay language registers of the three categories of informants vary on their registers. The professionals oftentimes use language phrasing compared to the non-professionals. The non-gay speaker also uses English terminologies. Professionals use English words more often than the non-professionals.

Lived Experiences: The wide array of gay registers and utterances are also determined by the lived experiences of the speakers. It is evident from the informants that their expressions or contributions using the gay language are and can be traced from their previous, existing, and current knowledge and experiences. They used to associate the construction of the language to what they know and to what they have experienced. For example, a gay student who is categorized as a non-professional constructs the language by using words which are true to his being a student. On the other hand, the professionals and a non-gay speaker (who is also a professional) constructs the language with registers true to their professions. The wider the knowledge of the speaker, the more creative he or she can become in the use of the language. Hence, speakers manipulate the language according to their lived experiences.

Language Etymology: One of the unique features of the gay language is that it uses existing languages known and is of use to speakers. Since the informants of the study are speakers of Filipino, English, and the dialect, they are using these languages as origin of the peculiar gay language. Gay language registers have these languages as part of their etymology similar with its language structure and meaning. The interpretation of its morphological and syntactic properties can be best understood through the etymology of the gay language. This language variety of the gays is supported by the study of Gascon et al. (2015) which revealed that the formation of words and expressions through the processes, functions, and rhetorical style has made a distinct mark of the modern diversity of the Filipino language. Its uniqueness is established with the emergence of these new expressions. These expressions are influenced by the society of the Filipinos as they live in nowadays. Also, Casabal (2008) concluded that gay language has achieved a higher degree of acceptance in the recent years in the country. Professionals, non-professionals, and even non-gays can be heard uttering gay expressions. The main role of gayspeak for gay people in the country is to function as an armor to shield themselves from the chasm and the social stigma caused by gender differences. The study also looked at how code mixing or gayspeak and the English language is made possible. It also revealed that code-mixing creatively violates the grammatical structure of the use of the English language in the country.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, the following conclusions were derived. While code mixing was made possible between and among Filipino, English, and the dialect, the study revealed that multiple-code-switching creatively violates the grammatical structure of the use of the English language and Filipino as well. The gay language is an adaptation of the English, Filipino, and the dialect as mainstream languages. Gay language is used to protect the speakers from chasms of heterosexuals. It is the reason why gays construct their language through the identified morphological processes. In the gay language variety of the Tandaganons, the dialect is considered the etymology of the basic syntactic patterns. There are only five (5) lexical categories in the gay language variety out of the eight (8) parts of speech. These are nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Ligatures of the dialect are adopted in the gay language. The social experiences of the gay language speakers define the creativity and depth of their construction. The wider their social experience, the more unique and complex their utterances may become.

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