



## **Primary Onomatopoeia Found in Nursery Rhymes by Dave and Ava on YouTube**

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### **Abstract**

Nowadays in daily life, people often use words to communicate with each other. The people interaction will produce a sound as an imitation of certain objects. These words and sounds are onomatopoeia. This study expects to an investigation of one types of primary onomatopoeia, from a Nursery Rhymes by Dave and Ava on YouTube. This study used the theory proposed by Ullmann (1962:84) to identify the types of primary onomatopoeia and, the second theory of meaning is lexical meaning was analyzing by using theory of Lyon (1995:47) and contextual meaning used theory proposed by Ullmann (1962:64). The data of this study were analyzed descriptively. Observation method and note taking technique were used in collecting the data of this study. The findings presented by using the formal and informal methods. The result of this study shows that there are 12 data belong to primary onomatopoeia. Furthermore, from the two types of meaning, the lexical meaning become the dominant meaning of the primary onomatopoeia.

**Keywords:** *onomatopoeia, nursery rhymes, youtube.*

### **Abstrak**

Saat ini dalam kehidupan sehari-hari, orang sering menggunakan kata-kata untuk berkomunikasi satu sama lain. Interaksi orang akan menghasilkan suara sebagai tiruan dari objek tertentu. Kata-kata dan suara ini adalah onomatopoeia. Penelitian ini diharapkan dapat menyelidiki salah satu jenis onomatopoeia; onomatopoeia utama, dari Lagu Anak-Anak oleh Dave dan Ava di YouTube. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Ullmann (1962:84) untuk mengidentifikasi onomatopoeia primer dan teori makna yang kedua adalah makna leksikal yang dianalisis dengan menggunakan teori Lyon (1995:47) dan makna kontekstual menggunakan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Ullmann (1962:64). Data penelitian ini dianalisis secara deskriptif. Metode observasi dan teknik pencatatan digunakan dalam pengumpulan data penelitian ini. Hasil disajikan dengan menggunakan metode formal dan informal. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan ada 12 data yang tergolong onomatopoeia primer. Selanjutnya dari kedua jenis makna tersebut, makna leksikal menjadi makna dominan dari onomatopoeia primer.

**Kata kunci:** *onomotopoeia, sajak anak-anak, youtube.*

## **Introduction**

Language is the foundation of communication since it is used by people in everyday life to communicate information and argue with one another. Hornby (1987) defines language as a person's non-intensive manner of communicating thoughts, feelings, and desires through a system of sound and sound symbols. On a daily basis, humans enhance their ability to communicate in both speaking and listening. Meanwhile, learners particularly Indonesian youngsters, can benefit from learning other languages through the use of videos that contain foreign language as a media, which are supplied with attractive pictures and backed by sounds.

Harmer (2007:282) states that learner's motivation will grow up when they are learn language through videos. Meanwhile Richards and Renandya (2002:209) mention that audio-visual materials are great and helpful in facilitating the learners in studying a foreign language. Nowadays there are so many videos upload in the YouTube with interesting themes are in the style of nursery lullabies with intriguing images and sounds, to make it more interesting the videos adding by onomatopoeia words. According to Elizabeth (2020) onomatopoeia is regularly defined as the creation or use of words that sound like the items or actions they name or refer to. Onomatopoeia is a term used to denote the production of sounding words which resemble sounds in real life. The words as reflection of the sounds in our life is called onomatopoeia. (Simpson, 2004:67) onomatopoeia is a characteristic of sound patterning that often thought to form a bridge between style and content. Onomatopoeia is sounds that produce by things around us which have meaning is directly related to objects and activity that presented sounds uniquely and beautifully. Onomatopoeia is intriguing since it is able to produce an image of certain object by mimicking the sound produced by the said object, thus will result in easier understanding by the learner.

According to Ullmann (1962:84) types of onomatopoeia may be categorized: into two type's primary onomatopoeia and secondary onomatopoeia. Ullmann (1962:84) defines primary onomatopoeia as sound that can provide the same sound as the objects itself. Onomatopoeia can be found in words or sounds, and it is used to explain the thing itself. The term primary onomatopoeia refers to the sound which can provide the same sound as the thing itself. This onomatopoeia is the sound which is already created by the thing and has a relationship in the naming of the objects, primary onomatopoeia might be termed onomatopoeia that replicates the sounds of nature, and this sound is frequently affected within in everyday lives in our surroundings. Onomatopoeia words has their own meanings, the meaning contains a connection between the words and sounds created by the objects around us that cannot be separated. The words containing onomatopoeia could also change their meaning. Furthermore, semantics recognizing onomatopoeia words is more tentative than formal recognition. Ullmann (1962:64) states contextual meaning the meaning obtained from context is known as contextual meaning, and it refers to the meaning of words that appear in certain situations. According to Ullmann (1962:65) the term "nails" consider into contextual meaning the based on the Oxford Dictionary (1948) the words "nails" has various meaning such as a thin layer of firm skin covering the tips of both the fingers or toes (1) and a little thin straight piece of metal featuring a flat head, used for connecting pieces of wood together or hanging

objects on a wall (2). The meaning of the word “nails” turn up related to the context of various situations. Furthermore, there also meaning by Lyon (1995:47) states the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. First, according to Lyon (1995:52) identifies the term "girl..." as containing lexical meaning since, according to the Oxford Dictionary (1948), "girl..." is generally adopted as a form to address through women. The meaning is almost the same as a dictionary or a vocabulary description; therefore, this becomes lexical meaning, which is the actual meaning of the words. some previous researches discuss onomatopoeia as below: First is study was done by Karina (2017) entitled “English Onomatopoeia in The Children’s Book Types and Reader’s Understanding”, the aims of this study were to describe several types of onomatopoeia inside a children's book. The study was based on Bredin's (1996) theory of onomatopoeia as a figure and a linguistic principle, therefore it classified onomatopoeia to three types: direct, associative, and exemplary onomatopoeia. The data were collected using qualitative methods and the results were reported in table form. Second is study written by Kanasih (2018) entitled A Stylistic Analysis of Onomatopoeia in Walt Disney’s 5 Minute Princess Stories Book. The purposes of this study are to determine the various types and meaning that evoked of onomatopoeia found in Walt Disney's 5 Minute Princess Stories book. This recent study using theory that proposed by Simpson (2004:67) that categorized types of onomatopoeia into two types those are lexical and nonlexical therefore, qualitative method is used in this study. Third study is entitled “An Analysis of Onomatopoeia Types and Readers’ Opinion to the Importance of the Onomatopoeia in Doraemon Comic Series” by Putri (2020). The aims of this study Identify the several types of onomatopoeia found in Doraemon Comic; 2) to analyze the lexical and contextual meanings of onomatopoeic words; and 3) to describe readers' perspectives on the importance of onomatopoeia. This research used descriptive-qualitative method. The types of onomatopoeia in this study used theory by Hugh Bredin (1996:556). The last study was done by Hidayat (2016) entitled The Onomatopoeia in Robert Vendetti’S Comic “The Flash”. The aims of this study to discuss the several types of onomatopoeia and to identify the contextual and lexical meanings of onomatopoeia terms in The Flash comic. In the prior study the data has been analyzed with Bredin's (1996) theory of onomatopoeia as a figure and a linguistic principle, as well as the method used descriptive qualitative. All of the studies focus their analysis about onomatopoeia in written text. Meanwhile, this study tries to find out the primary type of onomatopoeia from a video of nursery rhymes entitled ‘The Wheel on The Bus’ by Dave and Ava on YouTube.

## Method

In conducting this study, the data were taken from nursery rhymes on YouTube entitled Wheels on the Bus by Dave and Ava, the nursery rhymes videos only used in part 1 (<https://youtu.be/atRawsyz6Mc>), part 2 (<https://youtu.be/plf7cs4Gv2Y>), and part 3 (<https://youtu.be/e2S86QvUQIY>). The nursery rhymes are used as the data source because those parts provide many onomatopoeia words that support the analysis of this study. The data were collected by using the observation method, here the several

steps in collecting the data as follow: first downloading the Nursery Rhymes Wheels on the Bus by Dave and Ava on YouTube, second identify the onomatopoeia words by watching and listing the videos the last collecting and selecting the data.

The descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze the data of this study. The data collected are presented in both formal and informal method. This part provide the finding of this study which is accompanied by displays the quantity as well as the percentage of usage the onomatopoeia words in the data of this study. Moreover, the discussion in every types of onomatopoeia words based on the data source.

### **Result and Discussion**

According to Ullmann (1962:84) types of onomatopoeia may be categorized: into two type's primary onomatopoeia and secondary onomatopoeia. Ullmann (1962:84) defines primary onomatopoeia as sound that can provide the same sound as the objects itself.

The table above shows the types of onomatopoeia, from the 20 data found in this nursery rhymes the writer got 12 data (60%) as primary onomatopoeia, those are woof, meow, oink, moo, quack, cluck, neigh, baa, squeak, ha-ha-ha, which belongs into lexical meaning (10 data or 83,33%). Moreover the onomatopoeia wah-wah, chat belongs into contextual meaning (2 data or 16,67%). Primary onomatopoeia frequently appear in this study, because this onomatopoeia arise as reflection of the sound and of the object itself. In this discussion, only 10 examples are discussed for the primary onomatopoeia and meanings of onomatopoeia.

Table 1

<b>No.</b>	<b>Primary Onomatopoeia</b>	<b>Meanings of Onomatopoeia</b>	<b>Number of Occurrences</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Woof, meow, oink, moo, quack, cluck, neigh, baa, squeak, ha-ha-ha	Lexical meaning	10	83,33%
2	Wah-wah, chat	Contextual meaning	2	16,67%
<b>Total</b>			<b>12</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Discussion**

Onomatopoeia is the creation of sounds from the things around us. The meaning of the sound is closely attached to objects and activities that produce unique and attractive sounds. According to Ullmann (1962:84), onomatopoeia could be grouped into two categories primary onomatopoeia and secondary onomatopoeia.

### Primary Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is the creation of sounds through things around us which have a meaning that is closely attached to objects and activities that present sounds in a unique and attractive way. According to Ullmann (1962:84), onomatopoeia could be grouped into two categories primary onomatopoeia and secondary onomatopoeia

**Data 1:** The baby on the bus says “wah-wah” all through the town.

Onomatopoeia word: “wah – wah”



Figure 1. Wheels on the Bus Part 1, time 01.50 – 02.05

The sound “wah-wah” is categorized into primary onomatopoeia, since it illustrates the sound of the object itself. According to Ullmann (1962:84), the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the objects itself. Here on this context, the object is the sound of the baby weeping. The sound "wah-wah" is made when the baby becomes shocked after the bottle has slid off from his lips while he slept. Hence, he shows his feelings through crying. This is a true reflection of the baby crying, therefore onomatopoeia “wah-wah” become primary onomatopoeia. According to the Oxford Dictionary (1948), the words “wah-wah” had the definitions distinctive effect created on electric musical instruments, particularly the guitar. Here, in this context the onomatopoeia “wah-wah” describes the sound of baby weeping, while this onomatopoeia doesn't sound made musical instruments. When the wheels on the bus getting over on the rock and he was shocked and cried. The onomatopoeia words “wah-wah” consider into contextual meaning. According to Ullmann (1962:64) the meaning obtained from context is known as contextual meaning, and it refers to the meaning of words that appear in certain situations.

**Data 2 :** The cat on the bus goes “meow, meow, meow” all day long

Onomatopoeia words: “Meow”



Figure 2. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 00.55 – 01.14

The onomatopoeia “meow” expressed the sound of a cat. It belongs into primary onomatopoeia because the sound describes the object itself; the object is a cat. According to Ullmann (1962:84) the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the object itself. This sound produced while the cat falls asleep in the bus seat, however when the bus started to shake since it has tripped over a stone, the cat is shocked, and the dog comes and licks the cat, it made the cat angry, and the sound of “meow” naturally turns up from the cat, expressing the cat's feelings to the dog. Meanwhile, the sound of “meow” belongs into primary onomatopoeia.

According to Oxford Dictionary (1948) onomatopoeia words “meow” refers to the sound that created by the cat. According to the theory of meaning by Lyons (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. In this scene, the cat made the sound “meow” when she became upset because the dog reached her. Therefore, the meaning of “meow” relates to lexical meaning, because this onomatopoeia has the same meaning as a dictionary definition and it is classified into lexical meaning.

**Data 3** : The pig on the bus goes “oink, oink, oink” all day long.  
Onomatopoeia words: **“Oink”**



Figure 3. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 01.14 – 01.31

The onomatopoeia “oink” describes the sound of a pig. This sound is classified as primary onomatopoeia since it expresses the sound of the thing itself. According to Ullmann (1962:84), states, the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the object itself. The onomatopoeia “oink” is described the sound of a pig. Because it replicates the sound of the thing itself, this sound is classified as primary onomatopoeia. Meanwhile, the pig is sitting beside the cat, admiring the scenery and listening to music through the air pods. The pig was impressed with the music and began to sing a song to the melodies of the air pods, which produced throughout the sound of “oink” flowing from the pig.

According to Oxford Dictionary (1948) the word “oink” is a sound created by the pig. The sound is considered into lexical meaning. According to Lyons (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. The onomatopoeia “oink” showed up from the pig since this pig started to sing a song by following the melodies which came from the air pods, then when the pig sang a song, this same sound “oink” came up immediately from the pig. Hence the onomatopoeia “oink” considered into lexical

meaning because, because this onomatopoeia has the same meaning as a dictionary definition.

**Data 4** : The cow on the bus goes “moo, moo, moo” all day long.  
Onomatopoeia words: “**Moo**”



Figure 4. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 01.14 – 01.50

The onomatopoeia “*moo*” is classified into primary onomatopoeia because it classified the sound of the object itself. According to Ullmann (1962:84) states the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the objects itself. Here, the pig was busy with his air pods once the dog tried to reach him but the pig ignore him, then a sad dog returned with a gloomy face. Meanwhile, a cow is sitting in the corner, and the sound “*moo*” arises up naturally as a sign when she attempts to cheer up a dog by offering him a rose perhaps the dog would not sad anymore.

Based on the Oxford Dictionary (1948) the term “*moo*” refers to a deep sound created by a cow. The onomatopoeia “*moo*” belongs into lexical meaning. According to Lyon (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. The onomatopoeia “*moo*” naturally comes out from the cow, when the cow is trying to greet the dog, because the dog looks sad, while the cow attempts to cheer up a sad dog by reaching him and giving him a rose in order to make the dog feel much better and less sad. Therefore the onomatopoeia “*moo*” is considered having lexical meaning, because the meaning same as vocabulary as well as dictionary definition.

**Data 5**: The duck on the bus goes “quack, quack, quack” all through the town.  
Onomatopoeia word: “**Quack**”



Figure 5. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 01.50 – 02.10

In the data above the onomatopoeia words “*quack*” consider into primary onomatopoeia. According to Ullmann (1962:84), the term primary onomatopoeia refers

to sound which can create the same sound as the objects itself. The sound "quack" is described through the sound of a duck, while the object presented the object itself. When the duck tells her five children come to the bus first, here the sound of "quack" is arise naturally from the duck as communication a sign, that they should hurry up come to the bus so they don't miss the bus and could begin their journey.

According to the Oxford Dictionary (1948) meaning of word "quack" is the sound created by the duck. According to Lyon (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. The word "quack" refers into lexical meaning. Once the duck and her five children were waiting at the bus stop. Here, the sound "quack" heard spontaneously from the duck as a symbol of communication tools for directing her five children to go in to the bus first. Meanwhile, the onomatopoeia "quack" is considered to have lexical meaning because the term "quack" is the sound generated by the duck which has the same meaning with vocabulary as well as dictionary meaning.

**Data 6:** The chicken on the bus goes "cluck, cluck, cluck" all day long.  
Onomatopoeia word: "Cluck"



Figure 6. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 02.10 – 02.27

On the data above the onomatopoeia words "cluck" is containing into primary onomatopoeia. It is used to illustrate a series of short low sounds produced by a chicken. According to Ullmann (1962:84), the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can created the same sound as the objects itself. This sound was made by the chickens as they were sitting together and enjoying their trip. Then the bus tripped on a rock, and the cock moved up and down. This incident causes a pregnant hen to give birth to an egg. However, the sound of "cluck" appears as a reflection that the chicken is concerned about the incident, as well as the sound of "cluck" is simply turned up from the chicken, thus the sound of "cluck" refers into primary onomatopoeia.

According to the theory of meaning Lyon (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. Oxford Dictionary (1948) onomatopoeia words "cluck" it is used to illustrate a series of short low sounds produced by a chicken, as well as the sound "cluck" emerges from the chicken to reflect the thoughts that they are scared. Hence, this onomatopoeia containing of lexical meaning.

**Data 7:** The horse on the bus goes “neigh, neigh, neigh” all day long.  
Onomatopoeia word: “**Neigh**”



Figure 7. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 02.27 - 02.45

The onomatopoeia word “*neigh*” is considered into primary onomatopoeia. It’s used to describe the long high sound made by a horse. According to Ullmann (1962:84) the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the objects itself. The onomatopoeia “*neigh*” showed up naturally out from horse, once the horse was sitting in the corner with a box of apples, then perhaps the wheels on the bus were over on the rock, either the apples flew in the air, and the horse wanted to catch up the apples, through the sound of “*neigh*” is reflection of the horse to show up the horse's feelings.

According to the theory of meaning Lyon (1995:47) the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. According Oxford Dictionary (1948) onomatopoeia “*neigh*” is a long high sound created by a horse. The horse's onomatopoeia “*neigh*” reflects the horse's fear when attempting to catch the apples that flew through the air. It has the same meaning both in the dictionary and the vocabulary, therefore the onomatopoeia “*neigh*” consider into lexical meaning onomatopoeia “*neigh*” consider into lexical meaning.

**Data 8:** The sheep on the bus goes “baa, baa, baa” all day long  
Onomatopoeia word: “**Baa**”



Figure 8. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 02.45 - 03.00

The sound “*baa*” is classified as primary onomatopoeia in this data, because Ullmann (1962:84) states, the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can create the same sound as the objects itself. A sheep sat in a corner, knitting with thread and needle. Suddenly, a mouse walked into the sheep, immediately climbed on the threads and moved around on the spool of yarn with two legs. The sheep becomes

upset and concerned, and she attempts to ask the mouse to stop doing that. At that point, the sheep's sound of "baa" is heard as a reflection indicating the sheep is attempting to advise the mouse. The mouse could not cheer her up, and as a result, the mouse fell and was injured.

Based on the Oxford Dictionary (1948) the onomatopoeia "baa" belongs to the sound produced through both sheep and lambs. According to the theory of meaning Lyon (1995:47), the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. When the sheep attempts to advise the mouse to quit stepping into the spool of yarn, the sound "baa" occurs directly from the sheep. Therefore the meaning of "baa" consider into lexical meaning, the meaning same with dictionary or vocabulary.

**Data 9:** The people on the bus goes "ha-ha-ha" all through the town.  
Onomatopoeia word: **"ha-ha-ha"**



Figure 9. Wheels on the Bus Part 3, time 02.30 – 02.50

The onomatopoeia "ha-ha-ha" is the sound made by humans when they laugh. Based on the Ullmann (1962:84) the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can created the same sound as the objects itself. This onomatopoeia is considered into primary onomatopoeia because, sound "ha-ha-ha" arise through from Dave and Ava when they are talks each other's and share stories about something fun, Those made the both of them laughing together. Since the onomatopoeia "ha-ha-ha" is the sound that imitated the objects itself and it is become primary onomatopoeia.

According to the theory of meaning Lyon (1995:47), the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. Based on the Oxford Dictionary (1948) onomatopoeia words "ha-ha-ha" is the sound produced by humans when they laugh. The bus's wheels unexpectedly overturn on the rock, causing both of them to move up and down and crash into the bus floor. They did not cry, but they feel it funny and begin to laugh at each other. Because the sound "ha-ha-ha" has same meaning as in the dictionary, it is considered to contain lexical meaning.

**Data 10:** The mouse on the bus goes “squeak, squeak, squeak” all day long.  
Onomatopoeia word: “Squeak”



Figure 10. Wheels on the Bus Part 2, time 03.00 – 03.20

The term "*squeak*" belongs to primary onomatopoeia. Ullmann (1962:84) the term primary onomatopoeia refers to sound which can created the same sound as the objects itself. The sound is produced simply by the mouse. The term "*squeak*" belongs to primary onomatopoeia. The sound is produced simply by the mouse. In this case, the object is mouse. Once the mouse climbed on the spool of yarn, then fell out on to the bus floor and was hurt, the mouse produced a natural "*squeak*" sound in pain, the mouse squeaked.

Based on the Oxford Dictionary (1948) onomatopoeia words "*squeak*" are used to describe a quick, high-pitched, not-very-loud sound created by a mouse. Lyon (1995:47), the term lexeme is linked to the terms lexical and lexicon, and the lexicon containing the same meaning as the vocabulary or dictionary. In this case, the sound "*squeak*" arise from the mouse, when the mouse accidentally fall, the mouse squeaked in pain and created a "*squeak*" sound, this onomatopoeia belongs into lexical meaning, the meaning same as the dictionary definition.

## Conclusion

From the 3 parts of the video "*The Wheels on The Bus*" by Dave and Ava, there are 20 onomatopoeia words were found. From the whole data, it is found 12 data which are considered as primary onomatopoeia. Mostly, in line with the definition of primary onomatopoeia, the words are the sound which originally produced naturally by the object who make the sounds. The objects mean here are dog, cat, pig, cow, duck, chicken, horse, sheep, squeak and ha-ha-ha. Those sounds belong to lexical meaning and contextual meaning. For the primary type of onomatopoeia, lexical meaning is dominantly contained with (10 data or 83,33%) followed by contextual meaning with (2 data or 16,67%).

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