CONTEMPORARY LINGUISTICS DICTIONARY:

With IPA (The International Phonetic Alphabet)

A Modern English-Indonesian Dictionary of Linguistic Terms

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Acknowledgements

This dictionary grew out of teaching, supervision, and ongoing work with students who needed clear, reliable explanations of technical terms in linguistics and language-related fields. Over time, short glossaries prepared for individual courses proved insufficient, and the material gradually expanded into a more systematic collection: first for the letter A, then B, and eventually an alphabet-wide glossary from A to Z.

I express my deepest gratitude to my academic home, the English Language Education Program at University Lancang Kuning. This institution has been a profound learning environment that has shaped my perspective as an educator and linguist. The supportive atmosphere and the vibrant intellectual exchange here provided the fertile ground necessary for this project to flourish. It is within these walls that definitions were sharpened, examples were improved, and gaps were identified through countless conversations with colleagues and students. Classroom questions, thesis drafts, and exam answers have revealed repeatedly which terms remain opaque, which Indonesian equivalents feel natural, and where students most often confuse neighbouring concepts.

Special thanks are owed to lecturer, for generously commenting on parts of the manuscript. His suggestions for more accurate IPA transcriptions, more representative example sentences, and better coverage of newer areas such as corpus linguistics, computational linguistics, and natural language processing were invaluable. His feedback helped ensure that this 'contemporary' dictionary remains truly contemporary.

I am also indebted to the authors of grammars, textbooks, and linguistic dictionaries in both English and Indonesian, whose work has provided models of careful description, standard terminology, and sound lexicographic practice. The present volume stands on their shoulders, even when it adopts a different organisation or proposes alternative Indonesian equivalents.

Finally, I thank my family and friends for their patience with a project that kept growing letter by letter and for their support during many late hours spent polishing definitions and examples. Any remaining mistakes or gaps whether in definitions, IPA transcriptions, or Indonesian terminology are my own responsibility, and I welcome corrections and suggestions for future revisions.

Preface

The Contemporary Linguistics Dictionary (EN–ID) with IPA is a bilingual technical glossary designed for students, teachers, translators, and researchers who work with linguistics and language-related disciplines using both English and Indonesian. It brings together over 1,300 entries, organised from A to Z, under the headings *"LINGUISTIC GLOSSARY – LETTER A, B, …, Z"*, with numbered items within each letter.

Each entry typically contains:

1. Numbered English headword + Indonesian equivalent
   Example entry line: "1. Alphabet – Abjad" or "10. Translation – Alih bahasa / terjemahan". Many entries give one main Indonesian term, and some offer two or more alternatives (often separated by a slash) when different forms are in real use.
2. IPA line for English and Indonesian
   The next line gives IPA transcriptions for both languages, marked with (EN) and (ID), for example: "IPA: /ˈæl.fə.bɛt/ (EN), /ab.dʒad/ (ID)". This reflects the dual purpose of the dictionary: to clarify meaning and to support more accurate pronunciation and phonological discussion in both English and Indonesian.
3. Definition in English
   Definitions are written in accessible, contemporary English, aiming for clarity and precision. Many definitions emphasise not only "what the term means" but also how it is used in practice in linguistics and neighbouring fields (language teaching, translation, NLP, etc.).
4. Example(s)
   Examples typically combine English data with Indonesian equivalents or explanations in the same line or in a following line. For instance, an example might show an English sentence illustrating the phenomenon and then give an Indonesian translation or comment after a dash or in a separate sentence. This pattern is intended to help readers move smoothly between

the two languages and to see how each concept appears in real data.

Where a term has more than one common use or sense, the entry may separate these into short, clearly marked lines. For instance, “Accent – Aksen” distinguishes between accent as a pattern of stress and accent as a variety of pronunciation associated with a group of speakers.

Scope and Orientation

The dictionary covers a wide spectrum of topics, including:

- Core theoretical linguistics
  Phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics.
- Descriptive and historical work
  Descriptive grammar, language families, typology, historical change, and related notions.
- Discourse and interaction
  Conversation Analysis, discourse analysis, backchannels, stance, politeness strategies, and other interactional phenomena.
- Sociolinguistics and variation
  Language varieties, dialects, sociolects, style-shifting, language attitudes, and contact phenomena such as code-switching.
- Psycholinguistics and acquisition
  Terms related to first and additional language acquisition, processing, and cognitive aspects of language.
- Applied linguistics, language teaching, and translation
  Concepts from language pedagogy (e.g., grammar-translation method, communicative approaches) and translation/interpretation.
- Corpus linguistics, computational linguistics, NLP, and speech technology
  Many entries reflect recent developments in language technology: corpus methods, annotation, speech recognition, deep learning, zero-shot transfer, and other machine-learning–based approaches to language.

- Language names and language families
  A large set of entries is devoted to names of individual languages and language groups (e.g. Zhuang, Zapotec languages, Zoque, German varieties, and many others) with recommended Indonesian names and IPA. These are useful for typological work, language documentation, and academic writing that needs consistent language labels.

Because linguistics itself is a broad and changing field, there is no claim of completeness or finality. New terms and frameworks emerge, older ones shift in meaning, and scholarly communities differ in their preferences. The dictionary attempts to capture a reasonable, up-to-date coverage while remaining open to revision.

Editorial Principles

Several concrete principles guided how entries were written and how English and Indonesian terminology are aligned.

1. English headwords as the main access point
   Entries are alphabetised under English headwords, which follow conventional, contemporary usage in international linguistics and language technology. This reflects the reality that most current research literature in the field is published in English.
   Indonesian equivalents appear on the same line as the headword, after a dash, and may include more than one possible equivalent when necessary.
2. Indonesian equivalents: clarity and realism
   For the Indonesian side, the dictionary balances three goals:
   - Clarity and transparency
     Many Indonesian terms are chosen to be morphologically transparent, so that their internal structure helps signal their meaning (e.g. asosiasi, afiksasi, bahasa aglutinatif, konstruksi pasif).
   - Continuity with existing usage

When there is an established Indonesian term widely used in textbooks, lecture notes, or research articles, that form is usually kept, even if a more literal alternative would be possible.

- Realistic reflection of variation
  In some cases, more than one Indonesian term is genuinely in active use (for instance, one more literal, one more traditional). In such cases, the entry may offer two forms separated by "/", implicitly signalling that both are acceptable in practice.

3. Consistent structure within entries
   Across letters A–Z, entries follow a highly regular structure:
   - Number. English headword – Indonesian equivalent(s)
   - IPA line for English and Indonesian forms, clearly labelled (EN) and (ID).
   - Definition: one or more lines in English, focusing on the central idea.
   - Example: with English data and often Indonesian translation/commentary.

This consistency is intended to make the dictionary easy to scan and to use as a teaching resource, where learners quickly become familiar with the pattern.

4. Integration of traditional and contemporary topics
   The dictionary aims to be genuinely contemporary, combining:
   - classical topics (e.g. ablaut, affixation, allophone, subordinate clause),
   - long-established frameworks (e.g. functional approaches, systemic perspectives), and
   - newer vocabulary from corpus linguistics, computational linguistics, and NLP (e.g. deep learning, ground truth, zero-shot classification, alignment models, embeddings).

The goal is that students can move from introductory phonetics to current NLP terminology without leaving the same reference source.

Introduction to the Dictionary

This section explains how the dictionary is organised and how to read individual entries. Alphabetical organisation

The dictionary is divided into sections marked by headings such as:

LINGUISTIC GLOSSARY – LETTER A

LINGUISTIC GLOSSARY – LETTER B

… up to LETTER Z.

Within each letter, entries are numbered from 1 onwards (e.g. “1. Alphabet – Abjad”), then restart at 1 for the next letter. The number is a local running number within that letter, not a global ID for the entire dictionary.

The order is strictly alphabetical based on the English headword. Structure of an entry – an example

Take, for illustration, an entry like:

1. Alphabet – Abjad

   IPA: /ˈæl.fə.bɛt/ (EN), /ab.dʒad/ (ID)

   Definition: A conventional set of letters used to write a language; the mapping between letters and sounds is often imperfect.

   Example: The Indonesian alphabet has 26 letters. – Abjad bahasa Indonesia terdiri dari 26 huruf. From this, the reader can see:

   - The English term (*Alphabet*).
   - The Indonesian equivalent (*Abjad*).
   - The IPA pronunciation for both languages.
   - A definition in English, oriented to current usage in linguistics.
   - A mixed example, where English and Indonesian appear together to show actual usage and a natural translation.

Other entries follow the same pattern, even when definitions or examples extend over more than one line.

How to Use This Dictionary

1. When you meet an unfamiliar English term
   1) Look up the term alphabetically under its English spelling.
   2) Read the definition to understand the core concept.
   3) Note the Indonesian equivalent and any variant forms listed.
   4) Examine the example sentence(s) to see how the concept appears in a real context, and how it may be expressed in Indonesian.
2. When you know an Indonesian term and want the English equivalent
   1) Check whether the Indonesian term appears somewhere in an entry line (after the dash).
   2) If you are using a digital version, you can search directly for the Indonesian form (e.g. *"afiks"*, *"alih kode"*, *"bahasa aglutinatif"*).
   3) Identify the English headword that co-occurs with it (e.g. *Affix, Code-switching, Agglutinative Language*).
   4) Use that headword as your main English equivalent.

A future edition may include a dedicated Index of Indonesian Terms pointing to their English headwords; readers and teachers are encouraged to treat the bilingual lines as an implicit index.

3. Using it in teaching and learning

Teachers can use the dictionary:

- to prepare handouts or slides with consistent definitions and terminology;
- to assign reading on a set of related entries (for example, all entries around affix, affixation, derivational affix, inflectional affix);
- to help students write assignments and theses using standardised English–Indonesian terminology.

Students can use it:

- as a quick reference when reading linguistic articles or textbooks in English;
- as a guide when writing in Indonesian about technical topics;

- as a bridge between language-focused courses (e.g. syntax, phonology) and more technology-oriented ones (e.g. corpus linguistics, NLP).

4. Using it in translation and professional work

Translators, editors, and practitioners can:

- consult entries to align terminology across English and Indonesian;
- check typical collocations and examples to ensure that their translations are not only correct but also natural;
- keep track of how newer technical terms in language technology are rendered in Indonesian, especially in areas like machine learning, deep learning, and speech processing.

Abbreviations and Short Forms Used

The dictionary itself uses only a small set of abbreviations inside entries. The following list clarifies them.

Language labels

- EN – English
- ID – Indonesian
  (used in the IPA line to mark which transcription belongs to which language)

Technical acronyms frequently appearing in definitions

- IPA – International Phonetic Alphabet
- NLP – Natural Language Processing
- ML – Machine Learning
- NLG – Natural Language Generation (where used)
- NLI – Natural Language Inference (where used)

Other abbreviations (e.g. names of language families or methods) are usually written out in full within each entry, or are explained contextually.

Symbols and Notational Conventions

The dictionary follows standard linguistic notation. Some of the main symbols are:

- /phoneme/ – slashes indicate phonemic transcriptions (abstract sounds, phonemes).
- [phone] – square brackets indicate phonetic transcriptions (actual pronunciations or more detailed realisations).
- ⟨spelling⟩ – angle brackets occasionally indicate orthographic forms (written forms).
- … – … – in the example line, a dash often separates an English sentence from its Indonesian translation.
- X / Y – a slash within a line may indicate alternatives (e.g. *alih bahasa / terjemahan*).
- > / < – in some entries, these symbols indicate historical development (A > B) or source vs outcome (B < A).
- * (asterisk) – where it appears, marks ungrammatical or unattested forms (or reconstructed forms) in standard linguistic fashion.

Where specialised notations from corpus linguistics, statistics, or NLP are used (e.g. *z-score*, *embeddings*, *F1-score*), they are explained within the relevant entry.

IPA Overview

Because every entry includes an IPA line, the reader is assumed to have at least a basic familiarity with IPA symbols. The dictionary does not reproduce the full official chart, but it relies on the standard:

- consonant symbols such as /p, b, t, d, k, g, m, n, ŋ, f, v, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, t͡ʃ, d͡ʒ, h, l, ɹ, j, w/,
- vowel symbols such as /i, ɪ, e, ɛ, a, ʌ, ə, ɜː, u, ʊ, o, ɔ, ɒ/, and the five-vowel system typically used for Indonesian (/i, e, a, o, u/).

Readers who are new to IPA are encouraged to consult an IPA chart while using the dictionary; this will reinforce the link between technical phonetic descriptions and actual pronunciation.

Following the overview of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), it is essential to understand the physical mechanisms involved in producing speech sounds. The diagram below illustrates the human vocal tract and the primary "organs of speech" (articulators). Understanding the location and function of these anatomical parts is crucial for grasping how sounds are articulated and classified in phonetics.

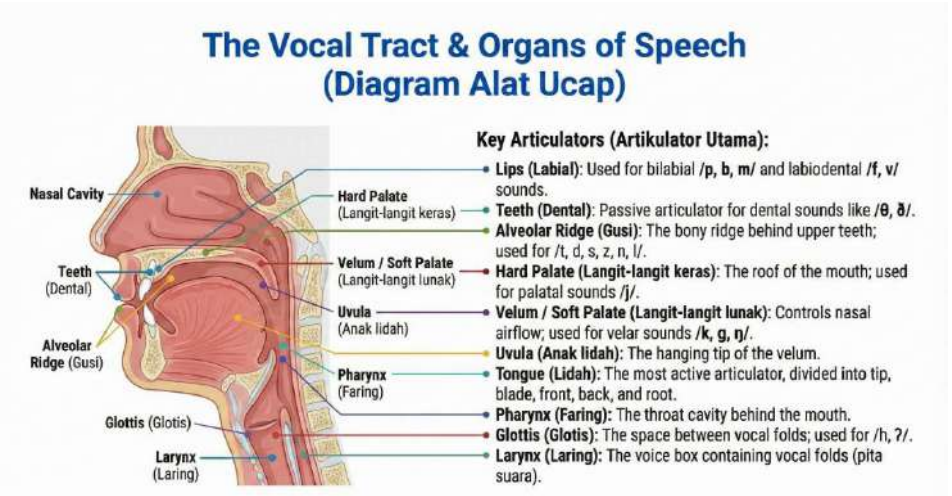


Figure source: Created by the authors for this dictionary, adapted from Ladefoged and Johnson (2014) and the International Phonetic Association (2015)

Outline of Linguistic Subfields Represented

Although there is no explicit label in every entry, the dictionary's contents in practice span the following subfields:

- Phonetics and phonology – sounds, features, syllable structure, stress, intonation, sound change.
- Morphology – morphemes, word formation, inflection, derivation.
- Syntax – phrase structure, clause types, grammatical relations.
- Semantics and pragmatics – meaning, reference, inference, presupposition, speech acts.
- Discourse and conversation – cohesion, coherence, turn-taking, backchannel, narrative structure.
- Sociolinguistics – variation, style, register, language contact, code-switching.
- Psycholinguistics and acquisition – processing, comprehension, production, first and additional language acquisition.
- Applied linguistics and language teaching – teaching methods, assessment, curriculum-related concepts.
- Translation studies – translation strategies, equivalence, shifts, etc.
- Corpus linguistics and computational / statistical approaches – corpora, annotation, models, embeddings, classification, deep learning.
- Language names and language families – entries on individual languages and language groups, with Indonesian names and IPA.

This breadth is intentional: it allows a single dictionary to serve classes and research in both traditional linguistics and modern, technology-rich fields.

Note to the Reader

This dictionary is presented as a working tool a snapshot of current linguistic terminology rather than an absolute or final authority. The landscape of linguistics is constantly shifting, with new frameworks and terminologies emerging as scholars push the boundaries of the field. Consequently, capturing every nuance in a single volume is an ongoing challenge.

I invite you, the reader, to become an active collaborator in this project. If you identify key terms that should be added, definitions that require sharpening for greater clarity, or Indonesian equivalents that could be improved to better reflect local academic usage, your input is invaluable. Linguistic terminology is not set in stone; it is shaped by the community that uses it. This book aims to participate in that vibrant, ongoing conversation, and with your critical feedback, it can continue to evolve into a more precise and comprehensive resource for all.

Table of Contents

SECTION TITLE	PAGE
**Acknowledgements……..... **	**iii**
**Preface…… **	**v**
**Introduction to the Dictionary……... **	**ix**
**How to Use This Dictionary……... **	**x**
**Abbreviations and Short Forms Used…… **	**xii**
**Symbols and Notational Conventions…… **	**xiii**
**IPA Overview……..... **	**xiv**
**Outline of Linguistic Subfields Represented…… **	**xv**
**Note to The Reader…… **	**xvi**
**Table of Contents…… **	**xvii**
Linguistic Glossary – Letter A……...	1
Linguistic Glossary – Letter B……...	13
Linguistic Glossary – Letter C……...	25
Linguistic Glossary – Letter D……...	37
Linguistic Glossary – Letter E……...	49
Linguistic Glossary – Letter F……	61
Linguistic Glossary – Letter G……..	73
Linguistic Glossary – Letter H……...	87
Linguistic Glossary – Letter I……	101
Linguistic Glossary – Letter J……	115
Linguistic Glossary – Letter K……...	131

SECTION TITLE **PAGE**

Linguistic Glossary – Letter L…… 149

Linguistic Glossary – Letter M…….. 163

Linguistic Glossary – Letter N…….. 175

Linguistic Glossary – Letter O…….. 191

Linguistic Glossary – Letter P……... 205

Linguistic Glossary – Letter Q…….. 219

Linguistic Glossary – Letter R……... 233

Linguistic Glossary – Letter S……... 249

Linguistic Glossary – Letter T…… 263

Linguistic Glossary – Letter U……... 277

Linguistic Glossary – Letter V……... 291

Linguistic Glossary – Letter W…….. 303

Linguistic Glossary – Letter X……... 315

Linguistic Glossary – Letter Y……... 329

Linguistic Glossary – Letter Z…… 343

APPENDICES……. 355

Appendix A: The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)…… 355

Appendix B: Indonesian Morphology Cheat Sheet…… 356

Bibliography……... 359

Author Biography……. 361