



A Contrastive Analysis on Prefix Usage in Batak Toba and English: Morphological Perspectives

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ABSTRACT: This study aims to investigate and describe the differences in prefix usage in English and Batak Toba from a morphological perspective. This research employs a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. Data were taken from an English short story titled "The Mysterious Disappearance" and a Batak short story titled "Mandiori Pulungan", both accessed from the internet. The findings indicate that there are significant differences in the use of prefixes between English and Batak Toba, both in form and meaning. Each language has a unique prefix system that affects word meaning differently. In conclusion, contrastive analysis reveals fundamental differences in prefix usage in these two languages.

Keywords: Contrastive Analysis, Prefixes, Batak Toba, Morphology

1. Introduction

Language is a set of symbols that people use, share, speak, sign or write. People communicate as members of a social group and as members of that group's culture. A lot definitions of the language have been made (Karam, 2018). Henry Zoet, English linguists said: "Language is a way of expressing idea sspeech-sound combinations in words. Words are connected to sentences, this connection responses to feedback. The author needs to understand these languages in the context of language learning (Choudhary and Arora, 2021). Language is a sciencestudies that can be used to learn many languages around the world (Cristy, Lubis, & Chunliu, 2023).

The field of linguistics, which includes the study of languages, focuses primarily on morphology, the branch that deals with the structure and organization of words in a language (Kovács, Alonso, & Saini, 2021). Morphology covers the structure of words and analyzes how they are formed and organized (Sianipar, 2022). Although most English words consist of one or two syllables, technical words can be longer. On the other hand, many languages offer the same meaning and words, requiring words to complete a sentence in English (Fitria, 2021). Morphological methods are used to match the meaning of a word with its form. Another aspect of linguistics, cross-linguistics, involves comparing the features of two languages to identify differences and similarities (Tarigan, Purba, Malau, Siahaan, & Napitupulu, 2022). This process aims to identify differences and similarities between languages through careful analysis. A practical example is the frequent comparison of prefixes in English and Batak Toba (Amin & Burghardt, 2020).



Contrastive analysis (CA) involves comparing programs in two or more languages to reveal similarities and differences and provide insight into problems students may face (Sartika and Pranoto, 2021). It investigates the differences between two languages, especially in order to provide information in fields such as foreign language studies and translation studies (Saragi, 2018). According to Tarigan (2009: 5), contrast analysis involves comparing the structures of two languages to identify differences. Lado (1975) defines it as a tool that measures the difficulty or ease of learning a second or foreign language. Similarly, Sutedi (in Banjarnahor, 2017) sees it as a means of explaining the common language of different languages in many languages. According to Lado (1959), the steps of diversity analysis include: 1) providing detailed information about the characteristics of each language; 2) create a common summary of these examples; and 3) compare them to identify potential learning challenges. Brown (in Ngantung, Lasut, & Sigarlaki, 2021) proposes a methodological approach that involves describing the language system, selecting different elements, comparing them, and pointing out students' errors. Tarigan (Solovyev, Ivanov, and Solnyshkina, 2018) suggests that analysis helps compare languages students will encounter, predict learning difficulties, plan teaching materials, and determine teaching methods (Ruíz López, 2019).

A prefix is a suffix added to the front of a root word that changes its meaning when combined. It usually modifies a negative word, expresses an opinion, or expresses repetition (Chen et al., 2020). In linguistics, prepositions are also called preformers because they change the form of the word before it (Karam, 2018). Prefixes are prefixes added to the root of a word (Xafizovna, 2022) and can be derived or modified by creating new words with altered meaning, while retaining the original meaning of the original word. Unlike most languages, English mostly uses inflectional inflections and lacks prepositions (Obidovna, 2022; Choudhary and Arora, 2021). The addition of one word to an English word often modifies another; common meanings maintain a fixed meaning regardless of the word they are associated with (Park, 2022). For example, the prefixes *syn-* and *sym-* both mean "to do something together," as we see in words like *synthesis*, which when *syn-* is added to the subject means "to create an idea or system by combining ideas" (Julianti, 2018).

2. Method

According to Sugiyono (2018), qualitative methods are research methods grounded in post-positivism philosophy, used to investigate the nature of natural phenomena, where researchers serve as the primary instruments. Data collection techniques are conducted through triangulation (integrated), and data analysis is inductive/qualitative. Qualitative research results emphasize meaning over generalization. Sugiyono (2016, p. 9) also states that qualitative interpretations and research methods based on post-positivism philosophy are known for investigating the nature of natural phenomena at the researcher's location (as opposed to surveys). An important tool for data collection techniques is triangulation. In this study, the authors analyzed the concept of the English and Toba Batak languages. The authors analyzed the concepts of the two languages studied (Sandra, 2018).

3. Findings and Discussion

3.1. Findings

In this section, we present the findings of our research on the usage of prefixes in Toba Batak and English. The analysis is structured to provide a clear comparison between the two languages, focusing on the morphological, semantic, and syntactic aspects of prefix usage.

The following table summarizes the key findings related to the prefixes identified in both languages. It highlights the differences and similarities in their forms and functions, serving as a foundation for the subsequent discussion. Each entry in the table is accompanied by examples that illustrate the usage of prefixes in context, allowing for a more nuanced understanding of their roles within the respective languages.

Table 1. Analysis of Prefix in “The Mysterious Disappearance” Short Story

No	Sentences	Prefix
1	Once upon a time in a remote village, there lived a misunderstood boy named Alex.	Mis-understood
2	Alex was often mistreated by his peers because of his unusual habits.	mis-treated
3	He would revisit the old library every day, where he found solace among the books.	Re-visit
4	One day, while Alex was exploring the library, he stumbled upon a disused room at the back.	Dis-used
5	The door was unlocked and creaked open with a disconcerting sound.	Un-locked Dis-concerting
6	Inside, Alex discovered an ancient book with the title "The Unseen World."	Un-seen
7	The book spoke of a hidden dimension that was inaccessible to ordinary people.	In-accessible
8	However, it also warned of the dangers of becoming disoriented and unable to return.	Dis-oriented Un-able
9	As he finished the final step, a bright light enveloped him, and he found himself in a breathtaking landscape unlike any he had ever seen.	Un-like
10	The air was unpolluted, and the skies were a brilliant shade of blue.	Un-polluted
11	The ground beneath his feet felt unnaturally soft, and the plants around him were vibrant and unfamiliar.	Un-naturally Un-familliar
12	He walked through this world with a sense of unrestrained joy.	Un-restrained
13	He felt increasingly uneasy as he wandered through the unmarked paths.	Un-eassy Un-marked
14	He discovered the importance of balance and how everything was interconnected	Inter-connected
15	He also found friends who understood him in ways no one in his village ever had.	Under-stood
16	Alex returned to his village, no longer the misunderstood boy he once was.	Mis-understood
17	He carried with him the wisdom and experiences of the unseen world, ready to face his reality with newfound confidence and understanding.	Un-seen

No	Sentences	Prefix
18	His peers, noticing the change, began to reassess their opinions of him, and Alex's life took a turn for the better.	re-assess

Table 2. Classification Result of Prefix in “The Mysterious Disappearance” Short Story

No	Prefix	Amount	words
1	Mis-	3	Misunderstood, Mistreated, Misunderstood
2	Re-	2	Revisit, reasses
3	Dis-	3	Disused, Disconcerting, Disoriented
4	Un-	11	Unlocked, unseen, unable, unlike Unpolluted, Unnaturally, Unfamiliar, Unrestrained, Uneasy, Unmarked
5	In-	1	Inaccessible
6	Inter-	1	Interconnected
7	Under-	1	Understood

Table 3. Finding of Prefix in “The Mysterious Disappearance” Short Story

Prefix	Formula	% Result
Mis-	$3/22 \times 100$	13.64%
Re-	$2/22 \times 100$	9.09%
Dis-	$3/22 \times 100$	13.64%
3Un-	$11/22 \times 100$	50%
In-	$1/22 \times 100$	4.55%
Inter-	$1/22 \times 100$	4.55%
Under-	$1/22 \times 100$	4.55%

Thus, after the researchers have classified and formatted in percentage, the researchers found in the prefix in English in this text there are only 7 english prefixes that we found including the prefixes un-, inter-, re-, under-, in-, dis-, mis-, each of which can be calculated in the form of presentation is 13.64%, 9.09%, 13.64%, 50%, 4.55%, 4.55%, 4.55%.

Table 4. Analysis of Prefix in “Mandiori Pulungan” Short Story

NO	SENTENCES	PREFIX
1	saonari taon 1935, molo didok jolma, masa parsorion do on, masa haliunpotir diganup luat dihumaliang tao na marsangap na martua on.	par-sorion mar-sangap
2	uju martutu aek ahu bongka i, marpangidoan do damang dohot dainang tu mulajadi asa gabe datu sipanambari ahu.	mar-pangidoan
3	alai unang pintor salpu on hata on da tu damang dainang, ai dirohangku nian, sipardalandalan ma ahu, rantos ma hujur, ganjang bajongkuhu jala laga nang raut hu.	di-rohangku si-paradalan
4	molo tarboto on tu damang sotung mago dituhah ahu, ai manang ise na so sioloi poda ninatoras na, sintakhonon ni deba ma jala diparsurage begu.	si-tangkhonon di-parsurage



NO	SENTENCES	PREFIX
5	simalolong na rara, marganjang janggut na jala sitarupon na, aut boi di ida hamu nian, pusuk buhiton	Mar-ganjang
6	siganup ari martalitali na birong do, adong sada mandar na tinongos ni halak koling na samisara, sipaha sada na salpu.	mar-tali
7	sandok molo pajumpang bohi hamu tu damang, unang panotnoti, ai alo roha na dipanotnoti, denggan ma marsantabi.	pa-notnoti di-panotnoti
8	marpehet do nian ni pematang ni damang, alai ateate na, daga i amang ndang tarpatudos.	mar-pehet
9	disada tingki, marhorja ma dihuta.	mar-horja
10	diporsuk ni haliun potir dohot dinamasa ngenge.	di-porsuk di-namasa
11	ido umbahen moru uli ni angka ina.	um-bahen
12	marsangkap do loloan ni angka raja patupa ulaon padao nasa mara.	mar-sangkap pa-tupa pa-dao
13	ndung nga be di pio datu gorgor ni juluan na siat marpangidoan	mar-pangidoan
14	siimbulunihuting nga sahat be sian tombak na limuton	si-imbulunihuting
15	papungu bulung ni motung laho songsong ni buluan dohot lapiklapik ni panganan	pa-pungu
16	dipature ma dahanon	di-pature
17	mardaup pogu ma ditonga ni alaman i.	mar-daup di-tonga
18	sidung ma mangan.	si-dung
19	mamintor marhata nama.	ma-mintor mar-hata
20	molo ahu sai manggompang do diabingan ni damang.	di-abingan
21	ndung martabas tabas datu parpingganpinggan silompa upaupa, di totari ma pulungan na, nga puhut be nian sude di tarui angka solidadu ni damang.	mar-tabas
22	ndung sidung dipatudu tandatanda sibolusonhu laho tu tombak longolongo	di-patudu si-bolusonhu
23	marlojong ma ahu.	mar-lojong
24	molo ndang sahat ahu di pargulang ni mata ni ari gabe sundat do marpangidoan, marisuang ma angka sinamot.	par-gulang mar-pangidoan
25	ndada nian na marholang tingki ahu nanggo tolu hali mandabu doton di tolu inganan, pintor dapothu do pulungan i, ai holan parbue ni bornabora do na hurang i.	mar-holang
26	hu padimun ma sude tu hajut-hajut.	pa-dimun
27	ditongan dalam, m"ah...! tongka.	di-tongan
28	ndang siulonulonon pulungan ni pelean.	si-ulonulonon
29	ai nda molo marpelean ingkon na hushus do sipatupaon?"	mar-pelean
30	hubolus adong marjanggarjanggar ma angka doli-doli di onan liang.	hu-bolus mar-janggarjanggar
31	ditoru ni hariara partungkoan	di-toru par-tungkoan
32	ndang tingkason dadu na on, rupa ni sian hau hapas do nuaengon dipungga.	di-pungga
33	hoi...! jumanggas....! patibu	pa-tibu
34	"amangoi...! tua ni do hape adong manggorahon	mang-gorahon

NO	SENTENCES	PREFIX
35	hulojong ma tu huta.	hu-lojong
36	uram ni ndung nga adong hamonangan 3 getep.	ha-monangan
37	ima hape, lalap do diparlalapan, lilit do diparlilitan angka jolma na so umbotosa partingkian na.	di-parlalapan di-parlilitan um-botosa par-tingkian
38	"jumanggas...! beta tu tao, asa mandadap hita tu batu ilik, nantuari dapotan do si juaksa, dengke na balga.	man-dadap
39	godang renteng na", marsurak si jauli manogihon.	ma-nogihon mar-surak
40	hu pananget ma langkanku.	pa-nanget
41	ditolopi ibana do tinogihon ni si jauli, alai holan sanlangka.	di-tolopi
42	"ah... tahe, ummarga do di ahu poda ni natorashon, poda ni ompungku, siauhononhu rasi rasa andigan pe, hamu ma lao, molo ahu tu huta na ma ahu, disi dipaima raja do ahu" ninna si jumanggas ma pahot langka na	di-paima
43	ndang adong na boi paeleng langka na	pa-eleng
44	i do molo ndung lopok ajar ni natoras na, lan pe angka sipaelengeleng roha ndang bolas pamunggil roha.	si-paelengeleng pa-munggil
45	hot do ibana dihadirion na, nang pe alo hian roha na alai dipatudu ibana do hadirion na.	di-hadirion di-patudu
46	sahat ma si jumanggas dijolo ni among na.	dijolo
47	di haol huhut di umma among na i ma hurum na.	di-haol
48	huhut didok : "on ma anakhu, si oloi poda sioloi ajar.	di-dok si-oloi
49	manumpak ma sahala ni daompu, sai saut ma on datu ditongatonganta" ninna raja i ma manimpuli huhut dipasahat pulungan i tu hapeahanna.	di-tongatonganta di-pasahat
50	marlojong ma si jumanggas tu balatuk ni jabuna	mar-lojong
51	dirohahi ibana do ulaon i sahat tu simpul. diparateatehon.	di-rohai di-paratehon

Table 5. Analysis of Prefix in “Mandiori Pulungan” Short Story

NO	PREFIX	AMOUNT	FORMULA	RESULT
1	PAR-	4	$4/72 \times 100$	5.56%
2	MAR-	18	$18/72 \times 100$	25%
3	DI-	24	$24/72 \times 100$	33.33%
4	SI-	8	$8/72 \times 100$	11.11%
5	PA-	9	$9/72 \times 100$	12.5%
6	UM-	2	$2/72 \times 100$	2.78%
7	MA-	2	$2/72 \times 100$	2.78%
8	HU-	2	$2/72 \times 100$	2.78%
9	MANG-	1	$1/72 \times 100$	1,39%
10	MAN-	1	$1/72 \times 100$	1.39%
11	HA-	1	$1/72 \times 100$	1.39%
TOTAL		72		100.01 %

So after we classify and format in percentage we find prefixes in Batak language in this text there are 11 Batak prefixes with mang- , Mar- , Pa- , Di- , Ha-,par-,si-,um-,ma-

,hu-,man-, prefixes, we find 11 Batak prefixes if we translate the text into the Batak language, if we calculate it in presentation form, the prefix mang- 1.39%, Mar-25% , Pa-12.5%, Di- 33.33%, Ha- 1.39%, par-5.56%, si-11.11%, um-2.78%, ma-2.78%, hu-2.78%, man-1.39%.

3.2. Discussion

This study concluded that there are differences between English and Batak prefixes. This fact sheet has been translated into every language and we have discovered that there are many. there are more prefixes in Batak than in English (abdulameer and suhair, 2019), we notice that they are very few, are prefixes in English, there are only 7 English prefixes that we found including the prefixes un-, inter-, re-, under-, in-, dis-, mis-, each of which can be calculated in the form of presentation is 13.64%, 9.09%, 13.64%, 50%, 4.55%, 4.55%, 4.55%. and prefixes in Batak we found 11 prefixes namely mang-1.39%, Mar- 25%, Pa- 12.5%, Di- 33.33%, Ha- 1.39%, par- 5.56%, si- 11.11%, um- 2.78%, ma-2.78%, hu-2.78%, man-1.39%; and once we decide we have seen the use of the information. The use of prefixes in Batak and English has different meanings and meanings uses per word.

4. Conclusion

The study concluded that there are differences in the prefix in English and Batak language in the text of the news. Therefore, researchers found that the prefix in the Batak language more than in English. In English, only 7 prefixes are found; misunderstood, revisit, disused, unseen, inaccessible, interconnected, understood. In the Batak language found as many as 11 prefixes, namely: *mar-pangidoan*, *par-sorion*, *di-rohangku*, *si-paradalan*, *pa-notnoti*, *um-botosa*, *ma-nogihon*, *hu-bolus*, *mang-gorahon*, *ha-monangan*, and *man-dadap*. In connection with this can also provide conclusions about the comparison between the two languages regarding the addition of prefixes in the Batak language and English have different prefixes but can give birth to new word meanings in accordance with the prefix prefix in both languages.

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