

## **Use of Abbreviations on Twitter**

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### **Abstract**

*This research uses a morphological approach to describe the types and formation patterns of abbreviations on Twitter. This research tries to explain the new abbreviation formation pattern found on Twitter. This new pattern is an abbreviation formation pattern that does not adopt the principles contained in Kridalaksana's book entitled Word Formation in Indonesian. This research is descriptive and qualitative. The data source for this research is Twitter posts. The research method used is the listening method with note-taking and documentation techniques. The population of this research is all posts containing abbreviations on Twitter. Meanwhile, the sample for this research is Twitter posts from 2022 to 2023, using the purposive sampling technique. The results showed that out of 163 abbreviation data points, five types of abbreviations were found. The five types of abbreviations are abbreviations, acronyms, contractions, fragments, and letter symbols. The results show that the type of abbreviation with the highest frequency of use is abbreviation, with a percentage of 48%. Then, successively, followed by acronyms with a percentage of 33%, fragments with a percentage of 10%, letter symbols with a percentage of 7%, and contractions with a percentage of 2%. Thus, the highest and most dominant frequency of use on Twitter is abbreviations.*

**Keywords:** *Abbreviations, Abbreviations, Twitter.*

### **1. Introduction**

Basically, humans are social creatures who must interact with one another in society. In the process of interacting, humans need a tool to stay connected between communities, families, or relatives, namely the language used to establish communication properly and correctly. Speaking of language, Indonesia itself has a variety of languages. In 2019, the Language Development and Guidance Agency (BPPB) mapped and verified 718 regional languages spread across every corner of Indonesia (Lab Kebhinagaman Bahasa dan Sastra, 2023).

As technology develops, foreign languages are also added, which are then adapted into absorption languages. In addition, there are also languages that are widely used by millennials called slang, which uses abbreviations. Abbreviations are currently widely used on social media.

Abbreviation, according to Ramlan (in Sudjalil, 2018: 72), is the process of cutting off one or more parts of a lexeme or combination of lexemes so that a new form that has the status of a word is formed. Another term for abbreviation is shortening, and the result of the process is called shortening. Abbreviation, according to Darwis (in Sri Verlin, 2018: 278), is the process of dating part or some parts of a lexeme that forms a new word

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without changing the meaning. Structurally, abbreviations are under the auspices of morphological studies, which is the study of how words are formed and what elements become systemic parts of a word. Based on the mini-research that the author has done with the help of Publish or Perish 8 related to abbreviations, it is obtained that the number of studies on abbreviations in general throughout 2019 is 19; throughout 2020 is 6; throughout 2021 is 23; throughout 2022 is 20; and in 2023 is 6 research.

Specifically, in research related to abbreviations in Twitter, only two studies were found, namely research conducted by Muhammad Umar Izzudin (2019) entitled "Abbreviations in Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's Twitter Social Media Account" and research conducted by Astari Alamanda (2021) entitled "Abbreviations on the "Tanyainr1" Account in Twitter Social Media."

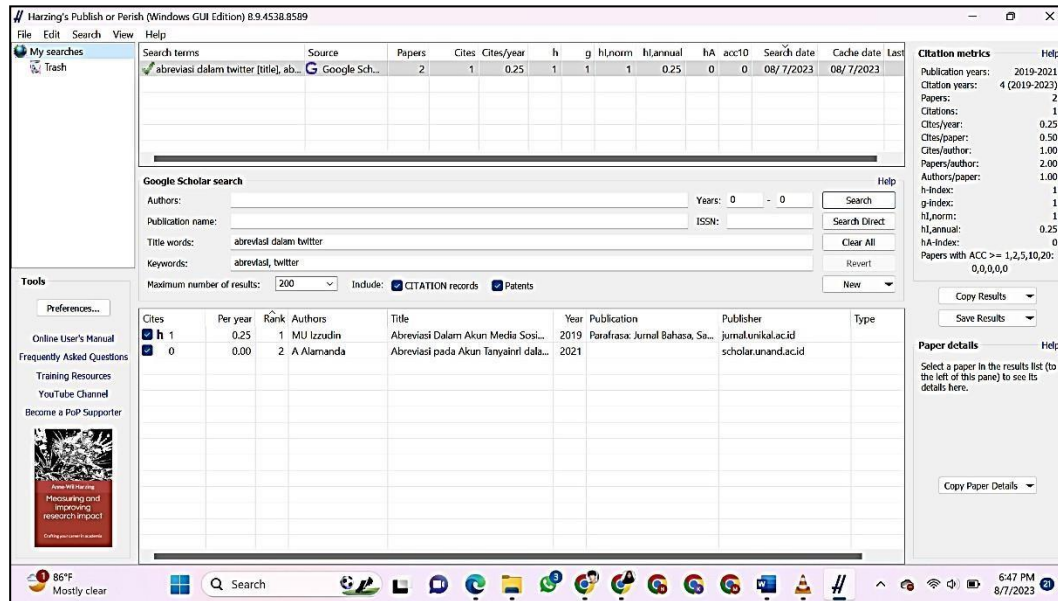


Figure 1. Research on Abbreviations in twitter.

Many abbreviations to communicate with each other are used on social media, which is one of the communication tools used by humans to communicate with each other. Social media, which is often abbreviated as social media, is a digital platform that provides facilities for users to connect and communicate with each other or just share a moment or content in the form of writing, photos, or videos. With the existence of social media, it can make it easier for someone to communicate, such as by replying to messages within a short period of time and efficiently getting a reply to the message sent. Through social media, we do not need a long time to get a reply to the message sent. In contrast to exchanging messages using letters, delivering messages and replies takes a long time. Social media is designed to expand human social interaction using the internet and web technology. The characteristics of social media itself include networking, information, social simulation, user-generated content, and content sharing. Social media has a very influential impact on human life. The impacts caused by social media are positive and negative. The positive impact caused by social media is that it facilitates interaction with many people even though they are far apart, can strengthen friendship relations, socializes without having to think about the existing distance, makes it easier to express themselves, and makes it easier to disseminate and obtain information in a short time.

As for the negative effects caused by social media, namely, it can cause physical disturbances if you stare too long at a computer monitor or smartphone screen while playing social media, What can be felt in the negative effects of social media is the potential for dry eyes, nausea, dizziness, and eye health problems, namely myopia. In addition, a person can also feel addicted to playing social media. The examples of social

media that are most loved and often used are YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, and WhatsApp.

The urgency of this research is the discovery of abbreviations formed with new formation patterns that do not adopt the principles in Kridalaksana's book, titled *Word Formation in Indonesian Language*.

In this research design, the author chose Twitter social media as the object of research based on mini-research by comparing various social media. (1) Instagram focuses more on photos and short videos. Through Instagram, we can only find out the latest news and topics if we follow certain accounts. (2) Facebook tends to focus more on personal content, such as photos and interactions with friends, while Twitter is generally used to share news, opinions, and the latest updates. Facebook has more extensive and complex privacy options, allowing users to control who can see their content and how others can interact. (3) YouTube, used for various types of content, such as video tutorials, music, and vlogs. while Twitter is generally used to share news, opinions, and short thoughts. YouTube allows users to upload videos for up to 12 hours, while Twitter allows fellow users to share text, images, and short videos (up to 2 minutes). (4) TikTok, a platform for sharing short videos with music or creative effects. Meanwhile, Twitter is a platform for sending short messages (tweets) in the form of text, images, or videos, with a focus on interaction and discussion between users. TikTok has features that allow users to interact with other videos by adding duets or commenting, whereas Twitter offers more social functions that help users interact with others, such as retweet, reply, and hashtag features. Lastly, (5) Whatsapp is designed for more private communication and is limited to specific groups, such as family, friends, or coworkers. This makes it less suitable for participating in public discussions or for interacting with strangers. If you want to share ideas or debate on broader topics, platforms such as Twitter or online forums may be more suitable.

Apart from its role as a tool for communication, social media also plays a role in language development in Indonesia. The widespread use of social media among the public has made a very large contribution to language development. As one proof that there is language development or change in the Indonesian language, namely the emergence of alay language or terms among teenagers that contaminate the unified language and official Indonesian language that needs to be upheld, as well as the many abbreviations or abbreviations used on social media.

Language diversity in social media is caused by several factors, including culture, regional languages, and language absorption in social media from foreign languages that massively affect the national language. People who like to use social media are certainly very fluent with many new vocabulary words, as well as abbreviations or abbreviations of words that are not standardized when interacting on social media, such as CMIW (correct me if I am wrong), which means "correct me if I am wrong," or the word gwe (Betawi dialect). if I'm wrong" or the word gwe (Betawi dialect: gue or gua), which refers to the word "me" or "I".

The types of abbreviations are abbreviations, acronyms, fragments, contractions, and letter symbols. Abbreviations, according to Kridalaksana (2007: 162), are one of the results of the shortening process in the form of letters or a combination of letters, both of which are spelled letter by letter. Here is one example of an abbreviation in a Twitter post:



Figure 2. SPMB

In the post above, there is the word SPMB. SPMB stands for selection of new student admissions. Meanwhile, on Twitter, SPMB is used as an abbreviated form of after breaking up, asking for a return. SPMB is an abbreviated form that has experienced the retention of the first letter of each word component.

Acronym, according to Kridalaksana (2009:162), is a shortening process that combines letters, syllables, or other parts that are written and pronounced as a word that more or less meets the rules of Indonesian phonotactics. Acronyms can be seen in the example below.



Figure 3. ISIS

In the post above, there is the word ISIS. ISIS is an acronym for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. Meanwhile, on Twitter, ISIS is used as an acronym for loyal husband-wife bond. ISIS has experienced the retention of the first letter of each component word.

Fragmentation, according to Kridalaksana (2009:162), is a shortening process that retains one part of the lexeme. The fragment can be seen in the example below.

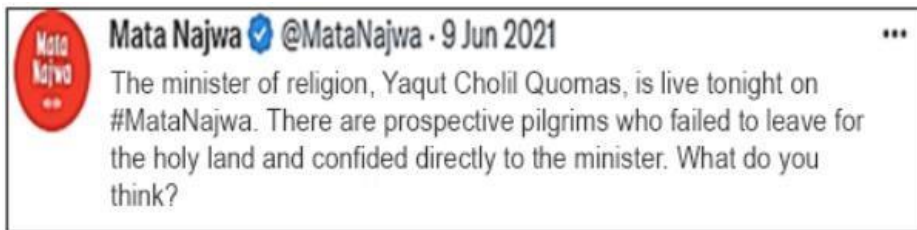


Figure 4. Pak

In the picture above, there is the word Pak from the word Bapak, which has experienced second syllable retention. Contraction, according to Kridalaksana (2009:162-163), is a shortening process that summarizes the basic lexeme or combination of lexemes such as Kemendikbud (Ministry of Education and Culture), Pemkot (City Government), Bosnas (National School Operational Assistance), and Mulok (Local Content).

The letter symbol, according to Kridalaksana (2009:163), is a shortening process that produces one or more letters that describe the basic concept of quantity, unit, or element, such as cm (centimeter), kg (kilogram), or km (kilometer). Examples of letter symbols can be seen below.



Figure 5. Kg

With the various forms of abbreviations that are widely used in social media, the author is interested in making them the object of study in this research.

## **2. METHODS**

### **A. Research Type and Data Source**

The method used in this research is descriptive-qualitative. The data sources in this research can be divided into two categories: primary data and secondary data.

### **B. Data Collection Methods and Techniques**

The following data collection methods and techniques were used in this research:

#### **1. Listening Method**

According to Mahsun (2005), the listening technique is a method used to obtain data by listening to language use.

#### **2. Note-taking Technique**

According to Mahsun (2005:93), the note-taking technique is to record some forms relevant to the research through the use of language in writing.

#### **3. Documentation Technique (Screenshot)**

According to Sugiyono (2018:476), documentation is a method used to obtain data and information in the form of books, archives, documents, written figures, and images in the form of reports and information that can support research.

### **C. Population and Sample**

The population in this study uses all forms of abbreviations on Twitter. The sample of this research is in the form of Twitter user posts containing abbreviations since 2022.

### **D. Data Analysis Technique**

The data analysis technique used in this research is descriptive, with the following steps:

1. Identifying data, meaning that the author reads and listens to the whole or one of the Twitter accounts and codes the data according to the research problem.
2. Reading, analyzing, and understanding the appreciation found on Twitter.
3. Reviewing, meaning that the author interprets the content that has been shared by Twitter users related to the problem under study. Analyzing "The Use of Abbreviations on Twitter".
4. Describing: that is, the data that has been analyzed is interpreted into a simpler form of linguistic exposure. Summarizing the research results found on Twitter

## **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Types of Twitter Abbreviations**

The results of research on abbreviations that have been conducted on twitter found as many as five types of abbreviations. The five types of abbreviations are abbreviations, fragments, acronyms, contractions, and letter symbols. The description and percentage of the five types of abbreviations in twitter can be seen as follows:

### 1. Abbreviation

Based on the observations made on Twitter, there are 79 abbreviations used. Of the 79 abbreviations, 68 (86%) are abbreviations that use the old formation pattern, and eleven (14%) are abbreviations that use the new formation pattern.

#### a) Stands for the old formation pattern

There are 68 (86%) abbreviations that refer to the old formation pattern on Twitter.

#### b) Stands for the new formation pattern

Unlike the abbreviations with old formation patterns, abbreviations with new formation patterns on Twitter were found in as many as eleven (14%) abbreviations.

### 2. A fragment of

After the author conducted research on the use of abbreviations on Twitter, sixteen (10%) fragments were found. There are fragments that use old formation patterns and fragments that use new formation patterns.

#### a) A fragment with an old formation pattern

There are eleven (73%) abbreviations that refer to the old formation pattern on Twitter.

#### b) A fragment with a new formation pattern

Unlike the fragments of the old formation pattern, fragments with new formation patterns in Twitter were found in as many as four (27%) fragments.

### 3. Acronym

Acronym abbreviations found on Twitter amounted to 53 (33%) data points. There are acronyms that use new formation patterns and acronyms that use Kridalaksana's formation patterns in the book *Word Formation in Indonesian*. These acronyms are:

#### a) Acronyms with old formation pattern

Acronyms that refer to the old formation pattern on Twitter were found in as many as 33 (62%) acronyms.

#### b) Acronyms with new formation patterns

In contrast to acronyms with old formation patterns, acronyms with new formation patterns on Twitter are found in as many as 20 (38%) acronyms.

### 4. Contraction.

There are three (2%) contraction abbreviations found on Twitter. All contraction data found used the old formation pattern.

### 5. Letter Symbol.

Abbreviations of letter symbol types found on Twitter amounted to twelve (7%) data points. All the letter symbol data found used the old formation pattern.

## B. Abbreviation Formation Patterns in Twitter.

There are two patterns of abbreviation formation on Twitter. The first pattern is an abbreviation pattern that adopts the formation pattern as explained in Kridalaksana's book. The second pattern is a new pattern that does not adopt the abbreviation formation pattern as described in Kridalaksana's book entitled *Word Formation in Indonesian*. The description of abbreviation formation patterns on Twitter can be seen below.

### 1. Old Pattern

The old pattern in question is the abbreviation formation pattern that adopts the pattern described in Kridalaksana's book titled *Word Formation in Indonesian*.

a. Abbreviations

There are 68 (86%) abbreviations that use the old formation pattern. There are three abbreviation formation patterns found. These patterns are:

1) Preservation of the first letter of each component

There were 54 (81%) abbreviations with the first letter of each component. Example:  
Data (28)

@hariankompas: Four jurumasak from the palace were deliberately brought to IKN to make President Jokowi's overnight stay with a number of state officials at IKN more memorable.

2) First letter retention with conjunction deletion

There were five (7%) abbreviations with the pattern of first letter preservation with conjunction deletion. Example:

Data (57)

@hariankompas: Pegangsaan Dua PPSU officers transformed an empty lot that was previously filled with garbage into a beautiful and green park with various ornamental plants.

3) Consonant retention in abbreviated forms

There were eight (12%) abbreviations with consonant retention patterns in the abbreviated form. The abbreviations with this pattern are divided into two categories: the first letter of the first syllable and the first and last letters of the second syllable of a word were found in six (9%) abbreviations, and the first letter of each syllable was found in two (3%) abbreviations. Example:

Data (25)

@sosmedkeras: Sometimes, even in the darkest places, we can see the light..

b. A fragment of.

There are eleven (73%) fragments that use the old formation pattern. The abbreviation formation patterns found were four patterns. The four patterns are:

1) Preservation of the first syllable of a word

There were two (17%) fragments with the pattern of retaining the first syllable of a word.

Example:

Data (96)

@detikcom: Often Staying Up Late and Sleeping Only 4 Hours, What Are the Negative Impacts Doc? Lack of rest can have a negative impact on the body. If you stay up too often because of work, can it make your body unhealthy too, Doc??

2) Preservation of the last syllable of the decapitated form

There were five (42%) fragments with the pattern of preserving the last syllable of the decapitated form. Example:

Data

@alaexjoannnnnn: Fully support Mr. Ganjar's 'One Village, One Health Center' vision. Public health must be the top priority, and this program is a real step forward..

3) Preservation of the first three letters of a word

Two (17%) fragments with the pattern of retaining the first three letters of a word were found.

Example:

Data (97)

@DahonoB: The existence of Ganjar Pranowo's family. Ganjar Pranowo is crisp in discussing with millennials and Gen Z; his son Alam Ganjar Pranowo is the idol of Gen Z; Mrs. Atikoh, Pak Ganjar's wife, is the idol of women with her jargon, "Women Do Better, Country Do Better."

4) Consecutive retention of four letters in the decapitated form.

There were three (25%) fragments with a pattern of retaining four consecutive letters in the decapitated form. Example:

Data (94)

@Eka\_TripleKa: It's not cool to welcome guests without Eid cookies. So, what cookies are ready at home, Bund?

c. Acronym.

There are 33 (62%) acronyms that use the old formation pattern. The formation patterns found were four patterns. The analysis of the four patterns can be seen below.

1) Preservation of the first syllable of each component word.

There were five (15%) acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first syllable of each word component. Example:

Data (119)

@tvOneNews: Attending the March for Palestine at Monas, Foreign Minister Retno reads a poem entitled Palestine, My Brother.

2) Preservation of the first letter of each component word

There were three (9%) acronyms with the pattern of preserving the first letter of each word component. Example:

Data (112)

@NarasiNewsroom: Sadly, the issue of gross human rights violations is said to arise once every 5 years. In fact, the families of the victims have been fighting for justice in front of the State Palace for almost two decades through the Kamisan Action.

3) Preservation of the first three letters of each component word

There were seven (21%) acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first three letters of each component word. Example:

Data (116)

@tvOnenews: The Effect of the Presidential Debate on Social Media: Netizens Call Gibran Successful in Exciting Indonesia's Young Generation of Hope.

4) Retention of the first two letters of the first component and the first three letters of the second component

There were six (18%) acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first two letters of the first component and the first three letters of the second component. Example:

Data (108)

@korantempo: There should be no place for ex-convicts to become candidates in the 2024 elections. In addition to providing a deterrent effect for perpetrators of corruption, the presence of these looters of public money will further reduce the quality of elections.



d. Contraction

Contractions that use the old formation pattern amount to three (2%) contractions. One abbreviation formation pattern was found. The pattern is the retention of various letters and syllables that are difficult to formulate. Contractions with this pattern can be seen in the data below:

Data (151)

@hariankompas: The Iranian Navy on Sunday (25/12/2023) received a new weapon, a cruise missile with a range of up to 1,000 km. The arrival of this new weapon system has further heated up the situation in the Middle East.

e. Letter Symbols

The letter symbols that use the old formation pattern total twelve (7%) fragments. The abbreviation formation patterns found were three patterns.

1) Letter symbols that indicate size

There are two (17%) letter symbols that mark size. The letter symbols can be seen in the data below:

Data (159)

@NarasiNewsroom: Starting January 1, 2024, purchases of 3 kg of LPG can only be made by certain LPG users who have been recorded. This policy, said the government through the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, aims to ensure that subsidies can be fully enjoyed by the poor or are on target.....

2) Letter symbols that represent numbers

There are eight (67%) letter symbols that express numbers. The letter symbols can be seen in the data below:

Data (157)

@DPR\_RI: Commission IV DPR RI continues to supervise to ensure that all activities in protected forest and mangrove areas have obtained permits and are in accordance with applicable laws.

3) Letter symbols that denote currency

There are two (17%) letter symbols that mark currency. The letter symbols can be seen in the data below:

Data (161)

@kegblgnunfaedh: Cool! These glasses that @JeromePolin wears are a collaboration between Rayban and Meta and will be sold for around Rp. 4,600,000.

2. New Pattern

The new abbreviation patterns referred to in this study are abbreviation formation patterns that are not part of the patterns in Kridalaksana's book entitled Word Formation in Indonesian. In full, the new patterns of abbreviations on Twitter can be seen in the types of abbreviations below.

a. Abbreviation

Twelve (15%) abbreviations that use new patterns were found on Twitter. The formation patterns found were two abbreviation patterns. The two patterns can be seen below.

1) Retention of all consonant letters

There are eight abbreviations with the pattern of all consonant letters. Data (85)

@junpiberbi: Honestly, Jun in this era is really saucy. mksd nya tuh saucy nya tuh kaya saucy really even though every day saucy sieee.

2) Retention of some consonant letters of the abbreviated word

There are seven abbreviations with a pattern of partial consonant letter retention of the abbreviated word.

Data (87)

@egaluvr: Rules #1 If you're courting someone, don't tell your best friend first..

b. Acronym

There are 21 (39%) acronyms that use new patterns found on Twitter. The formation patterns found were six acronyms. The analysis of the six patterns can be seen below.

1) Repetition of the first syllable of the first component and part of the word

There are eight acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first syllable of the first component and part of the word.

Data (129)

@korantempo: The joint investigation team of Polda Metro Jaya and Bareskrim Polri is preparing multiple articles to ensnare Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) Chairman Firlil Bahuri.

2) First three letters and part of the word

There are two acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first three letters and part of the word. Data (145)

@tempodotco: Heru Budi will move DKI Provincial Civil Servants to IKN if their performance is poor.

3) Preservation of the first three letters and part of the word with conjunction deletion

There are two acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first three letters and part of the word accompanied by conjunction deletion.

Data (146)

@KompasTV: President Jokowi Asked Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs to Handle Rohingya Refugees in Aceh.

4) First five letters and part of the word

There are three acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first five letters and part of the word. Data (134)

@detikcom: Ministry of Health Predicts Peak COVID-19 Cases to Occur in Early January 2024. There has been an increase in COVID-19 cases in recent times. The Indonesian Ministry of Health revealed the forecast that the peak of the most cases would appear. Stay safe, detikers

5) Retention of the first five letters and part of speech with the omission of conjunctions.

There are four acronyms with the pattern of retaining the first five letters and part of the word accompanied by conjunction deletion.

Data (132)

@kumparan: Viral on social media about the alleged child of an inspectorate general official of the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) hitting a schoolgirl in Tasikmalaya City until her temple bled..

6) Whole-word and part-word retention

There are two acronyms with the pattern of whole words and parts of words. Data (130)

@tvOnenews: Jefri Nichol throws a rat carcass at the House of Representatives during a demonstration against the cigarette law. Ciptaker, a living rat released at its gate.

C. A fragment of

There were four (27%) fragments that used new patterns found in twitter. Two patterns of formation were found. The two patterns can be seen below.

1) Retention of the first three letters and any subsequent letters

There are two fragments with the pattern of retaining the first three letters and various subsequent letters. Data (104) @hipohan: Konoha's police force is said to be divided into several departments whose generals compete strongly, as follows: Online Gambling Protection Dept., Drug Dealer Protection Dept., Mining Mafia Protection Dept., and BuzzerRp Protection Dept.

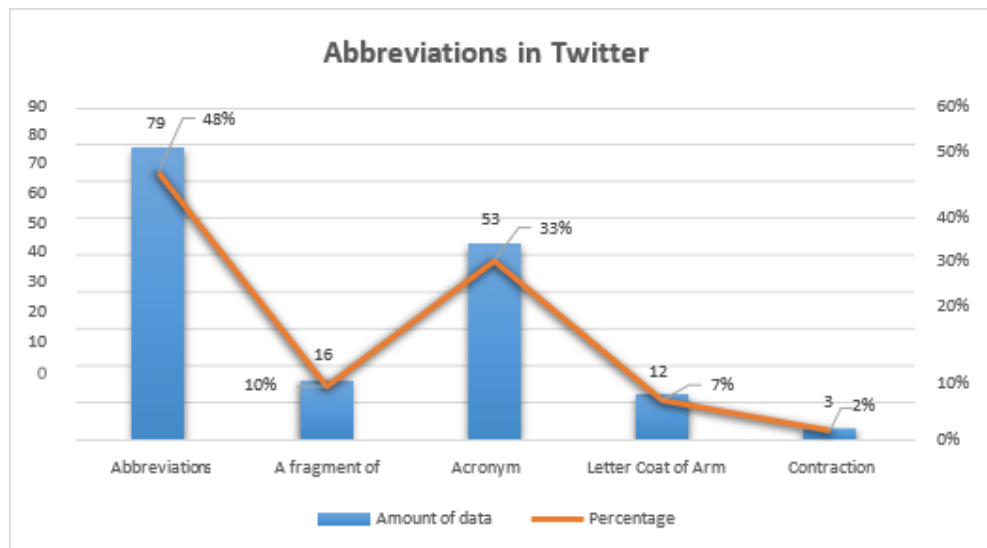
2) Retention of the last four letters of the decapitated word

Two fragments with the pattern of retaining the last four letters of the decapitated word were found.

Data (107)

@kegblgnunfaedh: Even though it is clear that there is no need to touch, even though the action figure is in a safe position, how come it can fall? It means that small children have the effort to reach and fall on the action figure. Who do you think should be compensated, guys?

D. Dominant Abbreviation Types



To see the most dominant abbreviations used on Twitter, we can look at the diagram below.

By looking at the diagram above, it appears that the type of abbreviation with the highest frequency of use is an abbreviation with a percentage of 48%. Then, it is successively followed by acronyms (33%), fragments with a percentage of 10%, letter symbols with a

percentage of 7%, and contractions with a percentage of 2%. Thus, the highest and most dominant frequency of use on Twitter is abbreviations.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of research and discussion regarding abbreviations on Twitter, it can be concluded as follows:

1. The level of use of Indonesian abbreviations on Twitter shows a significant number. The dominating abbreviation type is abbreviation.
2. Until now, abbreviations that adopt formation patterns in accordance with the principles described in the book *Word Formation in Indonesian* by Kridalaksana still dominate. However, there are also a number of abbreviations that appear by following new formation patterns.
3. Based on the results of research conducted between 2022 and 2023 on the Twitter platform, the research found five types of abbreviations, namely 79 abbreviations (48%), 53 acronyms (33%), three contractions (2%), sixteen fragments (10%), and twelve letter symbols (7%). By looking at the percentage of data, it can be concluded that the dominant type of abbreviation in use on Twitter is abbreviations, which account for 48% of the total data.

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