Development and Validation of a Monolingual Glossary of Terms Used by Cockfighters

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ABSTRACT

This research sought to develop a monolingual glossary of terms used by cockfighters. The lexical entries were gathered through observation and interview with the selected cockfighters. Results revealed that the glossary uncovers and enables development of the language of the cockfighters as a specific group of language users. The collection was found as an initial effort to document the language of a specific activity context that is assumed an additional contribution to the cockfighting lexicon. The glossary consists of 98 entries, of which 82 are simple words, and 16 are compound words. The majority of the terms that cockfighters used originated from the Tagalog and Spanish languages; others came from English, Latin, and other Philippine languages like Iloko, Visayan, Kapampangan, Ilonggo, Cebuano. Regarding lexical classifications, these were identified as nouns, adjectives, and verbs. Hence, the monolingual glossary of terms in Filipino is a documentation of the practical, acceptable, and commonly used terms of cockfighters. It is hoped that this study could preserve the language in cockfighting and contribute a glossary that may be used in the field of language and cultural studies.

Keywords: lexicography; glossary; monolingual glossary; glossarian; cockfighting

INTRODUCTION

Lexicography is vital in expanding, enriching, and preserving a language. It is an approach to dictionary writing and a scientific activity that requires a writer or a researcher to identify, collect, create, develop, and evaluate the quality of the product (Klein 2013). The process of development takes time for a researcher to accomplish a product because of the complexities of dictionary research. Since time is most often the constraints of lexicographers, the scope of dictionary writing may be deduced or focused into a particular form of a dictionary; hence, the development of bridged dictionaries, thesauri, and glossaries.

Research in lexicography paved the way to glossary writing. Its significance in various fields calls for its profusion because words are introduced continuously and used in different undertakings. The practice of glossary writing, which is the humble beginnings of lexicography (Nkomo & Madiba 2011), needs to be engineered in this period of language empowerment. New and sophisticated words are introduced, adopted, and used by people due to the changing and advancing demand of time. It is an impetus to document the activities of individuals. Thus, writers, researchers, lexicographers, or glossarians should document these words before they vanish. Likewise, glossary writing is a timely activity that must be explored by glossarians to capture the lexicons that are used in a specific activity context. Unfortunately, many researchers unwittingly ignored this vital documentation task.

Very little is known about the empirical investigation of glossary development and evaluation (Nkomo & Madiba 2011, Nillo 2005). Hence, scholars are called for to explore the scientific development of glossaries in various fields, contribute to the body of knowledge, and answer the dearth of glossary research.

In this study, a glossary is used to denote a collection of the terminologies in cockfighting. Cockfighting was chosen as the context of collection due to the culture around it that is deeply entrenched in Philippine life, particularly in the provinces, where...
cockfighting is part of the daily scrabble of income (Almendral 2013). However, most people are often disengaged in this activity because of gambling that is inherent to it. This inherent side of the game would mean banishment or maybe in the future people will be reluctant to accept its value. Since this is still a game for many Filipinos, it is time to document its language.

Given that there have been a few studies on glossary development (Nkomo & Madiba 2011, Nillo 2005), there is also a paucity of studies that dealt with the terms used in culture-based activities, more particularly cockfighting. As such, this study attempted to develop and validate a monolingual glossary of terms used in cockfighting. It is hoped that this study could preserve the language in cockfighting and contribute a glossary that may be utilised in the field of language and cultural studies.

LITERATURE REVIEW

COCKFIGHTING

Cockfighting is an ancient sport of two gamecocks pitted against each other, predicated on one killing another. It is an all-consuming male-oriented pastime (Chakraborty & Chakraborty 2016) fueled by a passion that transcends into a quasi-religion—a common man’s grail (Stuart 2014). Traditionally, only males are engaged in cockfighting since it is considered a symbol of bravery and resilience (Hawley 1993).

In the Philippines, it is popularly known as sabong usually held every day of the week and holidays, especially in the provinces. It is considered a “national pastime” (Stuart 2014) for males and is in fact written about by Jose Rizal in his novel “Noli Me Tangere.” Today, the activity is still overwhelmingly popular throughout the country. It is as much a part of the culture as is eating sisig ‘a favourite Filipino dish from parts of pig head and liver,’ speaking Taglish ‘the Filipino way of code-switching in Tagalog and English,’ or playing sungka ‘a traditional Filipino game.’

The continued tradition of engaging into cockfighting since the colonial period means that this has already been part of Filipino culture. As a Filipino heritage, there is a need to reconcile the legal, ethical, and unethical sides of the game. A recognition of this national pastime must be coupled with continuous government regulation. Cruz (2008) in her paper “Sabungan sa Tarlac: Espasyo, Kapangyarihan, at Pagkakakilanlan” documented Presidential Decree No. 1802 "Creating the Philippine Gamefowl Commission" promulgated by the late President Ferdinand Marcos on January 16, 1981. Said commission enforces rules and regulations about the holding of cockfight derbies in the Philippines including frequency sites, conduct, and operation of such cockfights. In a culture where there is a distinct divide between social classes, cockfighting and gambling are inherent to the Filipino tradition that transcends the numerous social and economic barriers in the country.

GLOSSARY DEVELOPMENT

The history of glossary development dates back millennia (Abdou, Kamthan & Shahmir 2018). Etymologically speaking, ‘glossary’ is derived from the Latin word ‘glossarium’ which means a “collection of glosses.” A glossary is a collection of textual glosses or technical terms which may not be familiar to general audiences (Blume et al. 2001). Its primary purpose is to provide a standard terminology and explain them to understand better the relevant concepts in a specific field of interest. While glossary development is an academic and professional activity, very few have undertaken it from a research perspective; that is, developing a glossary using the rigid methodology of collecting glosses, which
establishes its validity and accuracy. Nonetheless, several steps may be undertaken to develop a glossary scientifically (Ballena 2005, Blume et al. 2001): (1) specify the research objectives; (2) select and define the context in which the glosses will be collected; (3) use qualitative instruments such as interview and observation in collecting data; (4) develop the glossary; (5) validate the developed glossary with the help of experts; and (6) revise the glossary. Some of the data sources for a glossary include people, documents, and artefacts. Since language is highly influenced by the context it is used, all initially developed glossary is developmental. In the context of the current study, glossary development is primarily descriptive and phenomenologic as it requires immersion in the target community and description of the collected terms.

METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH DESIGN

This descriptive research study involved the description of a given state of affairs as fully and as carefully as possible and attempted to describe existing conditions without analysing relationships among variables (Fraenkl & Wallen 2014). Thus, manipulation, influence, and control of variables would not be attempted (Wiseman 1999). The method included the recording and description of lexicons and, subsequently, the development of the monolingual glossary of terms used in cockfighting. Calmorin (1994) also states that a descriptive type of research focuses on the present condition, the present that dictates the time of lexical use. It was employed to observe, describe, and document the currently used lexicons of the cockfighters. It sought to discover lexical items that provide essential knowledge about the nature of cockfighting.

CONTEXT AND PARTICIPANTS

The participants of this study included 15 cockfighters from Tarlac City. They are all male with age ranging from 30 to 56. They have been cockfighting for 5 to 26 years using their native language. The collection of data was done in one official arena for large-scale cockfighting derbies in Tarlac City. Nearby towns like Victoria, Paniqui, Camiling, and Bambam have their own, too. The arena can accommodate several thousands of spectators. One can see the most impoverished tricycle driver, the wealthiest businessman, and politician stand side by side as their passion for cockfighting and gambling discards social status. Tarlac City is the melting pot of Central Luzon. It is the capital of Tarlac, Philippines where people like the cockfighters belong to different ethnolinguistic groups, so they are Kapampangan, Iloko, Tagalog, and due to migration, a few of them are Visayan, Cebuano, and Ilonggo speakers. Whenever these cockfighters communicate, they use the Filipino language because this is the language understood by all of them. Since the Filipino language is the national language and unifying force among Filipinos, the researcher considered it the most appropriate language to use so that it can cover a wider range of Filipino readers. Notably, the Filipino language accommodates terminologies that originated from other Philippine languages. As such, the monolingual glossary in Filipino comprises of words that are based on different Philippine languages.

INSTRUMENT

To address the set objectives, observation and interview were used in gathering the needed data. All the 15 selected participants were involved in the interview and observation. More
specifically, the researcher took the role of a complete observer to allow the natural flow of events to happen and to examine the actual behaviour of the participants. Moreover, using this type of observation makes the study less prone to Hawthorne's effect. Hawthorne effect is a phenomenon in which the participants change their behaviour because they are aware that they are being observed.

A semi-structured interview was also conducted to obtain additional entries for the monolingual glossary. The interview guide contained probes and prompts that focused on eliciting terms that are frequently used in cockfighting. Some of these questions are as follows: (1) What are the commonly used terms in cockfighting? (2) What are their meaning and etymology? (3) What are their synonyms? (4) Are there other cockfighting terms that you know? This type of interview was employed because it allows a certain degree of flexibility for both the interviewee and interviewer (Barrot, 2016; Nunan, 1991). As an appropriate method for interpretative research, a semi-structured interview uses predetermined questions or topics/issues that allow participants to elaborate. The researcher himself took the role of the interviewer using the steps proposed by Walker (1985). First, the interviewer and interviewee sat side-by-side for a more productive discussion. Second, the interviewer began with warm-up questions, followed by the main questions, and ended with closing questions. The whole interview process was tape-recorded to preserve actual language and to record data with utmost accuracy. Thereafter, the data were transcribed and coded for analysis.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MONOLINGUAL GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The monolingual glossary development was divided into three phases (Olt 2007): factor search, glossary development, and evaluation and revision. The following figure shows the whole process of development and validation of the monolingual glossary.

![Diagram of glossary development process]

FIGURE 1. Procedure for the development and validation of the monolingual glossary

Factor search involved the identification of lexicons relevant to the development of the monolingual glossary. It was done through an extensive and principled search of related terms applicable to cockfighting. More specifically, two Sundays were spent for the researcher to witness the cockfight in San Sebastian Coliseum for him to collect the target
lexicons. During this preliminary collection of lexicons, a total of 32 terms about cockfighting were gathered. An interview was undertaken among 15 randomly selected cockfighters to expand the number of terms. Said interview led to 66 additional lexicons along with their etymologies and synonyms. All in all, 98 lexicons were collected.

In the analysis of the semantic component of the lexicons, the meanings provided by the informants were improved and analysed based on how they are operationally used in cockfighting. Glossary entries were selected and determined by classifying them according to their etymologies [in brackets], their classes in italics, and their synonyms (if there is any). Some etymologies and synonyms that the cockfighters provided were also considered, and those that they were not able to supply were identified with their word classes but were checked and content and face validated by the researcher and three experts in Applied Linguistics. In cases that some entries may fall under multiple categories, they were placed in the related topics (Janzen 2007).

After completing all the planned language features of the entries, the glossary was written considering technical matters like arranging the entries in an alphabetical order; putting their etymologies [in square brackets]; adding their word classes in italics; writing their operational meanings — after a colon if there is only a single meaning but a number and a colon if there are more than one meanings; and incorporating their synonyms, if there is any, introduced by a colon and an abbreviation Syn.

**EVALUATION OF THE MONOLINGUAL GLOSSARY**

The monolingual glossary of terms was evaluated in three dimensions: (1) self-evaluation or the researcher’s evaluation; (2) the cockfighters’ evaluation; and (3) the Applied Linguists’ evaluation. The first evaluation was performed by the researcher himself. This evaluation was done to ensure that the terminologies, etymologies, word classifications, meanings, and synonyms were accurately written. Likewise, format, spacing, spelling, punctuations, grammaticality, and appropriateness of meanings were also checked. This evaluation was recurrent in the process of writing and validating the accuracy and acceptability of the monolingual glossary of terms.

The second evaluation of the monolingual glossary of terms was conducted to five cockfighter-evaluators using the semi-structured interview guide for evaluation. Based on their responses, all of them agreed that the terminologies, etymologies, meanings, and synonyms are all acceptable. However, synonyms of some words should be added or removed, for instance, the synonym ‘gater’ for the term takilyera ‘a person who collects tickets for the game’ should be deleted. According to the evaluators, said synonym is confusing for Filipinos because it may be pronounced as [gɑ̃ɭɛɾ] in Tagalog instead of [ɡɛɾɛɾ]. Besides, the latter may be regarded as an incorrect English term. Likewise, the evaluators suggested to include the synonyms kapitalista for tahor ‘a capitalist or cockfighter who bets for large pot money and is usually seated near the ring,’ simburyo for sabungan ‘cockpit,’ and konseryerto for derbi ‘derby.’ The suggestions were minimal, but they were very helpful in improving the monolingual glossary of terms.

Finally, the third evaluation of the glossary was done by three Applied Linguists who hold a degree in Applied Linguistics. Their suggestions include the Tagalog correspondence of a term as well as the spelling of a few words. They suggested changing the term security gard ‘security guard’ to bantay which is a Tagalog term for one who secures and implements order in the cockpit. According to the validators, naturalising the former term seems a deviation on the purpose of writing a glossary in the Filipino language. Hence, the lexical equivalence of the Tagalog term should be used. Likewise, they suggested changing the spelling of the Spanish words, such as aficionado, gallera, llamado, llamadista, sentenciador...
to afiksiyondado, galyera, liyamado, liyamadista, and sentensiyador. As stated by the evaluators, the Filipino orthography should be followed in keeping with the purpose of this study. All of these suggestions were incorporated in the glossary to ensure that the monolingual glossary of terms of cockfighters is accurate and practical.

RESULTS
LEXICONS IN COCKFIGHTING USED BY COCKFIGHTERS

Among the letters of the alphabet, letters f, j, n, q, v, x, y, and z have no lexical entry. This study attempted to identify all the lexicons representing all of the letters of the alphabet, but the researcher failed to document a complete set of lexicons representing all letters. Thus, the absence of these words is possible due to the following reasons: first, the lexical items were only captured from the mouth of the cockfighters while the researcher observed and interviewed them; and second, several words are not yet available in the cockfighters' linguistic repertoire and are not commonly used in cockfighting. Therefore, the lexical items that were included in the glossary are the most commonly used terms by cockfighters.

Table 1 presents the lexical forms used in the glossary. The glossary consists of ninety-eight (98) words. Among them, eighty-two (82) are simple words and sixteen (16) are compound words which imply that the majority of the terms used by cockfighters are simple words that seem easier to load in the linguistic repertoire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexical Form</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Lexical Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simple Words</td>
<td>82 words</td>
<td>afiksiyondado, agaw, arina, asentista, bantay, basyada, bihag, binahae, bitaw, biya, blitar, bulik, bunas, casador, dehado, dehado, derbi, dolado, doktor, entrañas, galyera, gir, grada, gulang, hiraw, huli, inilog, kapitalista, karambola, karinderya, klaro, kristo, kultan, larga, lemon, liyamadista, liyamado, logro, lub, malas, mananari, meron, monte, ose, opisina, pagamutan, pago, palisada, parada, parehas, patakubahan, preferensiyya, pintakasi, pusiyam, ruveda, sabong, sabongero, sabungan, sahod, sakop, sambot, sentensiyador, sentensiyya, soltada, soltador, tabla, taglugon, tahid, tahor, takilyera, talisayin, talunan, tari, tariyan, tasador, tiyope, trabesya, tres, tupada, ulutan, wala, wala, wala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compound Words</td>
<td>16 words</td>
<td>bale-manok, halhay, kontra barata, kwat-tres, lihis-tari, lo-dies, manok, panahong, pantay-tahid, pilay-tari, pit anvayser, pit maneyder, sais dies, sampu-anim, styete-dies, takho-pata, walo-anim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For comprehension of the cockfighting terminologies by speakers of other languages, the terminologies written in Table 1 were translated from Filipino into English which is found under *Endnotes* of this paper. However, one-to-one correspondence of words from Filipino to English was not all rendered because most of them are language specific and have cultural nuance as well. However, the semantic component was provided to compensate lexical correspondence (Manzano 2016). In the translation, some words have the same or almost the same lexical correspondence or semantic component, for instance, the words ruveda and sabungan are terms which both mean ‘cockpit.’ Although the terminologies as mentioned earlier have the same meaning, the given terminologies differ because of the different languages where they came from, such as Spanish and Tagalog, respectively. Other terms like dehado, bihag, and talunan all mean ‘loser,’ and they also originate from Spanish and Tagalog, respectively. What makes these words interesting is that they all mean the same thing, but they vary in terms. Besides language, other factors that contribute to lexical variation are the mass media and level of education and occupation (Hamzah & Jalaluddin
2018). The variation of terminologies from different languages and other factors would lead to lexical discovery and development. They help to expand the terminologies used in cockfighting that may, in turn, lead to lexical or vocabulary knowledge and enrichment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Etymology</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Lexical Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>43 words</td>
<td>bantay, hale-manok, basyada, bihag, binabae, bitaw, bulk, giri, gulang, huli, karambola, karinderya, kulitan, lemon, lihis-tari, malas, mananari, meron, manok panabong, pagamutan, pantay-tahid, parehas, patakbuhan, pilay-tari, pintakasi, pusiym, sambong, sabongero, sabungan, sahod, sakop, sampu-anim, taglugon, tahid, takbo-patay, talsayin, talunan, tari, tarian, tiyope, ulutan, wala, walo-anim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>39 words</td>
<td>afiksyonado, asentista, buenas, casador, dehadista, dehado, doktor, doblado, galyera, gradas, kapitalista, klaro, kontra barata, kristo, kwat-tres, liyamadista, liyamado, lo-dies, logro, monte, onse, opisina, palsada, parada, preferensiya, ruededa, sais-dies, sentensiador, sentensiya, siyete-dies, soltada, soltador, tabor, takilyera, tasador, trabesiya, tres-dos, tupada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>6 words</td>
<td>blitser, derbi, entrans, hakfayt, pit awanwser, pit manedeyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iluko</td>
<td>3 words</td>
<td>hiraw, pago, tabla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visayan</td>
<td>2 words</td>
<td>biya, inilog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapampangan</td>
<td>2 words</td>
<td>bularit, hobi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cebuano</td>
<td>1 word</td>
<td>sambot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilonggo</td>
<td>1 word</td>
<td>agaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>1 word</td>
<td>arina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of etymology, there are forty-three (43) lexicons that were derived from the Tagalog language, thirty-nine (39) originated from Spanish, six (6) were drawn from English, three (3) were taken from Iluko, two (2) originated from each language – Visayan and Kapampangan, and one (1) came from each language – Cebuano, Ilonggo, and Latin. This finding implies that the Tagalog language served as the basis of the majority of the words that cockfighters used. It influences the development of terminologies because it is the language used in formal instruction, the language that is used to discuss Jose Rizal’s “Noli Me Tangere,” where cockfighting is also mentioned. This novel which was originally written in Spanish was later translated into Tagalog. Hence, cockfighting terms like manok panabong ‘gamecock,’ meron ‘side for the larger pot money bet,’ wala ‘underdog or side for the smaller pot money bet,’ pintakasi ‘a cockfight that is held during fiestas’ originated from Tagalog which abounds in the glossary.

The Spanish language is also apparent in the etymology of words because cockfighting upholds that many gamecocks have a blood strain of Spanish gamecocks (Prince Edward 2016). Although cockfighting was a popular pastime before the Spaniards came to the Philippines, the modern cockfighting was first witnessed and documented by the Spaniards in 1521. Hence, sample terminologies are afiksyonado ‘aficionado,’ buenas ‘lucky,’ liyamado ‘favoured gamecock,’ preferensiya ‘Very Important Person or VIP seats,’ sentensiya ‘proclamation of winner,’ casador ‘announcer,’ galyera ‘gallera.’ Some terminologies also originated from the English language, such as blitser ‘bleacher,’ hakfayt ‘hackfight,’ entrans ‘entrance.’

Likewise, local languages contributed in the etymologies due to the dominance of Iluko and Kapampangan speakers in Tarlac added to the migration of Filipinos from the Visayas region to Central Luzon. Terminologies like tabla ‘no declared winner,’ bularit ‘barnyard cockfight,’ biya ‘a type of betting for the smaller pot money,’ sambot ‘cockfighters who won in the game,’ agaw ‘a type of betting for the larger pot money’ are all Iluko, Kapampangan, Visayan, Cebuano, and Ilonggo, respectively. Visayan, Cebuano, and Ilonggo are languages spoken in the Visayas region. However, the word arina ‘arena’ which corresponds to cockpit or stadium is Latin and was found insignificant maybe because...
Spanish is cognate to it; thus, an instance of terminology with Latin in origin is attributed to the Spanish language.

**TABLE 3. Classification of Lexicons according to Lexical Categories**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexical Categories</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Lexical Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nouns</td>
<td>84 words</td>
<td>bantay, afiksyonado, agaw, arina, asentista, basyada, bitaw, biya, blister, bulik, casador, dehadista, dehado, derbi, doktor, doblado, entrans, galviera, giri, gradas, gulang, hakhayt, hiraw, inilog, kapitalista, karambola, karinderya, kontra barata, kristo, kwat tres, lemon, lihis-tari, liyamadista, liyamado, lo-dies, logro, lubi, mananari, manok panabong, meron, monte, onse, opisina, pagamutan, palisada, pantay-tahid, parada, patakbuhan, pinta kasi, pit anawser, pit manedeyer, preferensiya, pusiyam, roweda, sabong, sabongero, sabungan, sahod, sais-dies, sakop, sambot, sampu-anim, sentensiador, sentensiya, siyete-dies, soltada, soltador, taglugon, tahid, tahor, takilyera, talisayin, talunan, tari, tarian, tasador, tiyope, trabesiya, tres-dos, tupada, ulutan, wala, walo-anim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjectives</td>
<td>10 words</td>
<td>bale-manok, bihag, binahae, buenas, klaro, malas, parehas, pilay, tabla, takbo-patay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbs</td>
<td>4 words</td>
<td>kulitan, huli, larga, pago</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding lexical classifications, most of the terms were identified as nouns, while others were adjectives and verbs. Eighty-four (84) of the gathered lexicons are nouns: *bulik* ‘a breed of gamecock with different colors,’ *dehadista* ‘a cockfighter who always lose his chance,’ *kristo* ‘bet taker,’ *klaro* ‘clear,’ *pit anawser* ‘pit announcer,’ *soldtada* ‘cockfight,’ *soltador* ‘handler,’ *tasador* ‘matchmaker,’ *doblado* ‘a bet in which the pot money is doubled,’ among others. Meanwhile, 10 are adjectives: *binabae* ‘gay cock,’ *bihag* ‘describes one who loses the game,’ *parehas* ‘fair match,’ *soltada* ‘cockfight,’ *tasador* ‘matchmaker,’ *doblado* ‘a bet in which the pot money is doubled,’ among others. Lastly, four (4) are verbs: *kulitan* ‘to peck its rival cock’s head to make the latter aggressive to fight,’ *huli* ‘to tease losing cockfighters who are considered liyamadista,’ *larga* ‘to signal the start of cockfighting,’ and *pago* ‘to pay the balance for the pot money bet.’

The density of nouns in the glossary is noteworthy due to the numerous items of nouns in any languages. Nouns, as used to tell what is talked about in any linguistic constructions make the linguistic system substantial of terminologies that may also be subjected to derivation. Such derivations change the category of the word from noun to verb, i.e., *gulang* ‘ability of the cockfighter and the gamecock to win the game’ is a noun, but if a prefix *nang* is added to the word *gulang,* it is structured as *nanggulang* which means ‘cheated or deceived.’ Hence, the classification of the word changes from a noun to a verb through the process of derivation.

**DEVELOPMENT OF A MONOLINGUAL GLOSSARY OF TERMS IN COCKFIGHTING**

As a result, this study has realised its objective of producing the glossary of terms used by cockfighters, which consists of ninety-eight (98) lexical entries written in boldface and are arranged in an alphabetical order; etymologies [in brackets]; word classes in italics; meanings – written after a colon if there are only one meaning and no synonym, a number followed by a colon if there are more than one meanings and with a synonym(s); and synonyms, if there is any, introduced by a number and a colon and the abbreviation *Syn.*
lexical entry  etymology  word class

asentista [Sp.] pang. 1: may-ari o kinatawan ng may-ari na namamalakad sa sabungan. 2: taong gumugugol ng maraming salapi at panahon upang mapanatili ang takbo at kaayusan ng pagasasabong. 3: Syn. pit manedyer o isponsor.

meanings synonym

cockpit promoter [Sp.] n. 1: the owner or his representative who manages the cockpit. 2: a person who spends so much money and time for the smooth management of cockfighting. 3: Syn. pit manager or sponsor.

meanings synonym

FIGURE 2. Sample glossary entry

FIGURE 3. English version of Figure 2

For easier indexing of the glossary, the following abbreviations and their meanings were used:

L
Sp.
Eng.
Vis.
Ilong.
Iluk.
Ceb.
Kap.
Tag.
pang.
pan.
p.-uri
Syn.
Latin
Spanish
English
Visayan
Ilonggo
Iluco
Cebuano
Kapampangan
Tagalog
Pangngalan ‘noun’
pandiwa ‘verb’
pang-uri ‘adjective’
synonym

DISCUSSION

The current study attempted to develop and validate a monolingual glossary of terms used in cockfighting. From the obtained results, the elements of the glossary suggest that glossary writing follows an objective, accurate, and systematic presentation of entries. They provide restrictions and constraints about word information in the context in which they occur (Vrbinc & Vrbinc 2015). The presentation of the terminologies was based on a lexicographic study (Ballena 2005). Students may follow the same elements when they find glossary or dictionary writing interesting for them to undertake.

From the given findings, it can be surmised that the borrowing of words from English and Spanish is a manifestation of the influence of American and Spanish culture on the Philippines. Hence, it is also the consequence of the long cultural contact between Filipinos and Americans as well as Filipinos and Spaniards. Such a borrowing occurs when the cockfighters find the borrowed word most exactly fits the idea they want to express. Moreover, since they are bilinguals in the source language, they tend to pronounce the borrowed words similar or close to the way they are pronounced in the source language.

The development of this glossary may inspire students to substantiate the lexis used in cockfighting. Language keeps on developing; hence, more terms will substantiate this monolingual glossary of terms. It may also be a reference that will document the development of lexicons in various fields. Since cockfighting is less researched in the Philippine scene, this study may be an initial input for further lexicographic studies. The
lexicons of the cockfighters are linguistic inputs that may expand the students' understanding of the language in a specific field. Moreover, language always calibrates certain cultural implications that may lead to awareness or better understanding of the Filipino culture. Although, cockfighting is not valued by many (especially parents who do not like their children to be very passionate about this activity because it may, in turn, become a vice that may affect their economic condition), students’ understanding of this pastime as part of cultural practice may definitely be contributory to the expansion or enrichment of language and culture.

The cultural implications of cockfighting may vary from one country to another. In the Philippines, this is not just legal but a “national obsession” (Australia 2015). This has been regarded by some Filipinos as a national pastime and a way of rekindling Filipino culture; hence, almost all towns in the Philippines have cockpits. Notably, cockfighting is a sport and business for some Filipinos. Those who manage and train cocks can earn vast fortunes.

However, the idea of cruelty to animals does not even register in the mind of an average Filipino. For people who have different value orientations to animals, cockfighting is a cruel, bloody ritual which may turn away with displeasure and horror (Bethge 2002). Nevertheless, it became part of the Filipino ritual during fiestas and other occasions. It is primarily a masculine domain and, perhaps, the real competitors of Filipina wives as stated by Bethge’s (2002), “When a Filipino's house catches fire, he first rescues his gamecock, then his wife, and then his kids.” This sarcastic line may not be true but yields an aphoristic stance that may lead one to reconsider value orientations of the Filipinos.

In the Philippines, the late President Ferdinand Marcos passed the “Cockfighting Law” in 1974 (Bethge 2002) to support and promote an institution of national heritage. As such, TV programs, radio stations, and even websites try to make cockfighting more popular and turn it to be an international hobby that promotes cultural camaraderie. In other countries, however, like in the United States, cockfighting is illegal (PETA 2017) due to its unethical issues and threats. First, it is illegal because it is often linked to illegal gambling, robbery, drug use or selling, and even murder. Second, according to the international health experts, including the World Health Organization (PETA 2017), cockfighting may be linked to the spread of bird flu virus from birds to human through contact with blood and faeces.

These cockfighting issues and threats are the reasons why researchers less explore this activity. Perhaps, their attempt to investigate it is hampered due to these cultural implications and ethical considerations that may lead others to become prejudice to empirical findings, conclusions, and recommendations. However, these anxieties may be eradicated if researchers look into areas that lead them to do such an investigation that may describe lexicons that are contributory to the expansion of language in one activity, like cockfighting. Looking into its positive contribution leads scholars, especially lexicographers and glossarians, to expand their research interest. Hence, this research is hoped to contribute to the development of terminologies in cockfighting.

CONCLUSION

The present study attempted to develop and validate a monolingual glossary of terms used in cockfighting in the Philippines. As the findings show, a total of 98 terms were collected. Of these, 82 are simple words while 16 are compound words. Regarding etymology, the majority of the terms were of Tagalog and Spanish origin. One implication of this study is that a glossary may be used as a reference in language and cultural studies. Students may learn from
the cockfighting lexicons and may also help them understand its cultural implications and ethical considerations. Studies on cockfighting may lead them to an awareness of its legal issues, concerns, and threats. Moreover, the terms used by the cockfighters are of current use and are all practical and acceptable. However, an objective way of evaluating the glossary may be done to give a more reliable data on the accuracy and practicality of the cockfighting terminologies.

While the current study provided some interesting insights, some limitations should be considered; hence, the results should be interpreted with caution. First, the number of terms collected from the cockfighters was limited. This limitation was brought by the exceptional use of the terms by only a few people added to a scarce documentation of cockfighting language. The limitation of these entries on the one hand and the attempt of initiating the collection and development of a glossary on the other may, further, encourage scholars in the field to collect and compile more terms in cockfighting and other activities or industries. Cockfighters who served as informants of the gathered terms seemed to use only those that are utilised in the actual cockfight. Lexicographers may also explore the use of other terms such as “online-betting.” Since this term was not provided for the researcher during the data elicitation, this was not included in the glossary. However, enrichment of this initial collection of cockfighters’ terms may help in developing a more substantial and complete terminology in cockfighting.

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ENDNOTES

LEXICAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. afiksonado ‘aficionado’
2. arina ‘arena’
3. asentista ‘cockpit promoter’
4. bantay ‘security guard’
5. basyada ‘matchmaker’
6. binabae ‘gay cock’
7. bitaw ‘spar’
8. biya ‘bet’
9. blitser ‘bleacher’
10. buenas ‘lucky’
11. bularit ‘barnyard cockfight’
12. casador ‘announcer’
13. dehado ‘loser’
14. derbi ‘derby’
15. doktor ‘doctor’
16. entrans ‘entrance’
17. galyera ‘galleria’
18. gradas ‘cockpit steps’
19. hakfayt ‘hackfight’
20. kapitalista ‘capitalist’
21. karinderya ‘canteen’
22. klaro ‘clear’
23. kristo ‘bet taker’
24. liyamado ‘favoured gamecock’
25. malas ‘unlucky’
26. manok panahong ‘gamecock’
27. opisina ‘office’
28. pagamutan ‘hospital’
29. parehas ‘fair match’
30. pit anawser ‘pit announcer’
31. pit manedyer ‘pit manager’
32. preferensiya ‘Very Important Person or VIP seats’
33. ruweda ‘cockpit’
34. sabong ‘cockfighting’
35. sabongero ‘cockfighter’
36. sabungan ‘cockpit’
37. sentensiya ‘proclamation of the winner’
38. sentensiyador ‘referee’
39. soltada ‘cockfight’
40. soltador ‘handler’
41. talunan ‘loser’
42. tasador ‘matchmaker’
43. tupada ‘barnyard cockfight’
44 agaw ‘a type of betting for the larger pot money’
45 bale-manok ‘description of the gamecock where the handler is showing his fingers like scissors’
46 bihag ‘describes one who loses the game’
47 bulik ‘a breed of gamecock with different colours’
48 dehadista ‘a cockfighter who always lose his chance’
49 doblado ‘a bet in which the pot money is doubled’
50 giri ‘an act of the gamecock as if it were to attack’
51 gulong ‘ability of the cockfighter and the gamecock to win the game’
52 hiraw ‘a breed of gamecock with dirty colour’
53 huli ‘to tease losing cockfighters who are considered liyamadista’
54 iniñlog ‘referring to the side of meron or liyamada’
55 karambola ‘a cockfight in which all gamecocks fight with one another in the cockpit’
56 kontra barata ‘all cockfighters have already their side or bet’
57 kulitan ‘to peck its rival cock’s head to make the latter aggressive to fight’
58 kwat-tres ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 400 pesos for one side and 300 pesos for the other’
59 larga ‘to signal the start of cockfighting’
60 lemon ‘a yellow breed of a gamecock’
61 lihis-tari ‘a way of cheating by turning back on the favoured gamecock’
62 liyamadista ‘a cockfighter with a larger pot money bet’
63 lo-dies ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 8,500 pesos wins 10,000 pesos’
64 logro ‘a betting system’
65 lubi ‘a sort of bet among cockfighters’
66 mananari ‘an expert in putting cockfighting knives or blades’
67 meron ‘side for the larger pot money bet’
68 monte ‘an illegal cockfighting but is permitted by the cockpit owner because of the 10 percent gain’
69 onse ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 400 pesos wins 550 pesos’
70 pago ‘to pay the balance for the pot money bet’
71 palisada ‘10 percent of the prize money is gained for every win’
72 pantay-tahid ‘position of the cockfighting knife or blade that is even with the pointed part of the cock’s feet’
73 parada ‘the betting amount with 10 percent tax’
74 patakbuhan ‘a kind of cockfight without the use of cockfighting knife or blade’
75 pilay-tari ‘acute illness of the gamecock’s feet where the cockfighting knife or blade is fastened’
76 pintakasi ‘a cockfight that is held during fiestas’
77 pusiyam ‘a category or type of betting’
78 sahid ‘a small pot money bet wins over a larger amount of money’
79 sais dies ‘a kind of bet that decreases the morale of the gamecock owner, i.e., 600 pesos wins 1,000 pesos’
80 sakop ‘a member of a cockfighting group’
81 sambot ‘cockfighters who won in the game’
82 sampu-anim ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 600 pesos wins 1,000 pesos’
83 siyete-dies ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 700 pesos wins 1,000 pesos’
84 tabla ‘no declared winner’
85 lagugon ‘season when the gamecock’s feathers fall off or when the cock is not yet ready to fight’
86 tahid ‘pointed parts of the gamecock’s feet that serve as its weapon and where the cockfighting knife or blade is fastened’
87 tahor ‘a capitalist or cockfighter who bets for a large pot money and is usually seated near the ring’
88 takbo-patay ‘an incredibly injured gamecock runs away from its enemy as a signal of losing or death’
89 takilyera ‘a person who collects tickets for the game’
90 talisayan ‘a breed of a gamecock which is usually called gray and has combined colours of black, red, and beige.
91 tari ‘cockfighting knife or blade’
92 tarsian ‘a place where the cockfighting knife or blade is fastened for the rival cocks’
93 tiyope ‘an act of cheating in the cockpit’
94 trabesiya ‘a cockfighter who has no gamecock for the fight, but he bets for the gamecock of another’
95 tres ‘a kind of bet in which 50 percent of the capital is gained by the winner, i.e. 1,000 pesos wins 1,500 pesos’
96 ulutan ‘a place where the proper match is done for the rival cocks regarding their size and weight’
97 walka ‘underdog or side for the smaller pot money bet’
98 walo-anim ‘a kind of bet, i.e., 300 pesos wins 400 pesos or 600 pesos wins 800 pesos’
REFERENCES


