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A Corpus-based Study:
An Investigation of Verb-Argument Constructions (VACs) Knowledge Development in Indonesian L2 Learners of English across Proficiency Levels

Unit observation

VAC	Sample	Learning Level
V *about* n	They <u>talked</u> *about* <u>the progress</u>	C1
V *across* n	A survey was <u>conducted</u> *across* <u>a representative cross-section of employees</u>	B2
V *after* n	we just <u>started working</u> *after* <u>graduation</u>	B2
V *against* n	Not to <u>fight</u> *against* <u>green movement</u>	C1
V *among* n	Some characteristics are <u>shared</u> *among* <u>the groups</u>	A2
V *around* n	The games primarily <u>revolve</u> *around* <u>the rivalry</u> between…	A2
V *as* n	I <u>work</u> *as* <u>a civil servant</u>	A2
V *between* n	My home is <u>located</u> *between* <u>the restaurant and the supermarket</u>	B1
V *for* n	I <u>work</u> *for* <u>the government</u>	A2
V *in* n	I <u>participated</u> *in* <u>a carnival parade</u>	A2
V *into* n	The cards are <u>divided</u> *into* <u>colors</u>	A2
V *like* n	That <u>looks</u> *like* <u>a rectangle</u>	B1
V *of* n	Indonesia <u>consists</u> *of* <u>various ethnic groups</u>	A2
V *off* n	I will be able to <u>pay</u> *off* <u>the loan</u>	B2
V *over* n	A blanket is <u>placed</u> *over* <u>the net</u>	B1
V *through* n	Children and adult <u>go</u> *through* <u>the crowded street</u>	A1
V *toward* n	Other stakeholders are <u>working</u> *toward* <u>common goals</u>	C1
V *under* n	lots of people <u>live</u> *under* <u>the standard quality of life</u>	C1
V *with* N	That strategy needs to <u>start</u> *with* <u>Stakeholder's expectations</u>	B2

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Table 1 [*for Research Question 1*: Distribution of VACs- Emergence and Development of VACs across Proficiency Levels]

VACs Type and Token Distribution across Proficiency Levels of L1 Indonesian Learners of English

VAC Type	A1			A2			B1			B2			C1		
	Type	Tkn	Tkns per 10 K	Type	Tkn	Tkns per 10 K	Type	Tkn	Tkns per 10 K	Type	Tkn	Tkns per 10 K	Type	Tkn	Tkns per 10 K
V *about* N	5	16	**4.59**	23	48	**6.77**	37	188	**18.72**	26	101	**18.31**	17	35	**13.20**
V *across* N	--	--	**--**	1	5	**0.71**	--	--	**--**	1	1	**0.18**	--	--	**--**
V *after* N	1	1	**0.29**	2	3	**0.42**	4	4	**0.40**	1	1	**0.18**	1	1	**0.38**
V *against* N	--	--	**--**	1	2	**0.28**	2	18	**1.79**	1	1	**0.18**	1	1	**0.38**
V *among* N	--	--	**--**	1	1	**0.14**	1	1	**0.10**	1	1	**0.18**	--	--	**--**
V *around* N	1	1	**0.29**	4	7	**0.99**	4	12	**1.19**	3	6	**1.09**	2	2	**0.75**
V *as* N	2	3	**0.86**	9	12	**1.69**	16	14	**1.39**	15	24	**4.35**	9	12	**4.52**
V *between* N	1	5	**1.43**	2	4	**0.56**	4	4	**0.40**	--	--	**--**	4	4	**1.51**
V *for* N	10	16	**4.59**	32	69	**9.73**	64	165	**16.43**	40	108	**19.58**	21	39	**14.70**
V *in* N	24	155	**44.46**	64	365	**51.48**	92	345	**34.35**	64	157	**28.46**	53	82	**30.92**
V *into* N	2	3	**0.86**	8	14	**1.97**	11	13	**1.29**	11	13	**2.36**	5	6	**2.26**
V *like* N	2	2	**0.57**	5	18	**2.54**	11	28	**2.79**	6	6	**1.09**	2	3	**1.13**
V *of* N	1	1	**0.29**	7	14	**1.97**	7	8	**0.80**	10	10	**1.81**	4	6	**2.26**
V *off* N	--	--	**--**	--	--	**--**	4	5	**0.50**	1	11	**1.99**	1	1	**0.38**
V *over* N	--	--	**--**	1	1	**0.14**	5	7	**0.70**	5	5	**0.91**	3	3	**1.13**
V *through* N	1	1	**0.29**	1	2	**0.28**	6	7	**0.70**	2	2	**0.36**	2	2	**0.75**
V *toward* N	--	--	**--**	--	--	**--**	--	--	**--**	1	1	**0.18**	--	--	**--**
V *under* N	--	--	**--**	--	--	**--**	2	3	**0.30**	3	3	**0.54**	2	2	**0.75**
V *with* N	13	22	**6.31**	30	93	**13.12**	74	195	**19.42**	42	105	**19.03**	29	40	**15.08**

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Research Question 2: Most Frequent Verbs Associated with the Most Productive VACs

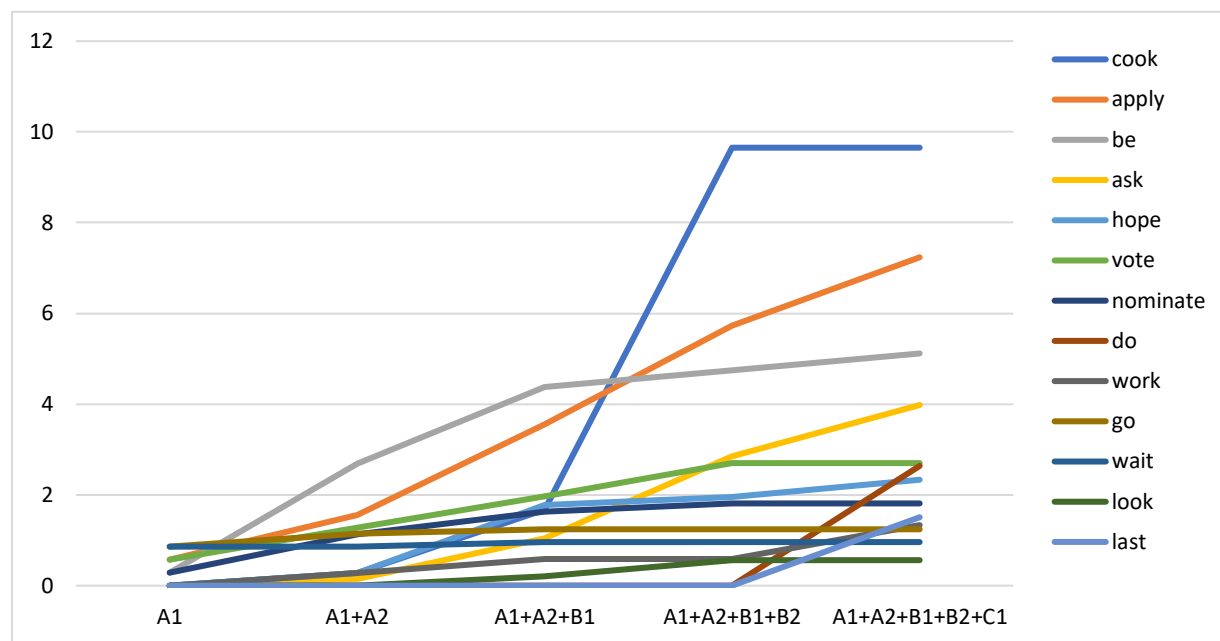
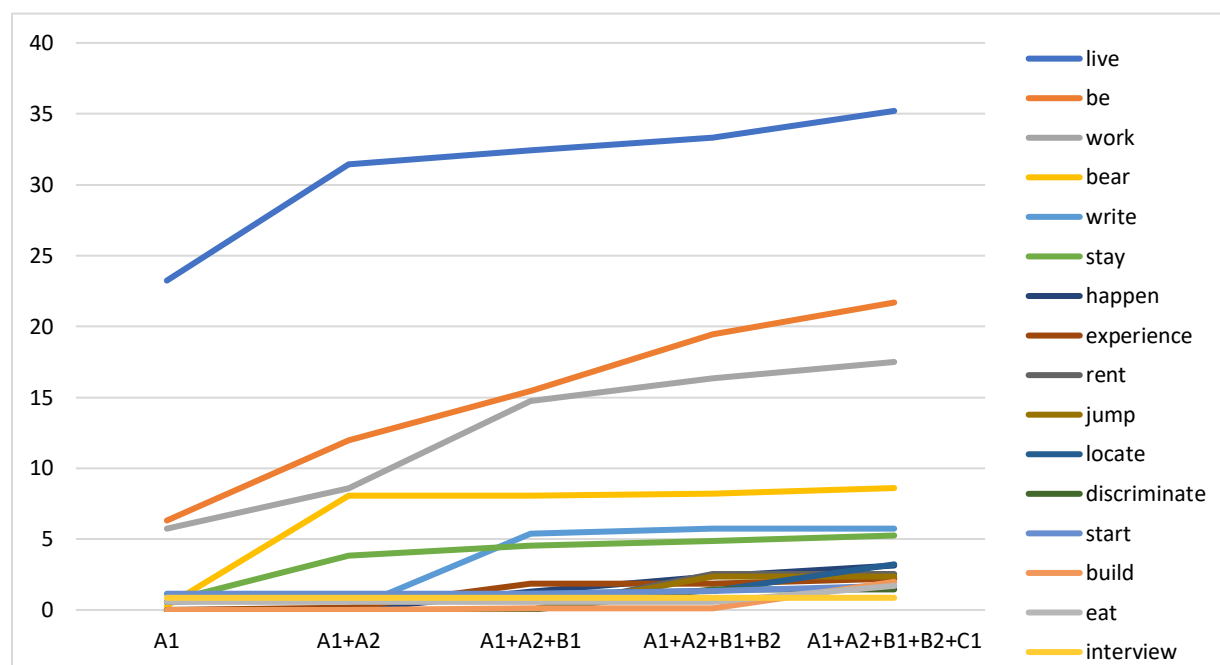Figure 1. Verb-VAC Association for "V *for* N" in L1 Indonesian

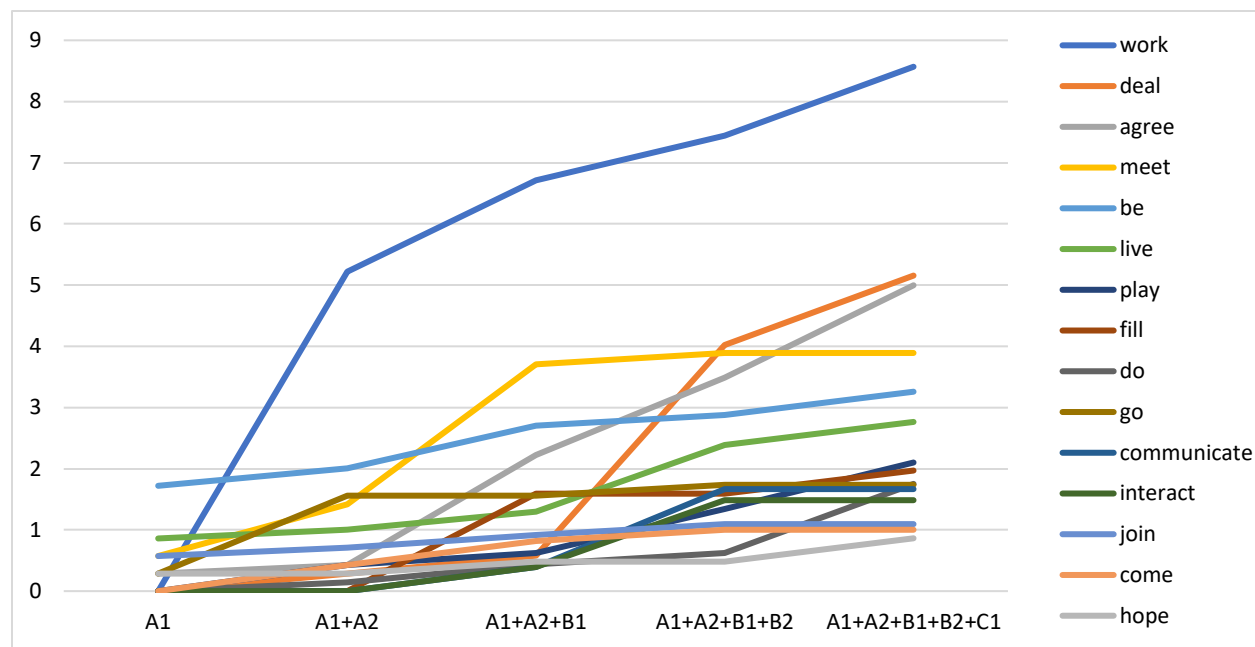Figure 2. Verb-VAC Association for "V *in* N" in L1 Indonesian

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Figure 3. Verb-VAC Association for "V *with* N" in L1 Indonesian

Research Question 3: Correlations of Verb Usage in "V *in* N"

No	Proficiency Levels	*r*-value	*p*-value
1	A1 vs. A2	0.49	0.00001
2	A1 vs. B1	0.47	0.00000
3	A1 vs. B2	0.43	0.00009
4	A1 vs. C1	0.37	0.00002
5	A2 vs. B1	0.44	0.00000
6	A2 vs. B2	0.20	0.04235
7	A2 vs. C1	0.25	0.01542
8	B1 vs. B2	0.44	0.00000
9	B1 vs. C1	0.36	0.00003
10	B2 vs. C1	0.39	0.00009

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Samples of Scatterplots for Verb-VACs Correlations

Figure 4. Verbs usage in "V *in* N" between A2 (elementary) and B1 (intermediate)

Figure 5. Verb usage in "V *in* N" between A2 (elementary) and B2 (upper intermediate)