

Research Article

Japanese Slang on The *Nihongo Mantappu* Youtube Channel (Morphosemantic Study)

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Abstract

Language is a means of communication and interaction among humans to share information from all over the world, therefore language has a very important role in human life. Slang is a variety of non-formal language used by people aged 10-30 years. Slang can also be used as a secret form by using words that can be understood by certain circles and are temporary. By using this slang, it means that we are people who follow the times. Slang can also be modified and can create new vocabulary. The purpose of this study is to examine and describe the form, meaning, and process of forming Japanese slang words found on the *Nihongo Mantappu* Jerome Polin youtube channel. The method of data collection used the method of observing with note taking techniques, and the method used in the analysis was a qualitative descriptive method. The research data is in the form of slang that appears on the *Nihongo Mantappu* Jerome Polin Youtube channel. The data collected were 19 Japanese slang data with various variations of forms and meanings. The theory used to analyze is the theory proposed by Kageyama (2016) regarding the process of word formation. The results obtained according to Kageyama's theory (2016) are the process of forming Japanese slang words consisting of compounding (C), affixation (A), conversion (K), reduplication (R), blending (B), clipping (C), and acronyms or initials (I).

Keywords: Form; Japanese slang; meaning.

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1. Introduction

Language plays a significant role in life language is a form of human intermediary to communicate and interact with each other. With language, we can exchange and get information in this world. Language can combine us with various kinds of diversity. As said by Suhardi (Lathifah, 2022), language is a system of arbitrary sound symbols used by a social community to communicate, cooperate, and identify themselves. Meanwhile, according to the opinion of Pei & Gaynor (Wahyuni, 2019), language is a system of communication with sound, namely through tools or speech and hearing

between people from certain groups or communities using vocal symbols that have arbitrary and conventional meanings.

One of the various forms of language is slang. According to Mulyana (Azizah, 219), slang is some words or terms with special meanings that are unique, deviant or even contrary to the usual meaning when used by people from certain groups. Slang has been around for a long time and was popular around the 1980s. Slang was used initially only as a secret language that members of certain groups could understand. Slang can be said to be a 'code' that is understood by certain circles. Due to the many uses of slang, the use of an has

become a bit 'blurred'. Slang has become the daily language of teenagers, because teenagers come up with many new terms. These terms originate from Indonesian words that are modified is that the meaning is different from the original meaning of Indonesian.

In Japanese, there is slang called *wakamono kotoba*. *Wakamono kotoba* is a unique language or expression used by speakers between the ages of 10-30 in everyday life (Meisa & Linguistics, 2017). This research discusses Japanese slang or *wakamono kotoba* used in the Youtube video of Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* channel. In the video, there is the word: やばい 'yabai' which according to the standard Japanese dictionary means 'danger, but the meaning contained in one of Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* channel videos means 'crazy' or expressing something extraordinary.

Here is the dialog contained in the video using the word やばい 'yabai'.
Otsuka: sushi?

Yusuke: sushi goreng?

Jerome: sushi goreng そう.

Tomo : やばい.

Yabai. "Crazy"

(<https://youtu.be/JjR0EATURTE>, 2:07)

The dialogue is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel "Wasedaboys kaget coba mukbang sushi ala Indonesia *ngakak!* | Indonesia trip" at the minute 2:07. In the video, Jerome invites Waseda Boys to mukbang Indonesian-style sushi. Waseda Boys is a term for Jerome Polin's college friends from Waseda University, Japan. The difference between sushi in Japan and in Indonesia is that Indonesian sushi uses mayonnaise, added shredded, and also fried. Whereas in Japan it's just rice and topped with a variety of fish. That's why the Waseda Boys were surprised to see the Indonesian version of sushi. Then Tomo (one of Jerome's college friends) said やばい 'yabai' with the meaning of crazy which

means to express something extraordinary. In terms of semantics, やばい 'yabai' has expanded in meaning from 'crazy' to 'something extraordinary'.

The process of meaning change is found in the chart:

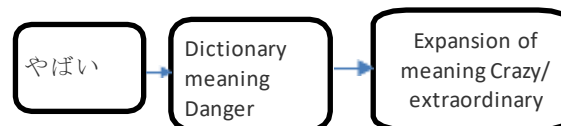


Chart 1. Expansion of Meaning

In another dialogue there is the word まじ *maji* which according to the standard Japanese dictionary (NHK World Japan) the meaning of the word まじ *maji* is short for まじめ *majime*, which means "seriously.", but the meaning contained in the *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel is "really?" or used when you want

to emphasize or say something that is "really difficult.". It can be said that the word まじ *maji* has changed meaning semantically, namely the expansion of meaning and morphological changes in form, namely clipping or shortening of words Kageyama, 2016 (Nisfah Lailanjanj, 2017). The word まじ *maji* is found in the following dialog.

Jerome: Kita bakal melihat sumur tua,
mari kita lihat!,
飲めるて
Nomerute.
"Said to be drinkable"

Yusuke: 飲めの。
Nomeno.
"Can it be drunk?"

Otsuka: まじ。
Maji.
"Really?"

Tomo : 汚れてね。
yogorete ne.
"but it's pretty dirty."

(<https://youtu.be/TyeyEGeh4g>, 9:48)

The dialog is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel

"Wasedaboys menggila di Medan-Samosir: Tortor, patung mistis, kuburan di atas pohon" at the 9:48 minute mark.

In the video, Jerome invites and explains to the Waseda Boys to see an old well that he says can be drunk. This made the Waseda Boys surprised and Otsuka (one of Jerome Polin's friends who is a member of the Waseda Boys group) responded with the word まじ "maji". The Waseda Boys were surprised to see the condition of the well where the water is drinkable, and the condition of the water looks dirty. However, the use of this well is believed to cure diseases. The まじ maji spoken by Otsuka shows surprise and confusion at the condition. The Process of Meaning Change is in the following chart.

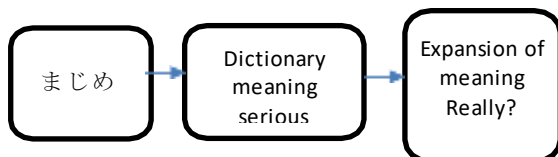


Chart 2. The Process of Meaning Change

The process of changing word formation starts with the word *majime* which turns into まじ *maji*. まじ *maji* is the result of word abbreviation which can be done by cutting or removing certain parts of a word, so that the word becomes shorter. The process of word formation changes can be seen in the following chart.

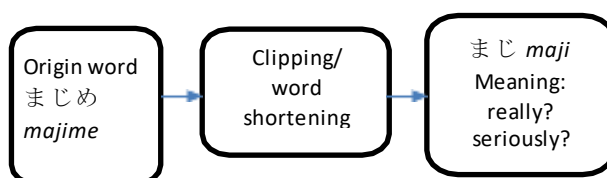


Chart 3. Word Formation Change Process

In example 1, the *wakamono kotoba* まじ *maji* is found to be the result of word abbreviation which can be done by cutting or removing certain parts of a word, so that the word becomes shorter.

Based on the background that has been stated, the author will identify what Japanese slang is found on Jerome Polin's Youtube channel *Nihongo Mantappu* and describe the process of changing the meaning and word formation of Japanese slang in Jerome Polin's Youtube channel *Nihongo Mantappu*.

2. Methods

The method used in this research is qualitative descriptive method by referring to Kageyama's theory (2016). The data collection method uses the listening method with note-taking techniques, and the method used in the analysis is a qualitative descriptive method. The listening method is used by listening to the Youtube video of Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* channel by noting the vocabulary included in the Japanese slang word formation process. The data source used in this research comes from the Youtube video channel *Nihongo Mantappu* as many as 7 videos. The titles of the videos are as follows.

- 1) Video 1 "Wasedaboys kaget coba mukbang sushi ala Indonesia NGAKAK! Indonesia Trip"
Link https://youtu.be/TyeyEGeh4_g
- 2) Video 2 "Cewek Jepang & Korea kaget lihat kebun binatang Indonesia! (Bali zoo)"
Link https://youtu.be/gOq_ciuV6mU
- 3) Video 3 "Wasedaboyspuasa seharian diatur roulette!! Lupa sahur, kacau banget"
Link <https://youtu.be/F7u3MXXx6NA>
- 4) Video 4 "24 Jam kegiatan diatur roulette hasilnya tak terduga..."
Link https://youtu.be/Qgai_T7ocXM
- 5) Video 5 "Reaksi Wasedaboys liat Youtuber & Influencer cewek Indonesia! pt.4"
Link <https://youtu.be/cK4O43snh8I>
- 6) Video 6 "Wasedaboys berenang di air terjun paling ekstrim! Otsuka sampe keram?!"

Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aLW sEU5TaU&t=1s>

- 7) Video 7 “Reaksi Wasedaboys pertama kali coba masakan padang?!”
Link <https://youtu.be/UaTiaBnkg70>.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Semantics

Semantics according to Palmer is a term that refers to the study of meaning, and because meaning is part of language, semantics is part of linguistics.

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI, 2005: 548), the definition of semantics is the meaning, meaning, and intention of the speaker and writer or the meaning given to a form of discussion.

Semantics is one of the three levels of language analysis (phonology, grammar, and semantics) which focuses on studying meaning or meaning in language Chaer, 2013 (Zulkarnain, 2022). In the field of semantics, the term commonly used for linguistic signs is lexeme, which is commonly defined as a word or phrase which is a meaningful unit Harimurti in (Nafinuddin, 2020). Meanwhile, the term word, which is commonly defined as a language unit that can stand alone whandan occur from a single morpheme or a combination of morphemes Harimurti, in (Nafinuddin, 2020) is a term in the field of grammar.

3.2 Morphology

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies word order or word formation. According to Ralibi, Mulyana 2007 in (NAMLEA), etymologically the term morphology comes from the Greek language, which comes from a combination of the word morphe which means 'form', and logos which means 'science'. In the study of linguistics or linguistics, morphology is a science of forms and word formation (2015). Meanwhile, according to Ramlan (2019), morphology is a part of

linguistics that studies the intricacies of words and the effect of changes in word forms on groups and word meanings.

Mulyana 2007 (Halid, 2022), states that the term morphology is derived from English morphology, meaning a branch of linguistics that studies the grammatical arrangement or parts of words. In the past, this science was better known as morphemics, which is the study of morphemes. However, along with the development and dynamics of language, the term that became more popular was morphology.

Etymologically, the term morphology in Indonesian comes from the English word morphology. The term is formed from two morphemes, namely morph 'form' and logy 'science'. The term morphology is explained by Chaer 2008: 3 in (Habibie, 2021)

The object of morphological study is word form, all language units before they become words, such as morphemes with various types and forms, and word formation processes. Word formation includes several processes such as free and bound morphemes, affixes, reduplication, morphophonemics, composition, inflection, and derivation.

According to Dedi Sutedi in the book Basics of Japanese Linguistics, the term morphology in Japanese is called *keitairon* which is also a branch of linguistics that studies words and their formation processes. The objects studied are words (*go/tango*) and morphemes (*keitaiso*).

There are several terms related to Japanese morphology that will be discussed in this chapter, namely the issues of *tango* 'word', *keitaiso* 'morpheme', *jiyuu keitaiso* 'free morpheme', *kousoku keitaiso* 'bound morpheme', *ikeitai* 'allomorph', *gokeisei* 'word formation', and *setsuji* 'affix'.

Morphology is generally divided into two fields, namely the study of inflection (inflectional morphology), and the study of word formation (lexical or

derivational morphology) (see Lieber, 2009), compare with Kridalaksana (1984). The definition of morphology is also emphasized by Bauer (1983:33), which discusses the internal structure of word forms.

Word formation through free morphemes with bound morphemes can be found in the process of affixation, which is word formation done by combining free/bound base forms with bound morphemes in the form of affixes. For example, the free form *curi* is combined with the affix *meng-* to produce the word *steal*. Similarly, the bound form *juang* is combined with the bound form *ber-* to produce the word *struggle*. Words resulting from the process of combining free/bound morphemes with bound morphemes in the form of affixes produce complex words, which are commonly called affixed words.

The word formation process can also be done by repeating the basic form, either repeating the entire basic form, part of the basic form, combining with affixes, or there is a change in phonemes in one of the constituents. The result of this word formation process is commonly called a reword.

Word formation through free morphemes with free morphemes, free morphemes with bound morphemes (base), and free morphemes with unique morphemes is found in the process of compounding (composition). This process produces words that are commonly called compound words. For example, the free form *house* and the free form *sick* produce the compound word *hospital*. The free form *tua* with the unique bound form *bangka* produces the compound word *tua bangka*, and the free form *daya* with the bound form (base) *tempur*, produces the compound word *daya tempur*.

3.3 *Wakamono kotoba*

Yonekawa 1998 (Oktavia & Yulianti, 2021) states that youth language is the language used by young people aged junior high

school to adults approximately 30 years old to friends in order to make the atmosphere of the conversation relaxed, fun, familiar, easy to describe something, and confidential.

Kamei in *Wakamono kotoba* Jiten 2003:5 in (Rukmana, 2014) states that "young Japanese people often use their own language and terms in conversation, so that adults sometimes do not understand what they are talking about".

What is meant by slang is a social variation that is specialized and secretive. That is, this variation is used by certain very limited circles, and should not be known by those outside the group. Therefore, the vocabulary used in slang is always changing Chaer, 2004: 67 in (Utami, 2016).

Sudjianto 2007 in (Andriani, Adnyani, & Antarctica, 2017) his research says that "the language of young people (also called 'slang') has a distinctive nature that is only used between friends or certain groups such as between young people or between students, so it is often a language that is difficult for parents to understand". (Lino, et al, 2003:70) suggests that "at any given time, people called teenagers use *wakamono kotoba*. *Wakamono kotoba* changes from time to time and at the same time each new group and generation also uses different *wakamono kotoba*."

Another definition of *wakamono kotoba* is "as a slang language or jargon used by someone who has a school age equivalent to junior high school until around the age of 30. It is usually used to specify words from the freedom of the old rules of word order" (Matsumoto, et al., 2011:5).

3.4 Word Formation

Kageyama (2016) suggests that the word formation process consists of seven, namely:

1) Compounding

Compounding is the joining of two words or free morphemes. In Japanese word compounding is found from two bound

morphemes. Examples of word formation through compounding:

- a. 来福 *rai-fuku* which means coming to Fukuoka or Fukushima.
- b. 来日 *rai-nichi* which means coming to Japan.

2) Affixation

The addition of affixes to a word. This is the process of adding prefixes and suffixes to the base form. Affixation in Japanese is called *setsujika*. Affixation is the process of forming words by affixing affixes to the base form, both single and complex base forms (Putrayasa, 2008:5). Examples of word formation through affixation:

- a. お車 *okuruma* which means car.
- b. 厚み *atsumi* which means the thickness

3) Conversion (special word change)

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, conversion is a change from one form (form, etc.) to another (form, etc.). An example of word formation through conversion:

- a. 眠る *nemuru* which means sleep (verb)
- b. 眠り *nemuri* which means sleep (noun)

4) Reduplication (repetition)

Reduplication is a process of word formation by repeating part or all of a word to form a new word.

Examples of word formation through reduplication:

- a. ぺこぺこ *peko peko* which means very hungry.
- b. いろいろな *iroirona* which means various.

5) Blending (two words combined)

Blending mixes two or more words to get one word with a completely new form. Examples of word formation through blending:

あさーしゃん *asa-shan* comes from the word *asa* 朝 which means morning and シャンプー *shampoo* then combined into あさーしゃん *asa shan* which means morning shampooing.

6) Clipping (word shortening)

Word formation by the process of word shortening which can be done by clipping or detaching certain parts of a word, so that the word becomes shorter.

An example of word formation through clipping:

- a. 東京大 *toukyou daigaku* becomes 東大 *toudai* meaning the University of Tokyo.
- b. アルバイト *arubaito* becomes バイト *baito*, meaning part-time work.

7) Acronym or initials (combination of initial letters).

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), an acronym is a shortened form of a combination of letters or syllables or other elements that is written and pronounced like any other natural word. Examples of word formation through acronyms:

- a. KY 空気読めない *kūkiyomenai* which means unable to read the atmosphere.
- b. W 笑い *warai* which means laughter.

After collecting data on Jerome Polin's Youtube channel *Nihongo Mantappu*, 19 research data were obtained that had the process of forming Japanese slang words with reference to Kageyama's theory (2016). The 19-research data are classified into clipping as much as 13 data, blending as much as 3 data, reduplication 1 data, conversion 2 data. The collected data along with the classification are in the table 1.

Table 1. Research Data and Classification Based on Japanese Slang Word Formation on Jerome Polin's Youtube channel *Nihongo Mantappu*.

Japanese slang vocabulary	Classification of word formation processes	Amount
すげえ Sugee; かけ Kakke; おもろい Omoroi; 凝っわ Kowwa; なが Naga; きれえ Kire; あったかい Attakai; まじ Maji; 待って Matte; やらうか yarou ka; 買うか kau ka; すご sugo; うま Uma	Clipping	13
もっかい Mokkai; きんとれ Kin tore; やばすぎ Yabasugi	Blending	3
キラキラ Kirakira	Reduplication	1
行くぞ Ikuzo; 食べようぜ Tabeyouze	Conversion	2

1) Clipping data analysis

The data analysis process begins with analyzing words based on semantic meaning and analyzing morphological word formation. Clipping Data Analysis, すげえ *sugee* comes from the word すごい *sugoi* which means cool or amazing. Often used to express admiration. It belongs to the classification of clipping word formation. Here is the dialog in the video using the word すげえ *sugee*.

Jerome: 湖の中で島があって、
あそこおれのお父さんの。。。
Mizuumi no naka de shima ga atte, asoko ore no otousan no.
“Inside the lake there is an island, there is the birthplace of my father”
島、湖中で島。
Shima, mizuumi naka de shima.
“Island, inside the island lake”
Otsuka: すげえ。
Sugee.
“Cool”

(https://youtu.be/TyeyEGeh4_g, 1:12)

The dialog is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel titled "Wasedaboys menggila di Medan- Samosir: Tortor, patung mistis, kuburan di atas pohon!" At minute 1:12. In the video, Jerome explains about Lake Toba, the largest lake in the world, which is located in North Sumatra. Explaining that in the middle of Lake Toba there is a small island

called Samosir and it is the birthplace of Jerome Polin's father, and they will go there. There are several things that surprised the Waseda boys, the first is that Jerome explained that there is also an island in the lake. Lake Toba is the largest lake in the world, and finally that place (Medan) is the hometown of Jerome's father. After listening to all that, the word すげえ *sugee* was uttered which means impressive or extraordinary about something.

The analysis of words based on semantic meaning and the analysis of morphological word formation are in the following chart.

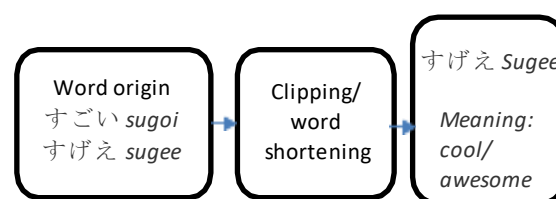


Chart 4. Meaning and Word Formation of すげえ *sugee*

2) Blending data analysis

やばすぎ *yabasugi* belongs to the classification of blending data. やばすぎ *yabasugi* comes from the word やばいすぎる *yabai sugiru* which means very bad. This word is used to express something unexpected and more negative. The word やばい *yabai* in the Japanese dictionary is dangerous and the word すぎる *sugiru* is too. If based on the Japanese dictionary や

ばすぎ *yabasugi* which means too dangerous. However, when viewed from the word blending process, やばすぎ *yabasugi* means very severe. This shows the expansion of the meaning of the word やばい *yabai* from dangerous to severe. Here is the dialog in the video using the word やばすぎ *yabasugi*

Otsuka: 昼ご飯.

hiru gohan.

“Lunch”

Yusuke: やばすぎ, さっき食べた.

yabasugi, *sakki tabeta*.

“It's so bad, just ate”

(https://youtu.be/Qgai_T7ocXM, 22:15)

The dialog is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel entitled "24 Jam kegiatan diatur roulette hasilnya tak terduga..." In the video Waseda boys a day of activities organized by roulette. At the beginning Jerome pressed the roulette to determine what the next activity they should do and the result of the roulette got their dinner choosing *yashinoya* with a large portion and they finished eating at half past 6 in the morning.

Next it was Yusuke's turn to hit the roulette to determine the next activity and they got lunch. Because they were too full they were reluctant to eat more and said やばすぎ *yabasugi* as a very bad word to eat more. The analysis of words based on semantic meaning and the analysis of morphological word formation are in the following chart.

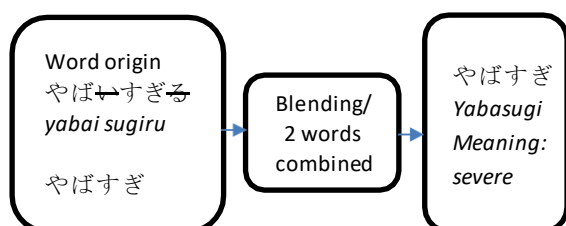


Chart 5. Meaning and Word Formation of やばすぎ *yabasugi*

3) Reduplication data analysis

キラキラ *kirakira* means bling- bling or shining. This word is generally used to describe something that shines brightly. It belongs to the classification of blending word formation process.

Here is the dialog in the video using the word キキララ *kirakira*

Jerome: 汗切った.

ase kitta.

“was already sweating”

Otsuka: 汗化している.

ase kaite iru.

am i sweating??

Jerome: めっちゃキラキラ.

meccha kirakira. “Verybling-bling”

(https://youtu.be/Qgai_T7ocXM, 13:31)

The dialogue is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel "24 Jam kegiatan diatur roulette hasilnya tak terduga..." at the 13:31 minute mark. In the video, the Waseda boys' activities are organized by roulette. Yusuke got his turn to hit the roulette and the result was a bicycle ride at half past 4 in the morning which was a first for them. After a long bike ride, they took a short break and Jerome said to Otsuka who was already sweating. Otsuka's face was shiny with sweat. Then the word めっちゃキラキラ *meccha kirakira* was said as a word for very bling- bling or it could also mean shining because of Otsuka's sweat.

The analysis of words based on semantic meaning and the analysis of morphological word formation are in the following chart.

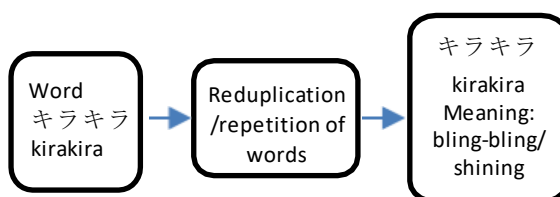


Chart 6. Meaning and Word Formation of キラキラ *kirakira*

4) Conversion data analysis

食べようぜ *tabeyouze* is included in the classification of conversion data because it changes its form. This word comes from the word 食べましょう *tabemashou*, then changed to 食べようぜ *tabeyouze* which means let's eat. This word is commonly used as a form of invitation or offer to others. Here is the dialog that uses the word 食べようぜ.

Jerome: はい, 着きました食べようぜ
Hai, tsukimashita. Tabeyouze.
 "Hi, it's here. Let us eat"

The dialog is taken from Jerome Polin's *Nihongo Mantappu* video channel entitled "24 Jam kegiatan diatur roulette hasilnya

tak terduga..." at minute 19:35. In the video the waseda boys buy food. After being tired of cycling waseda boy decided to eat breakfast first before starting other activities (https://youtu.be/Qgai_T7ocXM, 19:35).

The analysis of words based on semantic meaning and the analysis of morphological word formation are in the following chart.

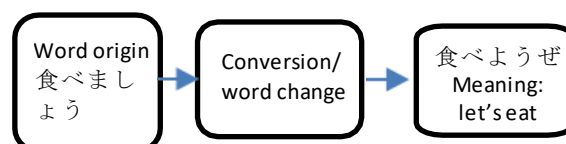


Chart 7. Meaning and Formation of 食べようぜ *tabeyouze*

Table 2. Meaning and Word Formation

No	Research data	Shape change	Original Meaning	Change of meaning
1	やばい <i>yabai</i>	やばすぎ <i>yabasugi</i>	Dangerous	-
2	すごい <i>sugoi</i>	すげえ <i>sugee</i>	Cool/awesome	Cool
3	かっこい <i>kakkoi</i>	かっけ <i>kakke</i>	Cold	-
4	面白い <i>omoshiroi</i>	おもしろい <i>omoroi</i>	Interesting	-
5	怖い <i>kowai</i>	凝っわ <i>kowwa</i>	Fear	-
6	長い <i>nagai</i>	なが <i>naga</i>	Long	-
7	きれい <i>kirei</i>	きれ <i>kire</i>	Beautiful	-
8	温かい <i>ataakai</i>	あったかい <i>attakai</i>	Warm	Really
9	真面目 <i>majime</i>	まじ <i>maji</i>	Seriously	Wait
10	ちょっとまって <i>chotto matte</i>	まって <i>matte</i>	Wait a minute	-
11	やりましょう <i>yarimashou</i>	やろうか <i>yarou ka</i>	Let's buy	-
12	買います <i>kaimasu</i>	買うか <i>kau ka</i>	Let's buy	-
13	うまい <i>umai</i>	うま <i>uma</i>	Delicious	-
14	もう一回 <i>mou ikkai</i>	もうっかい <i>moukkai</i>	One more time	-
15	キラキラ <i>kirakira</i>	キラキラ <i>kirakira</i>	Shining	-
16	筋肉トレーニング <i>kinniku toreningu</i>	きんとれ <i>kintore</i>	Work out	-
17	行きましょう <i>ikimashou</i>	行くぞ <i>ikuzo</i>	Let's go	-
18	食べましょう <i>tabemashou</i>	食べようぜ <i>tabeyouze</i>	Let's eat	-
19	すごい <i>sugoi</i>	すごお <i>sugoo</i>	Cool/awesome	-

4. Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis that the author has done, Japanese slang found on Youtube channel *Nihongo Mantappu* Jerome Polin, there are 19 data with the classification of word formation, namely the formation of words clipping there are 13 data, blending there are 3 data, reduplication there are 1 data, conversion, as seen in table 2.

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