

Polysemy, Homophony, Definiteness and Possession: Indonesian *-nya* and Balinese *-(n)e*

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In this paper, we will provide a comparative analysis of the discourse functions of the Indonesian suffix *-nya* and the Balinese suffix(es) *-e/-ne*. In Indonesian, there is arguably a single polysemous category, whereas in Balinese there is evidence for a split into two homophonous morphemes. We will then discuss the implications of this analysis for the broader question of the status of cross-linguistic categories such as 'definite' and 'possessive', noting the lack of fit between the functional ranges of these morphemes and their counterparts in English and similar languages.