

**TYPES OF MIDDLE VOICE IN INDONESIAN LANGUAGE  
(TIPE-TIPE DIATESIS MEDIAL DALAM BAHASA INDONESIA)**

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**ABSTRACT**

As the national language, Indonesian language has been often used as the object of linguistic study conducted by both local and foreign linguists. In this case, this study is concerned with the types and morphological structure of verbs in Indonesian middle voice. Data was gained through interview method to some speakers of Indonesian. The data was completed by those taken from daily newspaper Bali Post. Based on the analysis it was found that the middle voice in Indonesian can be distinguished into lexical, morphological, and periphrastic middle. Lexical middle is only constructed by zero intransitive verbs and the action conducted by ACTOR refers back to the ACTOR. Morphological middle results from affixes (*ber-*) and (*ber-/-an*) attached to verb and noun bases. Periphrastic middle is possibly derived from morphological middle. Affixes commonly used to produce periphrastic middle are transitive affixes (*meN-*), (*meN-/-kan*), and (*meN-/-i*) with their various forms depending on the initial phoneme of the bases. Semantically, middle voice in Indonesian Language is classified into ten types in accordance with what is proposed by Kemmer, they are (1) grooming or body action middle, (2) change in body posture middle, (3) non-translational motion middle, (4) translation motion middle, (5) indirect middle, (6) emotion middle, (7) cognitive middle, (8) spontaneous middle, (9) reciprocal situation middle, and (10) middle of action of emotion.

**Key words:** *middle voice, affixes, ACTOR, UNDERGOER, transitive.*

## ABSTRAK

Sebagai bahasa nasional, bahasa Indonesia sering digunakan sebagai objek penelitian linguistik, baik yang dilakukan oleh linguis Indonesia maupun linguis asing. Hasil penelitian dalam tulisan ini berhubungan dengan tipe-tipe diatesis medial dan struktur morfologis verba yang digunakan dalam diatesis medial bahasa Indonesia. Data penelitian ini diperoleh melalui metode wawancara terhadap penutur bahasa Indonesia. Data tersebut dilengkapi dengan data yang diperoleh dari surat kabar harian Bali Post. Berdasarkan hasil analisis ditemukan bahwa diatesis medial dalam bahasa Indonesia dapat dibedakan ke dalam diatesis medial leksikal, diatesis medial morfologis, dan diatesis medial perifrastik. Diatesis medial leksikal hanya dapat dibangun oleh verba intransitif zero dan tindakan yang dilakukan oleh ACTOR mengacu kembali kepada ACTOR itu sendiri. Diatesis medial morfologis dihasilkan dari penambahan afiks (ber-) dan (ber-/-an) terhadap verba dasar dan nomina dasar. Diatesis medial perifrastik dapat dihasilkan dari medial morfologis. Afiks yang umum digunakan untuk menghasilkan medial perifrastik adalah afiks transitif (meN-), (meN-/-kan), dan (meN-/-i) dengan berbagai variasi bentuknya bergantung pada fonem awal dari bentuk dasar yang dilekatinya. Secara semantik, diatesis medial dalam bahasa Indonesia diklasifikasi ke dalam sepuluh tipe sesuai dengan yang diajukan oleh Kemmer, yaitu (1) medial untuk perawatan tubuh atau tindakan badan, (2) medial yang menyatakan perubahan postur tubuh, (3) medial mosi non-translational, (4) medial mosi translational, (5) medial tak langsung, (6) medial emosi, (7) medial kognitif, (8) medial yang berhubungan dengan kejadian atau tindakan spontan, (9) medial yang menunjukkan situasi resiprokal, dan (10) medial yang menunjukkan tindakan emosi.

**Kata kunci:** *diatesis medial, afiks, ACTOR, UNDERGOER, transitif.*

## **Introduction**

Indonesian language is the national and official language of Indonesia. This language is spoken by mostly Indonesian people living in cities. Those who live in country side use both Indonesian and their own local languages. Many researches have been conducted on Indonesian language by both domestic (Indonesian) and foreign linguists. Those researches involve (1) macro linguistics related to the relationship of the language with its speakers' social life in Indonesia and (2) micro linguistics due to the analysis of the structure of Indonesian language including aspect of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics as well. Although many researches on Indonesian language have been conducted, none was discussing about middle voice in Indonesian. Thus, this study plays an important role for the theoretical development of linguistics, particularly for Indonesian language study.

Middle voice is a grammatical category that states semantic function connected with clause reference. Voice is commonly distinguished into active and passive voice. However, in recent years another type of voice is widely developed in some languages called middle voice. This paper tries to discuss and analyze types of middle voice found Indonesian language.

## **Method of Research**

Data of this study was taken from some speakers of Indonesian by applying observation method. This method was completed by note technique. Besides, in collecting data the writer also sometimes took a part in conversations made by speakers (informants). The data was completed by those taken from daily newspaper Bali Post written in Indonesian language.

The collected data was analyzed based on synchronic descriptive approach. Meanwhile, method applied to present the result is formal and informal method with deductive-inductive approach.

### **Theoretical Framework**

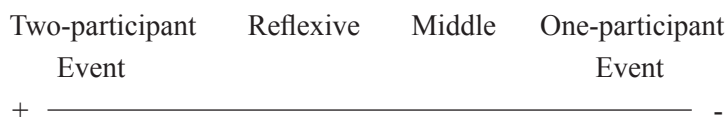
The primary distinction for voice comes to active and passive. But, in some languages the distinction may also come to middle voice. There are some other constructions of which roles are related to middle, such as reflexive, causative, and impersonal construction (Crystal quoted by Shibatani, 2002:1). Three important things connected with voice are (a) voice opposition involving voice change, (b) voice opposition not involving semantic opposition, and (c) primary distinction between active and passive (Shibatani, 2002:1).

E. Loos (1999) states that middle voice is a voice conveying that subject is an ACTOR and act an action (a) upon him/herself reflexively or (b) for his/her own benefit, or (c) on his/her interest. In the case of plural subject, the ACTOR may perhaps act upon each other as a reciprocal. Middle voice is used to express a state of affairs, in this case, an action or a state expressed by verbs which affect the subject of the verbs. It means the subject of verb can be ACTOR and UNDERGOER as well. An example given in this paper is a verb taken from Greek *lou-sthai* 'wash (*oneself*)'. The verb is the middle form of verb *louo* 'wash (*something*)' and verb *louomai* that means 'I wash myself' (Kemmer, 1994: 179 dan E. Loos, 1999).

Kemmer (1994:1992-1995) also says that the distinction between reflexive and middle can be seen from the number of participants (in this paper called argument). Reflexive construction is said to have two participants so that reflexive is in the form of transitive construction. Meanwhile, middle has only one participant and it is in the form of intransitive construction. A number of situation involving acts conducted on or to his/her own body is called middle. Kemmer

emphasizes that all acts that show body movement are called middle voice. However, if we see the definition of reflexive semantically, some verbs showing body movement are called reflexive, particularly about acts that are clearly conducted upon the participant himself or for the benefit of the participant (Van Valin and LaPolla, 1997).

Kemmer proposes a diagram showing relationship between reflexive and middle to support a statement that reflexive belongs to transitive construction and middle belongs to intransitive one. The diagram is like what is proposed by Hopper and Thompson in Kemmer (1994). They said that reflexive exists between transitive and intransitive (construction with two or one participant). However, middle voice exists between reflexive and intransitive (one participant construction). This can be seen in the following feature (Kemmer, 1994:209).



Another linguist who has ever analyzed middle voice is Arenales (1994). He says that in nominative-accusative languages, semantically subject of active can or cannot be affected by action stated by predicate. Active sentences, of which subject is not semantically affected by the action stated by verbs are called active voice, but, those of which subject is affected by the action stated by the verbs are called middle voice (Arenales, 1994:1). For the clear understanding, some examples of English are presented below.

- a. *Manuel ate the cheese* : active
- b. *Manuel got dressed* : active, middle
- c. *Manuel was fed by his mother* : passive

Sentence (3b) is the example of middle (also as active) as in the sentence agent-subject-topic also show conceptual status as element affected by action stated by verbs. However, sentences (3a) and (3c) are examples of pure active and passive. Middle is more marked by verb morphology rather than noun morphology or word order change (Arenales, 1994:2).

Shibatani (2002:4--5) classifies middle into morphological middle, syntactic middle and lexical middle. This classification will be used as the base on recognizing types of middle voice of Indonesian language in this paper. Furthermore, Kemmer argues that all action showing body movement is called middle voice. And Kemmer (1994:182-198) divides middle voice based on the semantic action shown by the verbs into various types as follows: (1) grooming or body action; (2) change in body posture; (3) non-translational motion; (4) translation motion; (5) indirect middle; (6) emotion middle; (7) cognitive middle; (8) spontaneous middle; (9) reciprocal situation; and (10) action of emotion.

### **Types of Middle Voice and Morphological Structure of Their Verbs**

Based on the verbs and transitivity markers, middle voice can be classified into several types. Kemmer (1994) focuses on middle voice more as intransitive construction so that middle voice is classified into morphological (marking intransitive) and lexical (zero intransitive). As previously explained that Shibatani (2002) and Shibatani and Artawa (2003) proposed another type of middle called syntactical or periphrastic middle. Thus, classification of middle voice in this paper is based on classification proposed by Shibatani (2002) and Shibatani and Artawa (2003), such as (1) lexical middle, (2) morphological middle, and (3) syntactic (periphrastic) middle.

## Lexical Middle

In Indonesian there are some zero intransitives (ZI) that can be used in middle construction. Middle constructions resulted from ZI are called lexical middle and ZI verbs showing the action or state acted by *ACTOR* affect the *ACTOR* itself. Examples of ZI verbs that result in lexical middle in Indonesian language are as follows.

- (1) a. *Mereka sedang pergi ke pasar*  
“They are going to market”
- b. *Saya tiba di rumah sekitar pukul 8 malam*  
“ I arrived at home about 8 p.m”
- c. *Ayahnya datang ketika dia sudah tidur*  
“His father came while he had gone to bed”
- d. *Adik saya sedang keramas*  
“My younger sister is washing her hair”

Verb *pergi* ‘go’ (1a), *tiba* ‘arrive’ (1b), *datang* ‘come’ (1c), and *keramas* ‘wash his/her hair’ (d) all are included into ZI verbs. Constructions result from those ZI verbs are lexical middle. In this case, ZI verbs show an action or state that refers back to the only core argument of the construction. Thus, in such constructions *ACTOR* is also as *UNDERGOER*.

## Morphological Middle

Morphological middles are intransitive middles with morphological markers. Morphological middles in Indonesian language use intransitive verb with {*ber-*} and {*ber-/-an*}. Analysis of this kind of middle can be seen in the following discussion.

## Morphological Middle with {ber-}

In Indonesian grammatical, prefix {ber-} is used as intransitive marker. Verbs resulted from (ber-) can be action and non-action verbs. As intransitive marker, prefix {ber-} is realized with {ber-}, {bel-}, and {be-} depend on the bases the prefix attach to. In Indonesian, many verbs with {ber-} result in lexical middle construction. This can be seen in the following examples.

- (2) a. *Mereka berwisata ke Bedugul menggunakan bis*  
“They went on a journey to Bedugul by bus”
- b. *Orang tua itu sudah harus bertongkat ketika berjalan.*  
“The old man must use stick when he walks.
- c. *Anaknya yang termuda tidak pernah lupa bercermin jika mau keluar rumah*  
“His youngest daughter never forgets to look at herself on a mirror when she wants to go out”
- d. *Mereka sedang belajar bersama di rumahnya Dea*  
“They are studying together in Dea’s house”

Verb *berwisata* ‘to go on a journey’ (a), *bertongkat* ‘to use a stick’ (b), *bercermin* ‘to see her/himself on a mirror’ (c), and *belajar* ‘to study’ (e) all are intransitive verbs with {ber-} resulting in middle constructions. Actions conveyed by the verbs are conducted by the only argument (*ACTOR*) and the result of the action refers back to the *ACTOR*. Thus, the *ACTOR* does an action for his/her own benefit or upon him/herself. In the case of the base, the middle verbs above result from (ber-) with noun *wisata* ‘tour’ (a), *tongkat* ‘stick’ (b), *cermin* ‘mirror’ (c), verb *ajar* ‘to teach’ (d), and verb *kerja* ‘to work’ (e).



### Morphological Middle with {ber-/an}

Prefix {ber-} can be also combined with suffix {-an} to produce middle construction. Look at the following examples.

- (3) a. Mereka berpelukan ketika timnya menang dalam pertandingan itu  
“They hugged each other when their team won the champion”
- b. Mereka berciuman di tempat ramai  
“They kissed each other at a crowded place”
- c. Ibunya berjualan di pasar Kumba Sari lantai 3  
“His mother sells many things at Kumba Sari market”

The constructions with {ber-/an} in (a,b) above show a reciprocal in which the plural *ACTOR* do something each other as mentioned by the base of the verbs. The base of verb *berpelukan* ‘to hug each other’ (a) is a verb *peluk* ‘to hug’ and the base of verb *berciuman* ‘to kiss each other’ (b) is a verb *cium* ‘to kiss’. Although construction (c) does not show reciprocal, the intransitive verb with {ber-} shows a middle as well. All constructions above are called middle voice since *ACTOR* of the verbs do an action and the result refers back to *ACTOR*, both singular *ACTOR* (c) and plural *ACTOR* (a,b).

### Periphrastic Middle

A periphrastic middle is a middle in which the *ACTOR* and *UNDERGOER* are obligatory in a construction and there is co-referential relation between them. Thus, periphrastic middle is the same as co-referential reflexive. Verbs used in periphrastic middle are transitive verbs with two direct core arguments. Constructions of periphrastic middle also possible derive from morphological middle.

### Periphrastic Middle with {*me-*}

In Indonesian prefix {*me-*} has some variants. It becomes {*men-*} if it is attached to the base with initial letters {*t,d,j*}, it becomes {*meng-*} if it is attached to the base with initial letters {*k,g*} and vowels, it becomes {*mem-*} if it attached to the base with initial letters {*p,b*}, and it becomes {*meny-*} if it is attached to the base with initial letters {*c,s*}.

Periphrastic middle using transitive verbs with prefix {*me-*} can be seen in the following examples.

- (4) a. *Gadis kecil itu selalu menyisir rambutnya setelah mandi*  
“The little girl always combs her hair after taking a shower”
- b. *Mereka rajin merawat wajah dan rambutnya*  
“They take care of their fishes and hair diligently”

The above constructions may be called middle as the *ACTOR* act an action mentioned by the verbs upon him/herself or the result of the action is for the benefit of the *ACTOR*. Verb *menyisir* results from base noun/verb *sisir* ‘comb/to comb’ (a) and verb *merawat* results from verb *rawat* ‘to care of’ (b). The constructions above can be grouped into middle not because of the type of the verbs but because of element of *UNDERGOER* as apart of the body of the *ACTOR*. Thus, the verbs above can be used both for middle and non-middle constructions.

### Periphrastic Middle with {*me-/-kan*}

Periphrastic middle that results from combination of affixes can be seen in the following examples.

- (5) a. *Dia tidak memikirkan dirinya lagi*  
 “He did not think of himself anymore”
- b. *Dia menelentangkan dirinya di atas lantai tanpa beralaskan tikar*  
 “He lied down himself on the floor without mat”

Middle constructions above are constructed by transitive verb *memikirkan* ‘to think of’ that derives from verb base *pikir* ‘to think of’ (a) and transitive verb *menelentangkan* ‘to lay down ...’ that derives from verb base *telentang* ‘to lay down’ (b). The presence of reflexive elements *dirinya* ‘him/herself’ in those constructions with transitive verbs {*me-/-kan*} above are obligatory. Verbs used in both examples can be used for both middle and non-middle. Thus, the examples above can be grouped into middle because of the presence of the reflexive elements and not because of the type of verb used in the constructions. It means, if the *UNDERGOER* of the constructions is not filled by reflexive pronouns the constructions will become non-middle as in the following examples.

- (6) a. *Dia tidak memikirkan orang tuanya lagi*  
 “He does not think of his parents anymore”
- b. *Dia menelentangkan adiknya di atas lantai tanpa beralaskan tikar*  
 “He lied down his younger brother on the floor without mat”

Both constructions above do not belong to middle construction since the *UNDERGOER* of those constructions are not filled by reflexive pronouns so that the *UNDERGOER* does not refer back to the *ACTOR*. Both sentences are pure transitive active.

### Periphrastic Middle with {*me-/i*}

Besides with suffix {-*kan*}, prefix {*me-*} in Indonesian can be also combined with suffix {-*i*} to result in transitive verbs. The transitive verbs resulting from combination {*me-/i*} are also possibly used in periphrastic middle. Look at the following examples.

- (7) a. *Dia melukai dirinya sendiri*  
“He hurt himself”
- b. *Orang itu tidak menyadari dirinya, dia selalu marah-marah kepada saudaranya.*  
“The man does not realize himself, he always gets angry to his brothers”

The sentences above result from adding combination {*me-/i*} to noun base *luka* ‘pain’ and adjective *sadar* ‘be aware’. The obligatory reflexives make the constructions above become middle. It means that if the *UNDERGOER* of the constructions are not filled by reflexive pronouns they do not belong to middle but they will become transitive active (non middle) as in (6).

Periphrastic middles can also result from paraphrasing morphological middle, as in (8) below.

- (8) a. *Gadis kecil itu biasa bersisir setelah mandi*  
“The little girl usually combs her hair after taking a shower”
- b. *Dia telentang di atas lantai tanpa beralaskan tikar*  
“He lied down on the floor without a mat”

Morphological middle (8a) can be paraphrased to periphrastic middle (4a) and morphological middle (8b) can be paraphrased to periphrastic middle (5b).

### **Types of Middle Voice Based on the Semantic Action**

Base on the semantic action conveyed by the predicate or verb, middle voice in Indonesian language can be classified into ten types in accordance with theory proposed by Kemmer above. The ten types of middle voice are described based on the analysis in the following discussion.

#### **Grooming or Body Care Actions**

This type of middle shows an action or state conveyed by the predicate or verb is related to the grooming or body action of the actor or subject. Type of middle voice typically showing an action or state related to grooming or body action is analyzed based on the examples below.

- (9)
- a. *Kakak perempuan saya sedang keramas*  
“My older sister is washing her hair”
  - b. *Anak itu membersihkan dirinya dengan lulur tradisional*  
“The girl washed her body with traditional scrub”
  - c. *Dia merawat wajahnya dengan pergi ke salaon untuk facial.*  
“She cares her face by going to a beauty salon for facial”

The activity stated by the verbs of the examples above show an action related to body care or grooming. In those examples the action stated by lexical middle verb *keramas* ‘wash his/her hair’ in (a)

shows that the activity is conducted for the actor him/herself and not for other persons. Verb *membersihkan* ‘wash’ and *merawat* ‘care’ in (a) and (b) may be categorized as middle if they are followed by parts or the whole body of the actor so that the action acted by the actor is just for him/herself and not for others. As the verbs of the constructions (b) and (c) need an object we can call them as periphrastic middle, meanwhile the middle verb in (a) is lexical middle.

### **Change in Body Posture**

This kind of middle shows a movement or action followed by the change in body posture and the movement occurs only in a certain area /place and it does not move to another place or area. Some examples of this kind of middle are as follows.

- (10) a. *Ibu gurunya berdiri di depan pintu*  
“Their teacher stood in front of the door”
- b. *Temannya duduk di sebelah sana, sedangkan dia duduk di samping ibunya*  
“Her friend was sitting down over there while she was sitting down near her mother”
- c. *Orang itu bangun dan melambaikan tangannya kepada anaknya yang sedang menuju kelas.*  
“The man rose and waved his hand to his daughter going towards classroom”.
- d. *Dia berbaring di atas kursi panjang*  
“He lied down on a long chair”

All examples above belong to middle voice of change in body action. The constructions use intransitive verbs and they are not followed by any objects. The intransitive verbs used to result in the constructions are intransitive verb *berdiri* ‘stand’ in (a), *duduk* ‘sit’ in (b), *bangun* ‘rise’ in (c), and *berbaring* ‘lie down’ in (d). Morphologically, the verb *berdiri* ‘stand’ and *berbaring* ‘lie down’ belong to morphological middle verbs since they need an affix to the pre-category base *diri* and *baring*. Meanwhile, verb *duduk* ‘sit down’ and *bangun* ‘rise’ are categorized into lexical middle verbs. All the verbs in (10) show a change in body posture since the body of the actor keeps standing in its position or it does not move to another position or area.

### Non-translational Motion

This middle shows a movement of body parts without being followed by the movement of the whole body. Based on the analysis, there are some examples of non-translational motion found in Indonesian language. The examples are as follows.

- (12) a. Mereka *melambaikan* tangan untuk minta tolong  
 “They waved their hands to ask for aids”
- b. Dia *tersenyum* kepada kami  
 “She smiled to us”
- c. Orang itu *mengangguk* ketika melewati saya  
 “The man nodded when he passed me”

All the constructions above are categorized as non-translational motion middle as the verbs used in the middles show an action of particular body parts without being followed by the

movement of the whole body. The result of the action stated by the verbs affect the subject of the verbs. The actions are commonly done volitionally and they are sometimes used to give a sign to someone. The verbs used in non-translational middle can be either transitive verb like *melambaikan* ‘wave’ in (a) or intransitive verbs like *tersenyum* ‘smile’ in (b) and *mengangguk* ‘nod’ in (c).

### Translation motion

Beside non-translational motion, translational motion middle is also found in Indonesian language. This middle shows the action or movement of the whole body and it is normally followed by the transfer of position. Some examples for translational motion middle are as follows.

- (13) a. *Dinda pulang bersama kakaknya, jadi saya tidak perlu menjemputnya*  
“Dinda goes home with her older brother, so I need not fetch her any more”
- b. *Anak-anak pergi ke lapangan puputan hari Jumat lalu*  
“The students went to Puputan square last Friday”
- c. *Iwan mendekat temannya yang duduk di sebelah sana*  
“Iwan approached his friend sitting down over there”

The three examples above use different verbs, but they all belong to translation motion. Verb *pulang* ‘go (home)’ in (a) and *pergi* ‘go (out)’ in (b) are categorized as intransitive verb and verb *mendekati* ‘approach’ in (c) belongs to transitive verb as it needs an object. It means that translational middle in Indonesian language can be filled in by both intransitive and transitive verb. Those verbs show



an action done continuously from one point or one place to another point or place. As the action involves the whole parts of body which is followed by the transfer of position the three constructions above can be categorized as translational middle.

### Indirect middle

Indirect middle is one of middle voices in which the actor or the subject does not do an action but he gets things or being the goal of the activity stated by particular verbs in the sentence. In this case, because of the semantic content of the verbs, the actor or subject has semantic role as beneficiary or recipient. The verbs usually used in this kind of middle are transitive verbs. Examples of indirect middle in Indonesian language are described below.

- (14) a. *Pak Sudarta mendapatkan hadiah TV 21 inc*  
“Mr. Sudarta got prize TV 21 inc”
- b. *Dia telah menerima tawaran pekerjaan itu*  
“She has accepted the job offer”
- d. *Dia (me)minta izin kepada ibunya untuk pergi bersama teman-temannya*  
“She asked for permission from her mother to go out with her friends”

The transitive verbs used in forming indirect middles above are verb *mendapatkan* ‘get’ in (a), *menerima* ‘accept’ in (b), and (me) *mint*a ‘ask for’ in (c). The three verbs indicate the same semantic content in which the actor/subject has thematic role as beneficiary. It means the actor obtains the benefit in accordance with the verbs used.

## Emotion middle

Emotion middle is a middle in which an actor as the only argument feels a situation or particular state stated by the verbs of the sentence. Indonesian language emotion middles are commonly resulted from verbs of emotion like *marah* ‘angry’, *takut* ‘fear’, *berani* ‘dare’, *khawatir* ‘worry’, *terkejut* ‘surprise’ and others. Some examples of emotion middle found in Indonesian language are as follows.

- (15) a. *Pak Sujaya sangat khawatir dengan keadaan anaknya saat ini.*  
“Mr. Sujaya is so worried of his son’s condition at the moment”
- b. *Dia terkejut mendengar berita itu*  
“He was surprised of hearing the news”
- c. *Mereka berani menyatakan protesnya dalam rapat komite*  
“They dared express their protest in the meeting of the committee”

In all examples above the actor or subject does not act any actions but in fact he feels a particular situation or state conveyed by *khawatir* ‘worried’ in (a), *terkejut* ‘surprised’ in (b), and *berani* ‘dare’ in (c). Those adjective (Van Valin and LaPolla categorize them as verb) show a state or condition related to one’s emotion.

## Cognitive middle

This kind of middle shows a construction of which actor acts an activity or experiences a situation or state related to field of knowledge. Some examples of this middle are as follows.

- (16) a. *Dosen itu bisa mempercayai alasan yang disampaikan oleh mahasiswanya.*  
 “The lecturer could believe the reason mentioned by his students”
- b. *Hai, sedang apa Dik?*  
 “Hi, What are you doing?  
*Saya sedang merenungkan kejadian yang saya lihat kemarin Pak.*  
 “I am pondering an accident I saw yesterday”
- c. *Presiden SBY mempertimbangkan calon-calon potensial untuk menggantikan beberapa menteri kabinetnya.*  
 “President SBY thought over the potential candidates to replace several ministries of his cabinet”

The verbs used in the sentences above show activities related to aspect of cognitive, such as *mempercayai* ‘believe’ in (a), *merenungkan* ‘ponder’ in (b), and *mempertimbangkan* ‘think over’ in (c). Those verbs belong to transitive verb and what is stated by the verbs is not related to physical activity but it concerns on mental or cognitive aspect.

### **Spontaneous middle**

This middle is related to spontaneous event or activities. Therefore, verbs used in this middle convey non-volition event or activity. In this case, the semantic role of the actor is commonly as patient or experiencer. Examples of spontaneous middle found in Indonesian language are:

- (17) a. *Anak ibu tadi jatuh ketika mau masuk kelas*  
 “Your kid just fell down when he would enter the class”

- b. *Dikabarkan sebuah bus terjun ke sungai tadi malam dan semua penumpangnya selamat*  
 “It was stated that a bus plunged into the river last night and all its passengers were save”
- c. *Dia mendengar berita itu dari salah seorang temannya*  
 “He heard the news from a friend of his”

Verb *jatuh* ‘fall down’, *terjun* ‘plunge’ and *mendengar* ‘hear’ in examples above indicate that the action or event conveyed by the verbs happened spontaneously. It means the actor did the action non-volitionally. Therefore, the constructions above may be categorized as spontaneous middle. Commonly, this kind of middle uses intransitive verbs but there are a few of transitive also possible, such as *mendengar* ‘hear’ and *melihat* ‘see’.

### **Reciprocal situation naturally**

This kind of middle is a little bit different from other middle. This middle has plural actor and the actor act an action one to another. Examples of this middle also exist in Indonesian language.

- (18) a. *Mereka berjalan sambil berpelukan*  
 “They walk together and huge each other”
- b. *Anak-anak kelihatan akrab, dan mereka saling menertawai*  
 “The children look so close and they laugh at each other”
- c. *Kedua siswa SMA tersebut memang saling bermusuhan, mereka selalu saling serang.*  
 “The students of both SMA are in conflict, they always attack each other”

The actors of the examples above are plural. They are categorized as reciprocal middle since the actor of the action is also as the undergoer. This kind of middle may be filled in by verb that automatically has meaning of reciprocal like *berpelukan* ‘hug each other’ in (a). However, if the construction use verb *menertawai* ‘laugh at’ like in (b), *bermusuhan* ‘in conflict’, and *serang* ‘attack’ like in (c), they need a word *saling* existing before the verbs to perform reciprocal meaning.

### Action of emotion

*This middle uses particular verbs like mengeluh (kan), mengadu (kan), memfitnah, and others. Examples of this middle in Indonesian language are:*

- (19) a. *Hampir setiap hari dia mengeluhkan perilaku suaminya kepada saya*  
“Almost every day she complains of her husband’s behavior to me”
- b. *Mereka mengadukan perlakuan salah seorang temannya kepada atasannya*  
“They complained to their boss about one of their friend’s behavior”
- c. *Dia telah memfitnah saya, padahal dia yang sering melakukan hal buruk*  
“She has libeled me although in fact she has made mistakes many times”

The verbs *mengeluhkan* ‘complain’, *mengadukan* ‘complain’, and *memfitnah* ‘libel’ in examples above indicate that the action

stated by the verbs belong to verbal activity related to one's emotion. Those verbs have different semantic content from other verbal verbs like *mengatakan* 'say', *berbicara* 'talk', *melaporkan* 'report', and *memberitahukan* 'tell'.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the analysis it was concluded that middle voice in Indonesian can be classified into lexical middle, morphological middle, and periphrastic middle. Lexical middle results from intransitive verbs which lexically have middle meaning. Morphological middle results from adding affixes (*ber-*) and combination (*ber-/-an*) to the base of noun and verb. And periphrastic middles result from transitive verbs of which *UNDERGOER* are filled by apart of body or whole body and often by reflexive pronouns. Periphrastic middle often results from affix {*me-*}, combination affixes {*me-/-kan*}, and {*me-/-i*}. Periphrastic middle results from paraphrasing morphological middle as well. Based on semantic analysis, in Indonesian language there are also ten types of middle as proposed by Kemmer, they are grooming or body action, change in body posture, non-translational motion, translation motion, indirect middle, emotion middle, cognitive middle, spontaneous middle, reciprocal situation, and action of emotion.

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