

AN ANALYSIS OF INTERJECTION USED IN “BLACKSUN”

Frederika Rut Mabilehi ^{a,1*}
Novriani R, Manafe, SS., M.Ed ^{b,2}
Zantty O. Padahana, S.Pd., M.Pd ^{c,3}

^{a,b,c} English Education Study Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Nusa Cendana, Kupang, Indonesia

¹ ferederikamabilehi@gmail.com

² novriani.manafe@staf.undana.ac.id

³ zantty@staff.undana.ac.id

KEYWORDS	ABSTRACT
Blacksun Interjection Pragmatics Webtoon	This study presents about an analysis of interjection used in “Blacksun” webtoon. The problems of this study are: (1) What are the interjection forms in “BlackSun” Webtoon? and (2) What are the meanings of the interjection in “BlackSun” Webtoon? The study aims at finding out the form of interjection that appears in “BlackSun” Webtoon and analyzing the meaning of interjection in “BlackSun” Webtoon. This study uses the qualitative descriptive method to analyze the data, where reading and note-taking as the techniques being used to collect the data. Data analysis techniques were grouping the interjection words and analyzing the meaning of each interjection word that had been recorded before by using Jovanovic's theory. The result of this study showed that there are 147 examples of forms of interjection consisting of 85 example instances of interjection forms of one or two syllable segments and 62 example of interjection forms as parts of speech. This study also found that there are 76 example of interjections that contains meaning which are 13 meanings of anger, 2 meanings of annoyance, 2 meanings of approval, 7 meanings of contempt, 1 meanings of disgust, 7 meaning of fear, 7 meaning of joy, 14 meaning of pain, 1 meaning of pity, 2 meaning of relief, 19 meaning of surprise and 1 meaning of wonder. words.
How to cite: Mabilehi, F., Manafe, N., Padahana, Z (2025). An Analysis of Interjection Used in Blacksun Webtoon Curriculum. <i>SPARKLE Journal of Language, Education and Culture</i> , 7 (1) 22-29.	

INTRODUCTION

Language and communication are closely related. This exists as a result of the fact that language is a tool we use for interpersonal communication. According to Lee (2017), languages frequently include a group of words that describe these sounds, enabling interlocutors to not only imitate sounds produced by their surroundings but also to convey their understandings and feelings toward certain situations. Language function can be divided into the spoken and written language (Yuniarty, 2018). Written languages are represented in newspapers, novels, magazines, short stories, plays, and comics, whereas spoken languages can be expressed through dialogue, conversation, and speech. This study focused on comics which is a written language.

Blacksun webtoon is a form of written language. The language used in it is language that builds stories, characters. One class of task words that serves to build or emphasize the story is interjections. Interjections are words to express emotions, mental states, or attitudes of a person or character. The use of interjections in a piece of written language is to enrich the character's expression, clarify the atmosphere, and build emotional closeness with the reader. The use of interjections is an important part of language style in written works, which supports the successful delivery of stories and messages to readers, without interjections readers may find it difficult to interpret the expressions in the story.

This study aims to investigate the form and meaning of interjections used in Blacksun webtoon. Study on interjections is still relatively few. In addition, not many studies have been conducted. This research was conducted on the grounds that interjections have specific characteristics where the form and meaning show how a person feels or what action he is doing. The meaning stored in each form of interjection has its own characteristics because to understand it is also important to see the context. Contextual meaning contains a set of things that need to be considered starting from the place, who we are talking to, intonation, expression, body language, even social and cultural norms as well.

Interjection

Interjection is a type of word or phrase that is used to express the speaker's feelings, usually using vocabulary that can represent the intent and message to be conveyed. The speaker's expression of feelings can be happy, sad, surprised, angry and so on (Jovanovic, 2004).

According to Ameka (2006), "Interjections tend to be phonologically and morphologically anomalous". This means that interjections do not follow the typical rules of sound structure (phonology) or word formation (morphology) which are usually found in other language components (regular words, phrases or sentences used in everyday communication) where these components usually follow these two rules. But conversely, interjections can deviate from these rules and display unique sounds that do not occur in ordinary words or grammatical constructions of a language. For example, like *Psst! Shh!*, based on the system of the primary sound of English, they are "not words". However, phonological anomaly is not a definite criterion for item class because there are other interjections that match the pattern of the main sound system.

Jovanovic's Classification of Interjections

Likewise, there should be a clear basis whether interjections can serve a meaningful communication role. This basis should clearly define the form and meaning of interjections. The analysis on this study is based on Jovanović (2004). He classifies interjections based on their form, position, and meaning, as summarized in the table 1:

Table 1. Interjection

No	Forms	Meaning
1	Interjection forms of one or two syllable segments	Anger, Annoyance, Approval, Contempt, Delight, Disgust, Enthusiasm, Fear, Impatience, Indigation, Irritation, Joy, Pain, Pity, Pleasure, Relief, Sorrow, Surprise, Sympathy, Triumph, Wonder
2	Interjection forms of parts of speech	

Source: Jovanovic 2004

Based on the classification above, the form of interjections can be distinguished into two forms: 1) an interjection with one or two syllable segments with no particular referents like: *aha, oops, ouch, uh-huh*; 2) an interjection which is originated from other parts of speech, usually nouns (such as *Man!* Where have you been?) and adjectives (*Great!* You did a good job!).

As previously mentioned, interjections can have varied meanings depending on the situation. Numerous studies also demonstrate a variety of meanings that listeners can interpret to steer clear of the linguistic jungle. anger, annoyance, approval, contempt, delight, disgust, enthusiasm, fear, impatience, indignation, irritation, joy, pain, pity, pleasure, relief, sorrow, surprise, sympathy, triumph, and wonder are some of the meanings that Jovanović himself assigned to interjections.

Line Webtoon

The terms "website" and "cartoon" are shortened to "webtoon" Webtoon is an online collection of comics that tell stories through picture. Luthfi (2020) revealed that Webtoon is a new two-way media, thus encouraging the formation of public opinion in the form of criticism and advice delivered through strip comic stories. Critics in digital comics not only focus on political issues, but also criticize social issues, such as economic, cultural, and social disparities.

Line Webtoon was founded by Kim Junko in 2004 in South Korea. Comic publishing in South Korea began to decline from 1990 to the early 2000s due to an economic down turn which, according to the government, occurred because of comics. Based on this, Kim Junko created the Line Webtoon for comic readers which can be accessed easily and for free via Android smartphone, computer or laptop. Various collaborations were carried out so that the Line Webtoon could develop in various countries, including Indonesia.

There are different forms between Line Webtoon and conventional comics. This difference can be seen from the characteristics and elements of Line Webtoon (Jang & Song, 2017), namely: Vertical scrolling and presenting sequence, nonlinear storytelling, Sound and interactive motion.

METHOD

This research uses qualitative method to deeply analyze the form and meaning of interjections. The qualitative method is very appropriate because the focus of the research is on understanding the contextual meaning and function of interjections in webtoon dialog and narration, which requires description and interpretation based on the context of the situation, character expression, and storyline. The writer chose Blacksun webtoon as the research object. To gain the data, the writer used reading and note taking techniques. writer read all the episodes in the blacksun webtoon then selected 10 episodes that had a lot of interjections and then marked each data needed. After the data was collected, the researcher analyzed it using Jovannovic's theory.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

The writer identified the forms and meaning faced in Blacksun webtoon. Out of 60 episodes in the webtoon, the writer took 10 episodes, they are episodes 1, 3, 5, 13, 15, 25, 29, 36, 42, and 57; and analyzed them according to existing theory.

Based on the analysis, the writer found that the total number of examples of interjection forms from the 10 episodes of BlackSun webtoon are 147 as described in the table 2.

Table 1. Forms of Interjection

No	Forms	Frequency of occurrence
1.	Interjections of one-to two-syllable segments	85
2.	Interjections of parts of speech	62
Total		147

From Table 2 above, the writer found that the interjection of one or two syllable segments dominated the findings of interjection forms. This finding is consistent with English interjections, which consist of more specific interjection groups or interjections with one or two syllable segments in conversation.

In addition, the writer also found 76 examples of interjections that contain meaning which are described in the table 3

Table 2. Meaning of Interjection

No	Meaning	Frequency of occurrence
1	Anger	13
2	Annoyance	2
3	Approval	2
4	Contempt	7
5	Delight	0
6	Disgust	1
7	Enthusiasm	0
8	Fear	7
9	Impatience	0
10	Indignation	0
11	Irritation	0
12	Joy	7

13	Pain	14
14	Pity	1
15	Pleasure	0
16	Relief	2
17	Sorrow	0
18	Surprise	19
19	Sympathy	0
20	Triumph	0
21	Wonder	1
Total		76

Table 3 shows that exclamatory words in the webtoon have several meanings and are dominated by the meaning of surprise. These meanings are shown through visuals or the context of the situation occurring in the conversation.

DISCUSSION

In this part, the writer analyzed the forms and the meaning of interjection using Jovanovic (2004) theory were used in Blacksun webtoon. Each finding of the forms and the meaning of interjection is described in the following discussion.

a. Forms of Interjection

There are 2 forms of interjection found in Blacksun webtoon as discussed below:

Interjection Forms of One or Two Syllable Segments

It is a form of interjection that might be called as the group of proper interjection and it is not has particular referents in ELR. From 10 episodes of Blacksun webtoon, there are 85 forms of interjection one or two syllable segments, as elaborated in the table 4;

Table 3. Interjection Form of One or Two Syllable Segment

Episode	Example
1	<i>Huh!; Hugh!; Heh!; Yahooo!; Hahaha!; Woohoo!; Hah!; Hup!; Yes!; Hahaha!; Pffft!; Wuuu!; Aiiikkk!; Graaa!; Grrr!; Damn it!; Arrggh!</i>
3	<i>Urgh!; Oh,no!; No, no, no!; Waaa!; Gwaar!; Urrhh!; Please!; Argh!; Hehehe!; No!; Graaaa!; Heaa!</i>
5	<i>Woah!; Eh!; Eekkkk!; Gaaarr!; Wahh!; Woah!; Wahhh!; Wah!</i>
13	<i>Aargh!; Damn it!; Uh!; Yes!; Huh!; Shit!; Gawrr!; Shit! Ok!; Aaaaa Aaaaa!; Gaahh!; What!; Gaaahhh! Garr!</i>
15	<i>Yaaa!; Pervert!; Pfft!; Hell no!; Oh, okay!; Oof!</i>
25	<i>Grrrr!; Urghhh!; Phew!; Hahah!; Horibly!; Urgh!</i>
29	<i>Oops!; Yeah!; Argh!; Hmph!; Shit!; Wah!; Woah!; Finally!; Yes!; Yeah!</i>
36	<i>Dammit!; Hmph!; What the...!; Argh!; Dang it!; Wa!; what!</i>
42	<i>Waah!; Urgh!; Kwaaa!</i>
57	<i>Oh!; Chech!</i>

Those forms belong to this group of interjection form of one or two syllable segment because they are original interjections that have an indisputable function in linguistic communication but lack of specific reference in ELR.

Interjection Forms of Parts of Speech

This is a form of interjection that can be said to originate from other parts of speech and most of the forms are nouns and adjectives. From 10 episodes of Blacksun webtoon, there are 56 forms of interjection of part of speech, as elaborated in the table 5:

Table 4. Interjections of Parts of Speech

Episode	Example
1	<i>Nice!; sir!; I won!; You Cheated!; I Improvised!; You missed!; Shoot him!; I know!</i>
3	<i>Alright!; Child!; My Phone!; Mine!; Somebody!; Help me!; Soul!; Mum!; Yu!</i>
5	<i>Right!; Dream Knot!; It's cracking!</i>
13	<i>Shin!; My bat!; Come on!; Go to hell!; Neon!; Watch out!; B-Big Brother!; Move!</i>
15	<i>My ribs!; Yawn!; I'm done!</i>
25	<i>Hey!; guys!; Not bad!; Bye!; Achoo!; Dude!; Oh, yeah!; Thanks!; I see!; Sorry!</i>
29	<i>Let's go!; Wait up!; Coming Through!; Easy!; Lino!; Hang On!; Absolutely not!</i>
36	<i>Him again!; Bingo!; Finally!; Stop!; Atom Hand!; Shin!</i>
42	<i>Welcome back!; Stop!; Tickling me!</i>
57	<i>Allright!; Crazy bitch!; Yaku!; Master!; Getback!; Senpail,</i>

These forms belong to the interjection of part of speech because they are come from word-like (nouns or adjectives) and phrase-like forms.

b. Meaning of interjection

The meaning of interjections found in Blacksun webtoon are discussed below:

Anger

Anger is a feeling of strong negative emotion, usually characterized by feelings of annoyance, irritation, or rage towards someone or something. Anger can be caused by several factors disappointment or dissatisfaction, feeling unappreciated or disrespected, injustice or inequality, threat or danger. Examples of anger interjections are, *damn it!; shut up!;* and others. The example of forms of anger interjections found in Blacksun webtoon is, **Heaal!**

The meaning of this interjection form is anger, as seen from the visual (image) depicting the main character's mother with an emotional facial expression and accompanied by a punching motion towards the demon. This happened because the mother found her child (Yu-main character) who was about to become a target of the demons (Ghost), which made the mother got angry and tried to save him. Based on the explanation of the situation behind the use of the interjection, which is the emotional reaction of a mother who is angry because she finds her child (Yu) in danger, so based on the context it can be concluded that the form of interjection has the meaning of anger.

Annoyance

Annoyance is a feeling of bother, irritation, or annoyance that arises from something that is perceived as disturbing, annoying, or unpleasant. Annoyance is different from anger; whereas anger is usually more intense and difficult to control, annoyance tends to be milder and can still be controlled. Annoyance can be caused by various things, such as other people's behavior, noises, unpleasant situations, or minor annoyances in daily life. Examples of Annoyance interjections are *Argh!; Ugh!; Tch!;* and others. The one example of annoyance interjections found in Blacksun webtoon is **Argh!**

This type of interjection form expresses annoyance, because based on the visuals, it appears that the character is holding their head with a frustrated facial expression, indicating they are annoyed about a situation. This happened because Yu, who was taking the test to become a shinobi (an elite group of individuals from the Red Star Empire assigned to exterminate demons and protect humanity), failed the test because he did something that was not allowed. This caused him, who had completed the test, to fail because of that, and of course, it made him feel annoyed.

Approval

Approval is a feeling of accepting, approving, or giving positive recognition to something or someone. This feeling arises when someone feels that their ideas, actions, or existence are appreciated, accepted, and considered appropriate or good by others or by themselves. Some examples of interjections commonly used to express approval are *Yes!*; *Bravo!*; *Yay!*; *Alright!* and others. The one example of approval interjections in Blacksun webtoon is ***ok!***

This interjection form conveys approval, because based on the visual (image) it depicts that Shin is trying to use his neon (like a phone) that fell quite far from him to play music that can help him, and the neon agrees. This happens because Shin and Yu are being attacked by a very evil female demon. At that moment, Yu, who was being attacked, wanted to be helped by Shin by playing a song titled "Go to Hell." However, due to the distance between Shin and his neon, he had to command by shouting, and it was only on his second shout that the neon accepted his command, played the music, causing the demon pain, and then released Yu.

Contempt

Contempt is an attitude or feeling of looking down on, insulting, or belittling someone or something that is considered inferior, worthless, or unworthy of respect. Emotionally, contempt reflects a strong negative feeling of dislike accompanied by a sense of superiority towards the object, giving rise to disrespect and disdain. Contempt is different from anger or annoyance because it emphasizes more on condescension and disrespect. Examples of Contempt Interjections are as follows *Bah!*; *Cih!*; *Cis!*; *Ih!*. One of the contempt interjections found in Blacksun webtoon is ***Chech!***

This form of interjection signifies feelings of contempt, because based on the character's face conveys humiliation with its sharp or piercing eyes, depressed or fused eyebrows, and damaged teeth. This occurred as a result of the shinobi repeatedly defeating a character with a terrible aura and multiple demons, leaving him to fight for himself. This bad vibe then caused the shinobi leader to instruct the other shinobi to arrive while they still had a chance. So, the character (the negative aura) used the word *Chech!* to insult them.

Disgust

Disgust is an emotional reaction to something that is considered unpleasant, disgusting, or harmful to health and hygiene. This emotion serves as a protective mechanism that makes a person avoid things that can harm them, such as rotten food, bad smells, dirt, or behavior that is considered immoral. Characteristic feelings of disgust include: The body tends to turn away from objects that cause disgust, Physical reactions such as nausea or wanting to vomit, or typical facial expressions, such as scrunching the nose, curling the upper lip, and lifting the eyelids. Examples of disgust interjections are *Bah!*; *Cih!*; *Cis!*; *Pfft!* and others. The disgust interjection found in Blacksun webtoon is ***Pfft!***. The meaning of this interjection form is disgust, because based on the context of the conversation between Yu and the grandfather who was interrogating him, it was implied that he must often sneak out to go on dates. Yu quickly denied that he felt disgusted by the accusation because he was not someone who was interested in relationships.

Fear

Fear is an emotional response to real or perceived threat or danger. Fear is a basic defense mechanism that arises in response to a specific stimulus, such as pain, physical danger, or a safety-threatening situation. This emotion triggers body and mind reactions to flee, avoid, or confront the threat in order to maintain personal safety. Examples of fear interjections are *Whoa!*, *Oh no!*, *Waaa!*, and others. Examples of fear interjections found in Blacksun webtoon is ***Waaa!***

The emotion conveyed by this interjection is fear due to the visual appearance of the webtoon, it shows that Yu has a panicked face, with mouth and eyes wide open as a sign of

someone who is scared. This happened when Yu saw many demons chasing him, causing him to panic and feel scared.

Joy

Joy is a positive emotion that arises when a person feels happiness, excitement, or deep satisfaction. Joy is often characterized by feelings of pleasure, enthusiasm, and gratitude that make one feel light and energized. These feelings usually arise when experiencing pleasant things, achievements, or when being with loved ones. examples of Joy interjections are *Yay!*; *Horay!*; *Yahooo!*; and so on. One example of Joy interjections found in Blacksun webtoon is **Wohoho!**

This interjection expresses joy, according to the picture in the webtoon, it shows that Yu is performing a very enjoyable jump with his hands stretched upwards. This happened because he was racing with his mother to get home. he jumped with joy because he felt he had far outpaced his mother and thought he had won.

Pain

Pain is an uncomfortable emotion or sensation that usually arises from a physical injury, wound, or condition that causes discomfort and suffering. Pain can also refer to emotional pain, such as deep sadness or disappointment. examples of pain interjections that are often heard are *Aw!*; *Ah!*; *Ugh!*; *Graaaa!*; *Urgh!*, and others. Here one example of pain interjection forms found in Blacksun webtoon is **Graaaa!**

This form of interjection is categorized as pain, because based on the visual in the webtoon it shows that Yu has a screaming facial expression, an open mouth, making sounds, and shedding tears that indicate he is in pain. This happened when Yu was attacked/scratched on the back of his body by the female demon, causing the back of his body to be wounded and bleed, making Yu feel pain.

Pity

Pity is a feeling of sympathy or pity for someone who is experiencing distress, suffering, or unpleasant circumstances. Pity usually involves feelings of sadness or concern for the other person's condition. examples of Pity interjections are *Alas!*; *oh no!*; *oh dear!*; *Hmph!* and so on depending on the context of its use. in the Blacksun webtoon story there is one form of interjection that has the meaning of pity, namely **Hmph!**. The meaning of this interjection is pity, Shin is shown to have fainted, and Atom Hand (one of the shinobi) appears, looking at him with a pitiful expression and feeling sorry for him. According to the webtoon this happened when Yu and Shin received a challenge from Atom Hand to free someone inside a labyrinth, but halfway through the journey, Shin was affected by his own poisonous gas and fainted. Whether he likes it or not, Yu has to leave him and complete this challenge. Shin, who was left behind, was approached by Atom Hand, who saw him and felt pity for him.

Relief

Relief is a feeling of relief, alleviation, or release from anxiety, worry, or distress that previously plagued one's thoughts or feelings. Relief occurs when a person feels happy or calm after going through a stressful, difficult, or dangerous situation. one example of a relief interjection is *Phew!* and there are many others. There are two forms of interjections that have relief meanings found in Blacksun webtoon is **Phew!**

The meaning of this interjection form is relief, the picture shows that Yu and Shin were told to stop their meditation because it had been going on for 2 hours, and that made Yu feel relieved. Yu and Shin, who want to become shinobi, are required to undergo several tests from the previous shinobi. One of them is meditation under the waterfall given by The Earth Hand. Yu, who had been meditating for 2 hours and was told to stop, certainly felt a sense of relief.

Surprise

Surprise is a feeling of shock that arises when someone encounters something unexpected or out of the ordinary. Surprise can be a sudden event, news, or situation that makes one feel shocked, astonished, or even amazed. This feeling can be positive (pleasant) or negative (disturbing or unpleasantly surprising). examples of surprise interjection forms are *Wow!*; *Waah!*; *What!*; *Huh!*; and others. One examples of interjection forms found in Blacksun webtoon is ***Waaah!***

This interjection form expresses the emotion of surprise, because based on visual it shows that Yu and Shin are shocked with wide, bulging eyes and mouths agape. The female demon who attacked Yu and Shin reappeared after Yu and Shin had successfully escaped from that floor. but the female demon managed to find them and surprised them with it.

Wonder

Wonder is a feeling of awe, wonder, or amazement that arises when one experiences or witnesses something amazing, extraordinary, or full of wonder. Wonder often involves a deep sense of curiosity and admiration for something that is not yet fully understood or that is particularly beautiful and unique. some examples of interjections that can be used to express the feeling of wonder include: *Wow!*; *Oh!*; *Amazing!* *Incredible!*; *Woah!* and others. In Blacksun webtoon there is one form of interjection that has the meaning of wonder which is ***Woah!***. This interjection form is categories as wonder, the visuals in the webtoon shows that Yu is seen with a questioning expression; mouth open, eyes wide, watching his mother's actions. This happened when Yu's mother showed her way of fighting against the demons, which certainly made Yu wonder, amazed, and question how his mother could do all that because previously he had no idea about it.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis results obtained in the previous chapter, it can be concluded that there are 147 instances of interjection forms in the Blacksun webtoon story, consisting of 85 instances of interjection forms of one or two syllable segments and 62 interjection forms as parts of speech. In addition, there are 12 meanings of interjection according to Jovannovic's theory (2004), such as Anger, Annoyance, Approval, Contempt, Disgust, Joy, Pain, Pity, Relief, Surprise and wonder. Besides, there are nine types not contained, they are delight, enthusiasm, impatience, indignation, irritation, pleasure, sorrow, sympathy, and triumph.

From the analysis of the form and meaning of interjection in Blacksun Webtoon, several forms of interjections are similar but have different meaning, this is because the interjection forms are used in different contexts.

This study might consider some suggestions, where the results of this study are expected to provide information about the form of interjections in the Blacksun webtoon and also provide an understanding of the nuances of language and meaning in communication according to social and cultural contexts. Moreover, the results are also expected to enrich oral expression so as to be better able in express emotions, spontaneous reactions, or respond to situation in English conversation more vividly and contextually. This is important to build confidence fluency in speaking so as to improve expressive and responsive speaking skill.

REFERENCES

- Ameka, F. K. (2006). Interjection. *Encyclopedia of Language & Linguistics*, 743-746.
- Jang, W. &. (2017). Webtoon as a new Korean Wave in the Process of glocalization. *Kritika Kultura*, 17-28.
- Jovannovic, V. Z. (2004). "The Form, Position, and Meaning of Interjection in English". *Linguistic & Literature*, 17-28.
- Lee, A. P. (2017). Ideophones, Interjections, and Sound Symbolism in Seediq. *Oceanic Linguistic*, 181-209. doi:10.1353/201.0007
- Luthfi, A. (2020). Analisis Semiotika Kritik Sosial dalam Bakutan Humor Pada Komik Faktap. 19-40.
- Yuniarty, N. (2018). Interjection in Student Conversation. *Jurnal ADHUM*, 63-72.