

The Language Uniqueness of Learning Patterns through Family Communication to Support Children as Esport Athletes

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Abstract

In Indonesia, there is a considerable number of teenagers who are interested in esports. Some of them enjoy them as entertainment; meanwhile, others seriously participate in the esports to gain achievement and earn income. Family communication and the role of parents are critical in providing support to their children to optimize the esport. This study aims to identify the family's role in learning patterns through various languages conveyed by parents to their children to excel in the esport field. Based on the theory of the role of family communication developed by Beth A. Le Poire and a YouTube channel content of Bigetron functioned as the unit of analysis, the data were analyzed by using a semiotic method of Thomas A. Sebeok classified into six categories of the sign. The results revealed that the parents' support with the language uniqueness of learning patterns to their children in pursuing a career in esports is essential to stimulate the children's mindset and achievements.

Keywords: esport, language uniqueness, learning patterns, role of family communication, sebeok's semiotic

INTRODUCTION

The rise of technology cannot be avoided, and it directly influences our life. The way we live has also been strongly affected by the development of science, particularly technology (Suandi, 2018). An innovation, as an impact of the development of the knowledge, is created to provide positive benefits for human life. It also offers many conveniences, becoming an effective way of carrying out social activities (Ngafifi, 2014).

One of the developments of technological innovations occurs in the field of sports (Permatasari, 2014). This innovation is called esports (electronic sports). This new phenomenon has recently been widespread in which people do exercise by using electronic media (Kurniawan, 2019). The popularity and development of esports get responded from the Indonesian people by recognizing a national esport organization in 2014 and inaugurating the Indonesia eSport Association (leSPA) that is under

the auspices of the Indonesian Community Recreational Sports Federation (Marta, Prasetya, Laurensia, & Syarnubi, 2020).

In Indonesia, many young people and adolescents are interested in esports, although others see them positively, while others respond to them as negative opium (Ahdiyati, 2018). Figure 1 shows the video of Parent's Reactions: Bigetron Red Aliens World Champions uploaded on YouTube on December 12, 2019. This video verbally described the response of the family, especially the parents. They respond to their children's activities relating to esports and their achievement as esports athletes.



Figure 1 Video *Parent's Reactions: Bigetron Red Aliens World Champions*
(sources: Bigetron Tv, 2019)

This study investigated the family's role, particularly the parents, in conveying learning patterns through the language they use to their children focusing on esports activities. Family support was studied by using the role of family communication theory. Family learning patterns to the children form family communication patterns as interactions occurring in the family where the parents produce values, and those values have been internalized to their children (Marta et. al, 2020).

Studies on an online game community in Indonesia had been conducted by Ahdiyati and Irwansyah (2018). The results showed that this community has an essential role in forming an online and offline community. This role is created from the activities of online games among

its members. This study also emphasized that the online community's existence as a group of audiences and stakeholders has a significant influence on the development of the online game industry. However, this study left the gap. This present study filled a gap by focusing on the family.

Rahmiaji (2019) studied on family communication and children's usage of smartphones. This study focused on family communication forms, mainly how communication is built when they have a smartphone. This study indicated that when parents do not exercise an adequate control over their children, the smartphone's use brings negative impacts. Conversely, if parents play their role in fostering their children towards using a smartphone, it gives advantages. Therefore, a persuasive approach through meaningful communication actions is critical to communicate with the children.

Language becomes important used for human communication. Meanings of words of the language can be investigated through semiotic analysis. Knowlton (2012) conducted a semiotic analysis of Thomas A. Sebeok. This study focused on flags from several countries in the world. This study explained that six signs of Sebeok could map several different classifications of similarity of visual symbols. Since the six signs of Sobeok have been implemented in some research, the researchers also want to apply the same thing to explore parents' learning patterns having children becoming esport athletes. Therefore, the researchers see a research gap that a study on esports through a family approach by using Sebeok's semiotic analysis has not been explored yet. This research aims to determine the parents' learning patterns conveyed through the language uniqueness to their children, which can stimulate their children's activities in the field of esport.

METHOD

This research employed an interpretive paradigm, the basis of a qualitative approach to determine family communication patterns shaping the support to the children to do activities in electronic sports. In a qualitative approach, the focus of research naturally involves the interpretation process of the research subject (Marta & Robin, 2019)

Table 1. Six Signs of Thomas A. Sebeok

Six Signs of Sebeok	Definition	Representation
Signal	It can naturally or artificially be seen	The worlds of family support as a signal to start or become an athlete
Symptom	The recognizable sign is associated with other factors. It has no natural connection	Symptoms of family support are seen as natural symptoms since it produces, can help parents, is natural, and is not associated with signed factors
Icon	Seen as a sign when there are similarities of signifier	Parents' support is as an icon having similarities with the children. The support in the icon is PUBG Mobile
Index	Signifier is close to signified	Support that is adjacent or sample. For example, parents' support in various PUBG Mobile games. Tournament level.
Symbol	Signs that do not have similarities but they have conventional relationship	Parents' support that do not have similarities with supported children. Supporting children is similar as supporting the team. Projection from the children that is supported by the parents
Name	Signs that have classes	Becoming a championship

(sources: adopted by researchers)

This study is based on the family communication theory of Le Poire's Family Roles Communication and YouTube content entitled Parent's Reactions: Bigetron Red Aliens World Champions becoming a unit of analysis. This seven-minute and the eleven-second video was chosen because it presented the parents' language uniqueness supporting their children as esports athletes who won the world championship in PUBG Mobile tournaments. The audio-visual content was extracted into the parents' language (script) as the main characters. It was then analyzed using Sebeok's semiotic method with six signs, as shown in table 1.

Semiotics is an analysis of the production process, the form of the use, and the sign sources' interpretation, whether they are in the form of artifacts or actions (Januarti & Wempi, 2019). This analysis was chosen because each element of the language as the unit of analysis in this study is closely related to the technique of interpretation and complementing the previous research that had not used Sebeok's semiotic analysis. Also, through semiotics, it is believed that this study was able to identify the various texts implicitly collaborating and interacting with cultural knowledge to produce meaning (Mudjiyanto & Nur, 2013)

RESULTS

Thomas A. Sebeok explained the various kinds of sign characteristics. According to Sebeok, there are six essential characteristics of signs used to analyze PUBG Mobile esports athletes' video in the Bigetron esports team. The researchers explain the video results into six tables according to the six primary characteristics of the sign.

The tables described are based on the Bigetron TV Youtube channel containing the parents of PUBG Mobile esports athletes' language. There are three pairs of parents in the video from four esports athletes. They are Nizar Lugatio Pratama or Nizaror (as Microboy in the PUBG Mobile), Muhammad Albi (Albi) is known as Ryzen, and Made Bagus Pramudita and Made Bagus Prabaswara, who are phenomenal twin brothers. Among their fans, they are known as Zuxxy and Luxxy.

The findings revealed that three pairs of parents were summoned by the Bigetron esports team to ask their opinions regarding their respective children who have participated in the prestigious international tournament in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where they represent Indonesia. The meeting was held without their children's knowledge; however, the parents already knew that their children had won the match and became the PUBG Mobile world title.

Tabel 2. Parent's Reaction as a Signal

Duration	Speakers	Spoken
01:38 02:07	- Microboy's / Nizar's Father	Wish that Nizar to always do self-correction, and don't be arrogant, keep improving for the next challenge and don't forget to always pray, since winning or not is still up to God. So, you can still be our hope and champion.
02:17 02:36	- Microboy's / Nizar's Mother	My hope for Nizar or Microboy, I wish that you will always stay humble, always remember god, don't be arrogant.
04:33 04:39	- Ryzen's / Albi's Father	I also hope for Albi personally beside how proud I'm to him
05:05 05:08	- Ryzen's / Albi's Mother	Well for me, of course I'm proud, happy, and touched and be grateful
05:42 05:50	- Zuxx's & Luxx's / Bagas's & Bagus's Father	I hope for them to stay humble, same as before, to everyone respect them
06:07 06:21	- Zuxx's & Luxx's / Bagas's & Bagus's Mother	I hope you guys aren't arrogant, stay modest, keep being the good kid there are friendly.

(sources: adopted by researchers)

Each pair of parents, both father, and mother of esport athletes, have the opportunity to express their views towards their children. In the video, the first opportunity is presented by a couple of Nizar's parents, starting from Nizar's father's opinion and followed by prayer and support from Nizar's mother. The next video highlighted Albi's parents' views, starting from Albi's father, then followed by Albi's mother. In the last scene, the father of Bagas and Bagus's opinions and continued by the mother of the twins and closed by the father.

The parental languages as signs are expressed on Bigetron TV YouTube channel. In table 2, every parent gives support to their children in the form of signs. They always pray for their children and remind them always to be humble and not arrogant.

Tabel 3. Parent's Reaction as a Symptom

Duration	Speakers	Spoken
03:40 04:55	– Ryzen's / Albi's Father	So, they can make a mere gaming hobby to a real time job ... It's could become a handful job which pays greatly , can support the family financially
05:10 05:13	– Ryzen's / Albi's Mother	Albi can make the nation name, Indonesia glorified.

(sources: adopted by researchers)

Table 3 described the parents' language to support their children as a symptom that was only expressed by Albi's parents. Other parents did not appear to convey the words of learning patterns indicated as a symptom. The words spoken by Albi's parents explained that their son's hobby as a fan of the PUBG Mobile game could be turned into a job and is expected to generate substantial income.

Tabel 4. Parent's Reaction as an Icon

Duration	Speakers	Spoken
06:38 06:48	– Zuxx's & Luxx's / Bagas's & Bagus's Father	So while there are opportunities now, they are in PUBG Mobile use that opportunity as wise as possible.

(sources: adopted by researchers)

Among three pairs of parents conveying their learning patterns to their children, only the father of Bagas and Bagus who supported his sons to continue playing their favorite game—PUBG Mobile. The father's learning pattern for his son to become esport athletes is conveyed by stating that this opportunity is visible now so that the twins can take full advantage of this existing opportunity.

Tabel 5. Parent's Reaction as an Index

Duration	Speakers	Spoken
03:01 03:05	- Ryzen's / Albi's Father	he just got home from final that represent the country's name
05:29 05:41	- Zuxx's & Luxx's / Bagas's & Bagus's Father	for the last two years they had dreaming of becoming a world champion and it has already been fulfilled in Malaysia yesterday keep practising because in the future, there are obstacle that are harder.

(sources: adopted by researchers)

The languages of the parents of PUBG Mobile athletes found as index were fathers of Albi and Bagas and Bagus. Albi's father conveyed the learning patterns to his son, who had just finished the prestigious PUBG Mobile game by raising Indonesia's name. Bagas and Bagus's father said that the twins had yearned to win a match on an international scale.

At this time, the international scale tournament has finished in Malaysia. The father of Bagas and Bagus hoped that the twins would be better and practice more often in the future. This is essential to be ready if they are going to face the next challenging match because the match will indeed become tougher than what has been done. Nizar's parents' language supporting their son is not shown in the video to be indicated as an index. Therefore, it is interesting to note that only the fathers who expressed this learning pattern.

Tabel 6. Parent's Reaction as a Symbol

Duration	Speakers	Spoken
03:20 03:39	- Ryzen's / Albi's Father	Firstly, I want to say thank you so much to the big family of Bigetron most importantly to Mr. Edwin Chia and his crew thank you to Ryzen and his colleagues that always accompanied by Mr. Isfan which can be so patient to guide these kids

(sources: adopted by researchers)

Only the father of Albi conveyed the learning pattern to his son as a symbol. Albi's father gave his highest appreciation to Mr. Edwin Chia as CEO of Bigetron and the owner of an esport team that has successfully achieved many competitions at the national and international levels.

Besides, the father of Albi thanked his son's colleagues: Bagas, Bagus, and Nizar. Finally, the parents of Ryzen expressed their gratitude for the teaching method of Mr. Isfan as the coach and all members of the Esport Team joining members of Bigetron.

Tabel 7. Parent's Reaction as a Name

Min	Speakers	Spoken
03:45 – 04:08	Ryzen's / Albi's Father	that can carry the nation name, Indonesia to be the world champion. World champion dude! It's not liked your next neighbourhood competition that even I can't win in those competition. In fact, I never was. This is world champion, it's wonderfully amazing dude.
06:01 – 06:03	Zuxx's & Luxx's / Bagas's & Bagus's Mother	After becoming the world champion

(sources: adopted by researchers)

The video described the parent's learning pattern called a name coming from Albi's father and the mother of Bagas and Bagus. Parents conveyed parents' words of learning patterns expressed in the World

Champion for their children who had received the title. The pronunciation of the World Champion is emphasized with an intonation that shows a sense of pride, that not everyone can get the title. By telling the comparison between local scale championships, at the community institutions, and international scale championships. It can be seen that the parents of esports athletes are delighted with their children's achievements.

DISCUSSION

In the discussion, the researchers explain the research results obtained from the YouTube video containing the language uniqueness of the parents of PUBG Mobile esports athletes who support their children in the world of esports. By looking at the concept of Saussure's sign (as cited in Mudjiyanto & Nur, 2013) it consists of a signified and signifier. The researchers then used the development of this concept proposed by Thomas A. Sebeok, describing six types of signs: signal, symptom, icon, index, symbol, and name (Gorban, 2016).

The findings were to see three pairs of parents of four PUBG Mobile esports athletes' language uniqueness by analyzing the parents' words of learning patterns using Sebeok's six types of sign. The learning patterns uploaded on Bigetron's YouTube channel are further classified into six types of learning pattern signs to see which types of signs that parents are more supportive and Beth A. Le Poire's theory of the role of family communication. The family is the smallest social group consisting of father, mother, and child who have their respective role. This role is carried out through the socialization function affecting the parents' formation process towards their children's attitudes, behavior, and success (Marta & Fernando, 2020).

The findings revealed that three pairs of parents conveyed the language uniqueness of learning patterns for their children. The characteristics of every smallest social group vary depending on their

respective backgrounds. This can be seen from the findings that have been categorized into six tables of the language uniqueness of learning patterns. The researchers identify each table that had been written in the results section of table 2 to 7:

1. Parent's Reaction as a Signal (Table 2)



Figure 2: *Microboy's Parents* (source: Bigetron Tv, 2019)

Thomas A. Sebeok in "Sign: An Introduction to Semiotics" stated that signals are signs seen in general and appear naturally. They trigger reactions from the recipients (as cited in Knowlton, 2012). The results obtained are emotional words from the parents' esports athletes who support their children to join the world of esports—signs from the parents as supportive signals expressed in prayer and hope.

Sarafino, in 1998 (as cited in Nurdiani & Mulyono, 2014) , explained that social support that individuals get could be in the form of emotional support. This emotional support will not make the children feel lonely. They become motivated to pursue what they have dreamed of. The signals coming from the parents who support their children are the language uniqueness of emotional learning patterns in the form of prayers and hopes for their children.

When the mother of Microboy or Nizar gave her son emotional messages by saying, "stay humble, remember God, and don't be arrogant," she emphasized that his son does not feel alone. The child who

has been emotionally supported by parents will gain self-confidence (Putra & Bafirman, 2020).

2. Parent's Reaction as a Symptom (Table 3)



Figure 3: *Ryzen's Parents* (source: (Bigetron Tv, 2019))

The symptom is a compulsive, automatic, and unreasonable sign, as it is. The symptom signs are combined with those signed naturally (Knowlton, 2012). The sign of parental learning patterns classified into symptom is the parents' support for their children. The language uniqueness of parents' learning patterns is naturally seen when the parents of Albi or Ryzen revealed the language uniqueness of their learning patterns to their son.

The language uniqueness of learning patterns of symptom signs from Ryzen's parents appears automatically without any coercion. When Albi's father argued that "being able to turn his hobby to play the game into a job and earn a large income," it is a sign of the language uniqueness of learning patterns because it is considered profitable.

Simanjuntak & Zamora (2016) stated that the provision of higher salaries would be made if there are an increase and development of the company. It is inversely proportional to what esport athletes do, where they do not need to see the company's development and improvement, but by winning prestigious competitions, they will get a higher income. This

is in line with the language uniqueness of Albi's parents' learning patterns emerging by seeing symptoms in their son who earned income by turning their hobby of playing games into work.

3. Parent's Reaction as an Icon (Table 4)



Figure 4: *Zuxxy's and Luxxy's Parents* (source: (Bigetron Tv, 2019)

An icon can be called iconic in the sign category if there is a similarity or topological similarity of the sign (Knowlton, 2012). The support from parents having iconic characteristic signs can be seen from Bagas and Bagus's parents explaining that "if there is an opportunity in PUBG Mobile, it is better if this opportunity can be optimally used." The meaning of this expression assumes that there are similarities between their children and the type of game they played—PUBG Mobile.

Research on the Mickey Mouse mascot as an icon of Walt Disney has successfully brought the company to the positioning of companies dominating the entertainment industry (Putri, 2019). Seeing the Mickey Mouse mascot reminds us of the Walt Disney entertainment industry. This sign has been a company icon. It is the same with the views of the father of Zuxxy and Luxxy, seeing his children have the opportunity to have a career in the world of electronic sports—PUBG Mobile.

4. Parent's Reaction as an Index (Table 5)



Figure 5: *Bigetron Red Alpha win the Tournament* (source: (Bigetron Tv, 2019))

According to Sebeok, an index is a sign that is adjacent to that signed. It can be counted as an example of a sign (Knowlton, 2012). In this category, the researchers found the type of tournament competed as Index. Tournament variation or type of competition is an index adjacent to the Bigetron esports athletes (signed or sign) based on the parents' point of view.

Table 5 revealed that the parents of Albi and Bagas and Bagus expressed the words to support their children participating in the tournaments on an international scale. The language uniqueness of the learning pattern is illustrated from the expression of the fathers of Albi and Bagas and Bagus. They understand the busyness of their children who have participated in the tournament in Malaysia.

Lasa (2009) as cited in Fridayani & Purba (2012) argued that index means pointing from the Latin "indicare," as a list of words or terms arranged in order. Arrangement in order is intended to make it easier to understand and easier to find. Analysis of Variant (ANOVA) compiles the tournament scale in order of highest to lowest (Oberstone, 2009), seen from The English Premier League (EPL) dividing several sub-division scales according to the rank where the top 4 ranks from The EPL will get a

special ticket to take part in the most prestigious soccer competition in the world—UEFA CHAMPION LEAGUE (UCL).

The index has functioned as a ranking arrangement. This is the same as the PUBG Mobile tournament's scale variation, which Bigetron esports participated in. Reflecting on the variation of The EPL tournament, where the top rank is entitled to participate in UCL, Bigetron esports has achieved the top rank in Indonesia in terms of PUBG Mobile, so that it is allowed to participate in the next tournament at an international scale where the tournament host in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Thus, the tournament type is a variation—an index.

The symbol is a sign without any similarity or continuation but has a conventional line with a sign (Knowlton, 2012). In the language uniqueness of the parents' learning pattern, a symbol is the Bigetron esports team and its elements, including the CEO, trainer, and all Bigetron crews who are on duty. A study on mobile games was found that games have an impact on academic achievement

5. Parent's Reaction as a Symbol (Table 6)



Figure 6: Briefing from Coach of Bigetron Team (source : (Bigetron Tv, 2019)

It is vital to monitor children regarding time spent on online games. Some students who cannot wisely manage their time will affect their academic achievement (Richie et.al, 2020). Therefore, Bigetron, as an uniqueness symbol in the characteristics of this sign, plays a role in

children's learning patterns. The parents of Muhammad Albi or in a game called Ryzen thanked Bigetron that could oversee and share time as a learning pattern that impacted their son's success in getting the world champion title.

6. Parent's Reaction as a Name (Table 7)

Knowlton (2012) stated that the name has an extensional class for the sign. Furthermore, what is seen as a name in the language uniqueness of the parents' learning pattern is the title or nickname obtained by the children after winning the World Champion. To get the world champion title, Bigetron must beat all of its opponents participating in the PUBG Mobile tournament. Various gaming companies worldwide create competitions for their players, such as DOTA 2 and League of Legends games (Chung et.al, 2019). The world champion title obtained in this study is the world champion in the PUBG Mobile game category, which the Bigetron esports team won.



Figure 7: *Victory pose after get World Champion Title (source : (Bigetron Tv, 2019)*

A distinctive title is the result of a parent's educational learning pattern so that their children can achieve this nickname. By effectively utilizing existing technology and supervision from the parents, online games such as PUBG can be used to get a world title. This is because it is relatively easy to use and play. Additionally, the children get other exciting

things about PUBG, which are related to self-esteem, leadership, and challenges (Al-mansour, 2019). Bigetron has gone through challenges with good teamwork among esports athletes, so they have won the world title. Parents of esports athletes demonstrated a unique pattern of learning through language uniqueness, the acquisition of the name referred to is not merely an individual ambition but a contribution from various parties as a new 'family' that makes success even more valuable. A useful teaching from parents will be valuable for the future of their children.

7. Family Support for Self-Development

Through the analysis of the six tables, it is interesting to note that all parents support their children undergoing esports. This can be seen from the language uniqueness of the parents as signals capturing more frequently in the video. The messages conveyed by parents to their children reflect educational character. This character should be started from each family, which is the first environment for the children to grow (Yuliawan, 2016).

Esport athletes argue that PUBG forces them to act as a team and lead each other to overcome the various challenges that it may occur. Al-mansour (2019) stated that success depends on the collaborative efforts of the relevant individuals. This view confirms that social relationships and friendly bonds play an essential role in facilitating game communication and reducing cultural differences.

8. Family Support for the Pride

Referring to table 5 and table 7, the parents supporting their children's activities can develop their self-concept. The words of support from parents have functioned as signs for the children to develop self-concept. It can be seen in a quote from Albi's father, arguing that "This is a champion world, it's wonderfully amazing dude." When participating in a world-class Tournament and having won the world title, the activities are children's perceptions of themselves, which are formed by parents. The

children's behavior represents their parents since they imitate their parents to develop their self-esteem (Putra & Bafirman, 2020) to compete in the tournament and get the world title.

9. Fathers' Support

The father's figure is essential, and his children's support can be seen in each table. He supports his sons through signal, symptom, icon, index, symbol, and name. The point of view of male parents is more comprehensive and supports the children in esport activities. It can be seen when they mention messages for the children, team, and tournament they participated in and their title.

10. Mother's Support

The support from the mother is slightly different from the father. The mother is more supportive of the development of the children's self-concept. The mother of the PUBG Mobile athletes gives input to the children to remain friendly and always pray.

CONCLUSION

The parents' learning patterns through their language uniqueness at home become a crucial element in the development of the children. The family is the smallest social group, and each family member carries out their respective roles to develop themselves for the better in the future. The development of children through family communication can stimulate children's mindset and achievements. Giving a proper education to the children encourages a good self-development and high self-confidence. However, lacking supervision brings terrible impacts on the development of thra at e children.

The parents' learning patterns to their children joining esports will get positive results if done correctly. Nizar, Albi, Bagas, and Bagus received full support from their parents since they first started their careers. This form of encouragement is conveyed in the uniqueness of the

language itself from three different family groups, but together they are able to score world titles in the PUBG Mobile International Tournament. Moreover, the family background can influence learning patterns and motivate them. Therefore, the reaction of parental support is needed for the children's self-development and achievement.

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