



## Lexical Deviation in Novels: A Stylistic Study

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**Abstract** This stylistic study pays attention to the use of language in literary works, focusing on the use of language that deviates from everyday language or is typical in literary discourse. This paper aims to describe lexical deviations in three novels: *Lontara Rindu* (LR), *Sabda Luka* (SL), and *Sayat-sayat Sunyi* (SSS). They are local novels written by Mappagewa in Indonesian. Content analysis was used for data collection. Data was analyzed using three flows: reduction, data presentation, and drawing precise conclusions. The study shows three forms of deviation: neologisms, connotative forms, and diction. The use of lexical deviation forms is more often found in LR. The deviation aims to show an aesthetic impression and attention from the reader's point of view. It was found that the author foregrounded the three novels to get tight and concise word forms.

**Keywords:** *Language, Deviation, Neologism, Connotative, Diction*

### 1. Introduction

Deviation and foregrounding come from Russian formalists Jan Mukarovsky, Roman Jakobson, Victor Shklovsky, Jurij Tynjanov, and others (Nurgiyantoro, 2019; Uzun & Tekinerdogan, 2024). The fundamentals of this term cannot be separated from the freedom given to the author, known as the poetic license. Many forms of language deviation can occur to explore language to achieve novelty and beauty in a literary work. Literary language is a particular language that the author bends and sometimes deliberately violates the rules of language to achieve the effect of beauty and delicacy (Al-Erjan, 2022; Petterson, 2014; Wellek & Warren, 1995). Thus, the core idea of deviation in literary works is not just an intention or desire for strangeness but a logical consequence of the need for creativity and novelty, strangeness in pronunciation in certain forms of expression.

Deviation is also associated with foregrounding, understood as prioritization, actualization, or emphasis. One way to emphasize a story is to highlight various forms of linguistic deviation in structure, meaning, and how it is written. Deviation is also a way of emphasizing the impact or consequences (Ediyono & Ali, 2019). Three factors cause the gap in language use in literary works.

<https://doi.org/10.22034/ijscsl.2023.2013956.3223>

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**Received:** September 2023  
**Revised:** November 2023  
**Accepted:** December 2023  
**Published:** December 2023

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They are shifts in meaning, distortion (destruction or deviation of meaning), and creation of meaning (Riffaterre, 1980). Fundamental differences between literary, everyday, and scientific language (Teeuw, 2017) are that everyday language is more diverse, and literary language results from systematic exploration and absorption of all the possibilities contained in that language.

The prominent characteristic of prose is story (plot), while drama is dialogue. Therefore, the stylistic elements of prose and drama must be looked for in the plot and dialogue. Lexical deviation (Leech, 2014) is a deviation that occurs in aspects of vocabulary or word choice. A lexical form is considered deviant if it represents a deviation in meaning from common sense standards (Medrano et al., 2021). These deviant forms are characterized, among other things, by still problematic morphological processes and the formation of new words, neologisms, and meaningless forms (Meikayanti & Kuswardani, 2016). Therefore, this paper chose to study lexical deviations in the three Mappagewa (SGM) novels: Lontara Rindu (LR), Sabda Luka (SL), and Sayat-sayat Sunyi (SSS). The novels contain linguistic phenomena in the form of deviations that the author deliberately carries out as his characteristic. This paper aims to find forms of lexical deviation as the author's characteristic. Moreover, the novels highlight South Sulawesi and Indonesia's local culture through language. Stylistic studies of novels are essential to contribute to literary criticism and provide a meaningful analysis of lexical deviations in novels. Other local contexts of novels may also use lexical deviations to promote local ideas broadly.

## 2. Theoretical Framework

### 2.1. Forms of Neologism

Neologisms are usually applied by adding or subtracting unusual or ungrammatical forms of affixation, resulting in new word formations. An affix may be added because it is analogous to or has the same grammatical system as other forms that already exist (Ginebra, 2015; Nurgiantoro, 2019). According to Mostovy (Aji & Aji, 2018, p. 78), "Neologism is a linguistic unit created for the definition of a new notion". In the Dictionary of Linguistic Terms (Akhmanova, 2010), there are two definitions of neologisms. The first definition is a word or phrase created to define a new (previously unknown) object or express a new notion. The second is a new word or expression that has not been formalized in the national language and is often the substandard style of speech (Akhmanova, 2010; Ginebra, 2015; Sokolova & Kobenko, 2020). Altogether, it can be concluded that a new word that creates a new meaning is defined as a neologism. Neologism manifests itself in different forms.

An acronym is an abbreviation consisting of a combination of initial letters or syllables. One example is the word BRB, pronounced "be er be", which is an acronym for Be Right Back (Deliani et al., 2022). An abbreviation, on the other hand, is a morphological process that changes a lexeme or combination of lexemes (Arifin, 2007; Hidayatullah, 2021; Rosalina et al., 2022). Thus, abbreviation is a way of forming words, specifically abbreviating words into letters, word components, or word combinations. An example of an abbreviation in English is the word "prof." which is an abbreviation of the word "professor". Therefore, acronyms and abbreviations differ as the word formation process differs (Aji & Aji, 2018; Maeng & Kim, 2023).

Lexical deviation can be in the form of neologisms by abbreviating or creating acronyms. Abbreviations in Indonesian can be classified into five. They are (1) abbreviations, (2) fragments, (3) acronyms, (4) contractions, and (5) alphabet symbols (Kridalaksana, 2005). An abbreviation in the form of a combination of letters can be seen in examples like KKN (*kuliah kerja nyata* (student fieldwork)), UNM (*Universitas Negeri Malang* (Malang State University)), OSIS (*Organisasi Siswa Intra Sekolah* (Students Organization)), and dll (*dan lain-lain* (and so on)). A fragment is a form of maintaining or cutting certain components of a word. Examples of fragmentation can be seen in Prof. (Professor), Bu (Ibu (Mistress)), Pak (Bapak (Sir)), and perpustakaan (perpustakaan (library)). Linguistic elements contained in words can be in the form of phonemes or syllables. An acronym is the combination of syllables or other written and spoken parts into one word that more or less fulfills phonemic rules; for example, ABRI reads [abri], not [a be er i], and AMPI reads [ampi], not [a emp pe i]. A contraction is a summary of essential words or a combination of words, for example, 'roket' (peluru kendali (guided missile)), 'puskesmas' (pusat kesehatan masyarakat (public health center)), 'takkan' (tidak akan (will not)), 'balet' (drama and seni tari (balleria)). An alphabet symbol is a process of one or more letters related to the

basic concepts of quantities, units, or elements, for example, cm (centimeter) and 'sebagainya' (Deliani et al., 2022).

## 2.2. Connotative Forms

Lexical deviations can also take the form of variations in meaning. In this case, the poet or author uses connotations. Connotative meaning is inversely proportional to denotative meaning. Connotation is a mental connection that creates a sense of value in a person when faced with a word (Kemdikbud, 2016). Connotative meaning is a type whose stimuli and responses carry emotional values. Connotative meaning arises because the speaker wants to create feelings of agreement-disagreement, satisfaction-dissatisfaction, and so on (Keraf, 2016). Connotative meaning includes lexical deviations, as connotative forms are not the actual meaning. After all, it contains figurative meaning.

## 2.3. Diction

Diction or word choice is also a lexical deviation form. The words are selected and arranged to have aesthetic imagination, called poetic. Therefore, diction must have aesthetic and poetic value (Pradopo, 2005). The words are used to express an idea or concept (Keraf, 2016).

There are three main points about diction. First, diction provides understanding in expressing ideas for appropriate situations. Second is the choice of words in expressions, the ability to distinguish the nuances of the meaning of the ideas you want to convey. Third, diction is only possible if most of the language's vocabulary is mastered, whereas the vocabulary of a language means all the words in that language (Asis et al., 2022; Keraf, 2016).

Diction is used to indicate the lexical aspect of style. Stylistics corresponds not only to its description but also to assessing the use of words in literary works. So, diction refers to the accuracy of vocabulary selection. Considering that works of fiction are a verbal world, communication is carried out and interpreted verbally (Albuquerque et al., 2023). So, diction must go through specific considerations so that they have a specific effect, effective in terms of accuracy (aesthetics) (Nurgiyantoro, 2015)

The more proficient someone is in a language, the better their ability to utilize the potential contained in that language. Therefore, using a lexical item only sometimes refers to just one meaning, but one word can refer to several meanings, which may cause ambiguity. On the other hand, a meaning is not always referred to by one lexical form but can be referred to by several lexical forms, such as synonymy. This forces someone to make lexical choices that match the ideas and feelings conveyed.

The previous study on deviation was entitled Analysis of Deviation Elements (Deviations) in Poetry Collections by East Nusa Tenggara Poets and Their Implementation in Literature Learning in the 2013 Curriculum 2017 Revised Edition (Rimasi, 2018). This study discusses the elements of deviation in poetry regarding typography, diction, imagery, and language style. These are closely related to variations in poetry by East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) poets and can be used as learning materials for class X senior high school students. This study is connected to learning.

A study on linguistic deviations in prose, entitled Levels of Linguistic Deviations in "Dickens' Hard Times", was also carried out (Hussain et al., 2020). It discusses various linguistic variations that can be considered as one of the most prominent stylistic markers in the novel, namely the levels of linguistic analysis: phonological level, syntactic level, morphological level, lexical level, and semantic level. In this study, prose genres are related to linguistic deviation.

Deviation can occur in genres other than poetry. It also appears in prose and drama (Leech & Short, 2007; Rivera, 2023; Tevissen, 2022). Deviation in prose can be seen in written and narrative fiction, while drama can be seen in the dialogue. Deviation relates to aspects of foregrounding that the author deliberately carries out. The author tries to convey ideas, feelings, and thoughts by creating aesthetic elements to arouse and leave an impression on the readers. Hamm (2019), Peer et al. (2007), and Peer (2021) said that deviation is related to foregrounding, which aims to achieve aesthetics. Linguistic deviations are possible in dialogue in drama. For example, dialogue uses diction, which is not a standard

language, so it sounds strange and causes surprise for the listener. The purpose of this deviation is to obtain aesthetic elements in literary works.

There are many reasons why poets use dialect in their work, and one of them, especially in prose fiction, is for humor (Leech, 2014). The emergence of dialect deviation has several characteristics, including deviation from dialect elements in the form of non-standard use of everyday words, slang, regional language vocabulary, and so on (Xu, 2019). Certain words influence the entire discourse and attract special attention (Fadhilasari, 2016; Nurgiyantoro, 2019). This can be seen, for example, from the word deviating, colloquial words from other languages, new formations, referring to special meanings, and repeated many times. They appear to be put forward, actualized, or contain foregrounding power (Miall & Kuiken, 1994; Peer et al., 2007; Peer, 2021).

Those studies should have discussed in-depth linguistic deviations, especially lexical ones. So, researchers were interested in studying lexical deviation. Among the eight forms of deviation, one of the deviations discussed in this paper is a lexical deviation in prose, especially in novels by S. Gegge Mappangewa. The researchers realized that the studies described above significantly contribute to literary works of fiction, especially novels. Based on the facts above, it is essential to carry out a study using the stylistic approach, not only to make a meaningful contribution to literary criticism but also to provide a meaningful analysis of literary works of local literary of South Sulawesi, which can be an example broadly for any other cultures.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Materials

In this research, the primary data sources were three novels: *Lontara Rindu* (Mappangewa, 2012), *Sabda Luka* (Mappangewa, 2018), and *Sayat-sayat Sunyi* (Mappangewa, 2019). The selection of novels was based on the consideration that they contained various phenomena of linguistic facts, in this case, linguistic deviation, especially lexical deviation. Meanwhile, secondary data sources were also taken from related references because of supporting research documentation such as articles and books. These three novels are important because they contain Indonesian texts combined with the Bugis language. The novels also contain cultural values that are important for the young generation of Indonesia in general and South Sulawesi in particular.

#### 3.2. Procedure

This research adopted a content analysis approach and attempted to describe the linguistic events of the novels, including forms of deviation and emphasis. Interactive data analysis, as a form of content analysis, includes three flows, namely reduction, data presentation, and drawing precise conclusions (Miles et al., 2014; Miles & Huberman, 2012). Although these activities have different operations, the processes are still interrelated. The sequence of data analysis can be described in the following steps:

- a. Data reduction: Data reduction is a form of analysis that sharpens, categorizes, directs, and removes what is unnecessary. During this process, we filtered the required data and sorted it into the categories of neologisms, connotative forms, and diction.
- b. Data presentation: After the data reduction stage, the next step was to collect relevant data. The data selected as lexical deviation was then interpreted. The researchers interpreted the data according to the research problem. The selected data was presented based on neologisms, connotative forms, and diction.
- c. Data verification. At this stage, the researchers ensured that the data was accurate. To check the validity of the data, triangulation techniques were used. In this study, researchers used source triangulation and method triangulation. The triangulation of sources was intended to examine the research topic from two points of view: the author of the novel himself and his work as the research object. Source triangulation can increase the depth of understanding and analysis to match the expected results.

## 4. Results

Lexical deviations in SGM's novels consist of neologism forms, connotative forms, and diction. Foregrounding and aesthetic impressions accompany lexical deviations in several sentences. The research results show that the three novels have forms of neologism and foregrounding, which can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
*Frequency of Lexical Deviations*

Lexical Deviation	LR	SL	SSS	Amount
Neologism	4	4	1	9
Connotative	10	9	3	22
Inappropriate Diction	6	3	2	11
Amount	20	16	6	42

The frequency of neologisms in the novels is nine times. LR's novel has four neologisms: 'hape' (mobile phone), 'pede' (confidence), 'sambaler' (chilli sauce lover), and 'men-soppo' (pick up). In the SL novel, there are four neologisms: 'curhat' (share), 'pedekate' (approach), 'menjual' (sale), and 'ciyus' (serious). There is only one neologism in SSS novel: namely the word *ber-tapi*. The total amount of connotative forms is 22. Connotative forms in the LR novel are ten: 'blenderan' (blender), 'ninja-ninja' (ninja), 'berciuman' (kissing), 'kursi' (chair), 'manis and pahit' (sweet and bitter), 'gigit jari' (bite the finger), 'janur kuning' (yellow coconut), 'bunga desa' (beautiful girl), 'sayatan luka' (wound incision), and 'mencuci otak' (brainwashing). Connotative forms in the SL novel are nine: 'karang' (coral), 'ombak' (wave), 'luka' (wound), 'disemuti' (covered by ant), 'meroket' (skyrocketed), 'kaki langit' (skyline), 'setor muka' (show up), and 'pasang telinga' (listening intentionally). Connotative forms in the SSS novel are three times: 'pil pahit' (bitter pil), 'air bah' (flood), and 'hamparan bunga' (flower bed). The total amount for diction is eleven. In the LR novel dictions are six: 'musang berbulu tangkis' (badger-haired ferret), 'selesai tidak selesai' (finish or not), 'doa dikumpul' (pray gathered), 'unta jantan dari Arab' (male camel from Arabia), 'penyamun berdasi' (tie-dyed thief), and 'krasak-krusuk' (crunch crackers). Likewise, the diction in the SL novel is three: 'spesis' (species), 'rekat' (sticky), and 'rehat' (take a break). In the SSS novel, there are two dictions: 'pohon kara' (kara tree) and 'lena' (restful).

The foregrounding of the use of lexical deviations in the three novels by SGM is done deliberately by the author to have an aesthetic impression and get more attention from readers. The three lexical deviations in the SGM novels will be presented further.

### 4.1. Neologism

One form of lexical deviation is neologism. Neologism is found in the novels by SGM, which can be seen in Table 2.

**Table 2**  
*Forms of Lexical Deviation of Neologisms*

Lexical Deviation of Neologisms	LR	SL	SSS	Amount
1	hape (mobile phone)	curhat (share)	ber-tapi (but)	3
2	pede (confidence)	pedekate (approach)		2
3	sambaler (chilli sauce lover)	menjual (sale)		2
4	men-soppo (pick up)	ciyus (serious)		2
Amount	4	4	1	9

The word 'hape' is an abbreviated form of 'HP' (mobile phone). However, in writing, the letter /h/ is pronounced as 'ha,' and the letter /p/ is pronounced as 'pe,' so it becomes 'hape' when combined. Usually, the initial letter is abbreviated, not the pronunciation, but in this word, the abbreviated pronunciation is 'hape,' not 'HP.' The word 'hape' is a neologism because this word is not found in standard Indonesian. The word 'hape' is influenced by spoken language and is used in social media, but it is not used in written language.

1) *Dulu saya punya nomor hape-nya. Tapi hape-ku pernah tercecer dan kehilangan semua nomor di dalamnya.* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 152)

(I used to have his *hape* (cellphone) number. However, my *hape* was once scattered and lost all its numbers.)

The word 'pede' is an acronym for the phrase 'percaya diri' (confidence). The word 'percaya' should be abbreviated to the letter /p/, but the letter is pronounced 'pe,' and 'diri,' which should be abbreviated to the letter /d/ but is pronounced 'de' so that when combined, it becomes 'pede.' The word 'pede' has experienced lexical deviation and is new. This word is very familiar in spoken language but has not been used in official written language. Thus, the word 'pede' is a form of lexical deviation, a form of neologism. These neologisms are a form of abbreviation—foregrounding of the 'pede' word by the author to get tight and concise words.

Deviations from the lexical form of neologisms in the form of abbreviations are also found in the word 'curhat.' The word 'curhat' (share) is an acronym for the phrase "pours out one's heart", meaning someone who pours out his feelings to someone he trusts. This word is a form of abbreviation, and contraction. One form of the abbreviation process in the form of a summary of the primary word by cutting off the beginning of the word 'curahan' to become 'cur' and 'hati' which is decapitated becomes 'hat' so that when combined it becomes 'curhat.' Although this word is commonly used among young people in various conversations and on social media, it has not yet become a word used in written language. Thus, the word 'curhat' is a form of lexical deviation in the form of a neologism.

The word 'pedekate' is an abbreviated form. The word 'pedekate' is an abbreviation of the word 'pendekatan.' The word 'pendekatan' (approach) with 'pen-de-ka-tan' syllables is divided into several syllables: 'pe' from the first syllable fragment 'pen-', 'de' second syllable fragment '-de,' 'ka' third syllable fragment '-ka,' and the syllable fragment the fourth syllable '-tan.' For fluency and ease, pronouncing the word 'te,' which should be read as 'ta,' is changed to 'te' as a variation.

The word 'menjual' is an abbreviation consisting of the acronyms of 'menjual' (sale) and 'mengkhayal' (imagination). The word 'menjual' is a shortened form of the word 'menjual,' namely 'me-ju-al,' and the syllable 'khayal' is 'kha-yal.' The first and second syllables of the word 'menjual' are 'me-ju-', and the last syllable of the word 'khayal' is '-yal,' so when combined, it becomes the word 'menjual.' The word 'menjual' is a neologism because it is a new, unusual formation not found in the standard vocabulary.

2) *"Makanya, menjualnya yang serius. Bukan menjual!"*

(So, selling it is serious. Not 'menjual' (sell)! (Mappangewa, 2018, p. 209)

The word 'sambaler' (chilli sauce lover) comes from the word 'sambal' (chilli), which adds the phoneme /er/ to become the word 'sambaler,' meaning a chilli lover. This word is compared, for example, to the words YouTuber, photographer, composer, or people with certain professions. However, 'sambaler' is not a profession but just a title of appreciation from Mr. Amin to his students who are good at making delicious chili sauce. Thus, 'sambaler' is a new and unique word and a neologism.

The word 'men-soppo' (pick up), which consists of the word 'soppo' in the Bugis language, means carrying an object on the shoulder, usually a small child. However, the word 'soppo' is given the prefix 'men-', a prefix in Indonesian, so the usage is unsuitable. In the Bugis language, there is also a prefix that is parallel to the prefix 'men-', namely 'ma-', so the word 'soppo' should also be attached to the prefix 'ma-' so that it becomes the word 'massoppo,' in this case, the geminat 'ma-' becomes 'mas-' because the word begins with the letter /s/ in the word 'soppo.' Thus, the word 'men-soppo' is a neologism or new formation.

The word ‘ber-tapi’ (but) lexical deviation is in the form of a neologism. The word ‘ber-tapi’ in the sentence above consists of the prefix ‘ber-’ combined with the coordinating conjunction ‘tapi.’ It is inappropriate in this word form because the prefix ‘ber-’ is usually paired with a verb, for example, ‘berlari’ (running) and ‘bersembunyi’ (hiding). The conjunction ‘tapi’ should not be combined with any affixes, so the word ‘ber-tapi’ is classified as a neologism or new formation. However, if we look at the context of the sentence, the prefix ‘ber-’ is a part of the word ‘berkata’ (saying), which is combined with the word ‘tapi,’ so it means saying ‘tapi,’ as a form of denial so that the sentence can become ‘ber-tapi’. Ahmadi’s mind suddenly said, ‘tapi’. The meaning of Ahmad suddenly saying (‘tapi’) no or rejecting something. Thus, this word is a form of neologism.

The word ‘ciyus’ (serious) is a youth term that means serious. The letter /t/ is replaced with the letter /c/, and the letter /r/ is replaced with the letter /y/ and is pronounced ‘ciyus.’ This word is a neologism because it is a new term, even though it is commonly used in various spoken languages, especially among millennial children. Thus, the word ‘ciyus’ is a word that experiences lexical deviation.

#### 4.2. Connotative Forms

Connotative forms are a form of lexical deviation. Connotative meanings are found in the form of compound words and phrases.

**Table 3**  
*Lexical Deviation in Connotative Forms*

Lexical Deviation Connotative form	LR	SL	SSS	Amount
1	blenderan (blender)	karang (coral)	pil pahit (bitter pil)	3
2	ninja-ninja (ninja)	ombak (wave)	air bah (flood)	3
3	berciuman (kissing)	luka (wound)	hampanan bunga (flower bed)	3
4	kursi (chair)	disemuti (covered by ant)		2
5	manis pahit (sweet bitter)	meroket (skyrocketed)		2
6	gigit jari (bite the finger)	kaki langit (skyline)		2
7	janur kuning (yellow coconut)	setor muka (show up)		2
8	bunga desa (beautiful girl)	pasang telinga tening intentionally)		2
9	sayatan luka (wound incision)			1
10	Mencuci otak (brainwashing)			1
Amount	10	8	3	21

The deviation in the form of connotative forms in the novels shows that there are more lexical deviations in the connotative form, namely, ten data in the LR novel, eight connotative forms in SL, and three connotative lexical forms in the SSS novel. The word ‘blenderan’ comes from the word ‘blender,’ which means an electrically powered tool for crushing fruit and food. Meanwhile, the meaning of ‘blenderan’ in the sentence above is the processed product from the cow’s stomach, which comes out as cow dung. The cow dung still felt warm on Irfan and his friends. This sentence categorizes ‘blenderan’ as a connotative meaning that equates a cow’s stomach with a ‘blender,’ classified as a lexical deviation.

- 3) Irfan ikut kecipratan, kotoran hasil *blenderan* empat lambung itu hangat mengenai lengannya. Semua sepakat turun menyelamatkan diri. (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 60)  
(Irfan was splashed; the dirt from the *blenderan* (blender) of four stomachs was warm and hit his arm. Everyone agreed to go down to save themselves.)

The word 'ninja-ninja' (ninja) means a trained person, mastering Japanese martial arts, tasked with espionage and assassination. In this example, what is meant by 'ninja-ninja' is that Vito and his friends threw away Mr. Japareng's palm oil, which was to be made into 'ballo,' which usually intoxicates the people who drink it so that Vito and his friends took the initiative to thwart Mr. Japareng's harvest.

In this sentence, the word 'berciuman' (kissing) does not have its true meaning. The word 'berciuman' means touching the knees with the ground or rocky road, and touching, in this case, is uncomfortable because it can cause pain. Thus, the word 'berciuman' contains connotations and experiences lexical deviation. The word 'kursi' is a seat with legs and a back, while the 'kursi' in this sentence connotes work. Thus, the word 'kursi' includes a connotative meaning, which is included in the lexical deviation.

'manis' and 'pahit' (sweet and bitter) mean a taste like sugar and an unpleasant taste like bile. Meanwhile, in this sentence, the word 'manis' connotes goodness; in this case, the words are gossip, while the word 'pahit' connotes ugliness or badness, in this case, the words that are not good. Thus, the words 'manis' and 'pahit' include lexical deviations with connotative meanings. The word 'karang' (coral) has a denotative meaning. 'karang' is coral in the sea from substances released by small anthozoan animals (not having backbones). However, this sentence is not 'karang' in the true sense. The word 'karang' connotes the heart of Halimah's husband, Ilham, who has a stance that is as strong as a rock to continue embracing the Tolotang sect.

- 4) *Dia sangat tahu, hati suaminya adalah karang, tak bisa diluluhkan dengan air mata dan hanya akan membuatnya semakin membatu jika dihantam dengan ombak amarah.* (Mappangewa, 2018, p. 279)  
(She knew very well that her husband's heart was *karang* (coral); it could not be broken down with tears and would only make him more petrified if hit by waves of anger.)

The word 'ombak' (wave) is seawater's up-and-down or rolling movement. A 'gelombang' is a giant wave that rolls up and down (at sea). A storm is a strong wind accompanying lousy weather (which comes suddenly). 'Ombak' is more significant than 'gelombang,' and storms are more substantial than powerful. If we trace this sentence, the words 'ombak' and 'gelombang' connote Mr. Kambu's feelings for Tiara, which at first were small like an ombak, but over time, they got bigger like a 'gelombang.' Storm connotes danger that will materialize. Therefore, 'gelombang,' tides, and storms are words that contain figures of speech. The word 'luka' (wound) means suffering a wound or injury due to scratches and so on, but in this sentence, the 'luka' connotes mental suffering because Emma was abandoned by her father and mother. Thus, the word 'luka' in this example is a lexical deviation that contains a connotative meaning.

### 4.3. Diction

The phrase 'pohon kara' (kara tree) has a connotative meaning: a person who lives alone without relatives, or living alone. However, the choice of the phrase 'pohon kara' is not commonly used. The word choice commonly used is 'sebatang kara' (a child lives alone). The phrase 'pohon kara' can be replaced with 'sebatang (wood) kara.' However, the child subject as the real meaning cannot be deleted, and the word 'sebatang' is combined with the precatatorial word 'kara' to become 'sebatang kara,' and the word 'pohon' is removed.

**Table 4**

*Diction*

Diction		SL	SSS	Amount
1	musang berbulu tangkis (badger-haired ferret)	spesis (species)	pohon kara (kara tree)	3
2	selesai tidak sekesai, doa dikumpul	rekat	lena	3



	(finish or not pray gathered)	(sticky)	(restful)	
3	unta jantan dari Arab (male camel from Arabia)	rehat (take a break)		3
4	penyamun berdasi (tie-dyed thief)			1
5	jenak (a moment)			1
6	krasak-krusuk (crunch crackers)			1
Amount	6	3	3	12

Lexical deviations in the form of inappropriate diction choices are found more frequently in the LR novel (six times) than in SL (three times) and SSS (three times). Inappropriate diction makes the expression ‘musang berbulu tangkis’ not common. The commonly used in society is ‘musang berbulu domba’. So, sentence 5 is a deviation. The expression ‘musang berbulu tangkis’ has no meaning and even seems strange, while the expression ‘musang berbulu domba’ has the meaning of a person who is terrible but pretends to be good because he has a wish he wants to fulfill (Masruddin et al., 2023).

- 5) *Irfan memang paling bisa jadi musang berbulu tangkis. Di depan Bu Maulindah dia peras keringat untuk jadi siswa teladan, tapi di belakang malah jadi siswa teredan.* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 12).  
(Irfan is the best badger with badminton hair. In front of Mrs. Maulindah, he worked hard to become an exemplary student, but behind his back, he became the worst student.)
- 6) *Selesai nggak selesai, doa dikumpul celetuk Alif membuat semua siswa ngakak. Bu Maulindah tentu saja marah.* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 13).  
(Done or not, prayers are gathered, said Alif, making all the students laugh. Mrs. Maulindah was, of course, angry.)
- 7) *Selesai nggak selesai, tugas dikumpul celetuk Alif membuat semua siswa ngakak. Bu Maulindah tentu saja marah.* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 13)  
(Done or not, assignments are collected, said Alif, making all the students laugh. Mrs. Maulindah was, of course, angry.)

Inappropriate word choice: ‘selesai’ (finish) is not finished; prayers are gathered. When viewed from the context of the sentence, the phrase ‘doa dikumpul’ (pray gathered) is appropriate. The word ‘doa dikumpul’ is something that is not commonly used. The word ‘doa’ (pray) is abstract and invisible, like books or clothes. The word ‘doa’ is treated the same as other nouns visible to the naked eye, making it unnatural.

The difference will be seen if two sentences 6 and 7 are compared. Sentence 6 seems strange and makes people who hear it wonder what it means. In contrast, in sentence 7, the meaning becomes clear because what is collected is clear, whether it is an Indonesian language lesson, mathematics, or something else. To create an impression, the author deliberately foregrounds the ‘doa dikumpul’ phrases collected in sentence 6.

There is the Arabic expression ‘unta jantan’ (male camel), which is not commonly heard. Regional icons are usually used to express a character’s nickname, such as ‘ayam jantan dari timur’ (rooster from the east) for Sultan Hasanuddin from Makassar or the nickname Juku Eja for PSM players. The character of Sultan Hasanuddin is associated with something strong in Arabs, so the nickname for Sultan Hasanuddin was changed to ‘unta jantan’ from Arabia if Sultan Hasanuddin was from Arabia. Thus, this sentence’s Arabic expression ‘unta jantan’ is unusual.

- 8) *Ayam Jantan dari Timur yang disandingkan kepada Sultan Hasanuddin. Karena sedang mengkhayal, dengan entengnya Bu Maulindah menjawab karena Sultan Hasanuddin dari Makassar, kalo dari Arab pasti julukannya Unta Jantan dari Barat.* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 20).

(Rooster from the East was given to Sultan Hasanuddin. Because he was imagining things, Mrs. Maulindah lightly answered that because Sultan Hasanuddin was from Makassar, if he were from Arabia, his nickname would be the Male Camel of the West.)

- 9) *“Koruptor itu di atasnya pencuri. Mereka adalah penyamun-penyamun berdasi”, jawab Pak Amin sambil berbalik dan berjalan mundur* (Mappangewa, 2012, p. 140).

(“A corruptor is above a thief. They are thieves wearing ties”, answered Mr. Amin as he turned and walked backward)

There is an incorrect lexical choice. This can be found in the phrase ‘penyamun-penyamun berdasi’ (tie-dyed thieves). Rogue means a person who robs; being tied means wearing a tie, usually identified as neat and educated. However, the two words are contrasting: a thief wearing a tie. The phrase thieves with ties in the context of this sentence connotes corruptors. What is commonly equated with corruptors is a rat in a tie, not a thief in a tie. The word rat with a tie is very familiar in society as it has a connotation for corrupt people. Thus, this word includes a lexical deviation and an inappropriate word choice. If the phrase ‘penyamun-penyamun berdasi’ is replaced with ‘tikus berdasi’ (rat in tie) in the following sentence is more commonly used as a nickname for corrupt people, than ‘penyamun-penyamun berdasi’ (Aini et al., 2023).

## 5. Discussion

Stylistics studies concern the style of language usage that is deviant forms characterized by morphological processes, the formation of new words, neologisms, and forms that are not in the dictionary (Rivera, 2023; Tevissen, 2022). These new words are variations of spoken words commonly used in social language but rarely used in written grammar. Of the three forms of lexical deviation, the frequency of lexical deviation is higher in the LR, followed by SL and SSS novels, respectively. Thus, lexical deviation can provide new knowledge for readers, especially by forming new vocabulary neologisms that are not in the dictionary (Hamm, 2019). These new words are variations of spoken words commonly used in social language but rarely used in written grammar.

The uniqueness of this lexical deviation applies not only to novels by SGM but is also found globally in local and foreign language novels. This aligns with some studies (Leech & Short, 2007; Rivera, 2023; Tevissen, 2022) that deviations can occur in genres other than poetry, such as prose and drama. Therefore, deviation is unique because it tries to get linguistic deviation from a novel, which is unique and different from conventional language. Some of the data obtained, for example, in neologisms, form new meanings not found in dictionaries, such as ‘hape’ and ‘pedekate.’ Likewise, inappropriate connotative forms and diction do not align with the real meaning, ‘bunga desa’ and ‘musang berbulu domba’. The author’s purpose of the deviation is deliberately to get the attention of readers or viewers (Masruddin et al., 2023).

The lexical ‘hape’ is an abbreviation for the letters HP (cellphone). However, as time passes, there is a desire to be different, so writing becomes unusual. The writing of the words becomes distorted so that the abbreviation for the word ‘hape’ is written as h/a/p/e. Likewise, ‘pedekate’ is a new word formed from an acronym. The term approach is better known among teenagers as the meaning of the word approach. The approach of a man paying attention to a woman. This form of writing, ‘pedekate’, is not commonly used at a conventional level, so it is classified as a neologism (Tevissen, 2022). Likewise, inappropriate connotative forms and diction do not align with the real meaning. For example, the connotative form is ‘bunga desa’ (dictionary meaning flower and village, which refers to a beautiful girl), which is not the real meaning; ‘bunga desa’ means a beautiful woman who lives in the village. Imprecise diction is like a ‘musang berbulu tangkis’ (badger-haired ferret), which should be a ‘musang berbulu domba’ (badger in sheep’s clothing). All forms of deviation by the author are deliberately carried out to get the attention of readers or viewers (Hamm, 2019; Peer, 2021).

The author deliberately uses lexical deviations in novels, known as foregrounding. The reader gets a psychological impact of surprise from lexical deviation (Peer, 2021; Peer et al., 2007). In this way, there is an attraction for readers to enjoy the novel with the deviation style in the novels. With deviations, novel lovers will always be attracted when encountering deviate words. There is a curiosity always to read. Apart from that, a sense of freshness comes from learning a new term, so the reader gets a certain

satisfaction when reading a novel. In this case, it is not only in Indonesian language novels but also in other languages (Alirezazadeh & Talebinezhad, 2014).

There are currently various forms of deviation that authors deliberately carry out to gain sympathy from readers. Authors also make deviations to achieve beauty in literary works, especially lexical ones (Hamm, 2019; Peer et al., 2007; Peer, 2021). The deviation is not only lexical deviation but also in morphology and syntax, semantics, phonology, etc. (Sokolova & Kobenko, 2020). This global research can be used in various languages with other literary works, thereby increasing knowledge of literary works worldwide.

The main reason for lexical deviation is foregrounding (Ediyono & Ali, 2019; Hamm, 2019). One of the ways this is done is by combining the lexical elements of regional languages with national languages, which have a similar syntactic system. Further research can be conducted by examining novels that differ from two or more languages with different syntactic systems (Aabi, 2020).

In general, deviations in novels (especially in Indonesia) are used to promote regional languages to become part of the national language (Indonesia). The Indonesian language, through the Language Cultivation and Development Agency under the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia, continues to enrich or add to the entries of the Indonesian Dictionary by bringing regional language vocabulary from all provinces in Indonesia that have no equivalent or are culturally unique. This may also happen in other countries whose languages are developing, especially those with many regional languages. A study like this must be done on other forms of deviation, such as drama and poetry (Hamm, 2019; Peer, 2021).

### Disclosure Statement

The authors claim no conflict of interest.

### Funding

The research did not receive any specific grants from funding agencies.

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