

Chapter I

Introduction

Basic Consideration

In general communication, language consists of local, national and international language. Local language constitutes a tool of communication that is used by people in a region of a state of country. National language is used among society in a country and international language is used by all people in the world. In this case, Indonesia has many local languages. It is about 564 local languages (referring to the research in 2012 based on the data of Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa Departemen pendidikan in Ilman (2013)). Especially in south east of Sulawesi, we find local languages such as Buton, Buginese, Munanese, Wanci, Tolaki and soon. Indonesian language or Bahasa Indonesia is the national language.

As a matter of fact, in many parts of Indonesia local languages are used in daily communication. That is why local language can be called as the first language or mother tongue because the people get from their family and social environment. The mother tongue is acquired since childhood and it is used in hometown among family as the language in daily communication. National language such as Indonesian is the second language used for some subtribes of Muna, and other tribes in Indonesia because that language is acquired after Muna language and learnt at schools while it is also sometimes used in doing communication including in formal situation. International language, such as English, is a foreign language for some subtribes of Muna and other tribes in Indonesia which is being studied in Educational system, but it is rarely used in daily social interaction.

In case of English, it is regarded as a foreign language, because it indicates the use of non English speaking in that region. By comparing Muna language as a local language and English as

a foreign language, we will find some similarities and differences, because both of them have a unique system itself and different native of speakers. So, the system of both language can be studied in this research.

Furthermore, we realize that to study language is complex, because it involves of many aspects; one of them which is regarded important to observe is grammar. Crystal (2004) states that grammar is the structural foundation of our ability to express ourselves. The more we are aware of the use of grammar, the more effective use a language occurately. Hence, it enriches an available expression on communication, including in Muna language and English.

Talking about English, a tense is an element of grammars, that holds an important role because tense can change the verb form which associates it with the change of time. According to Nordquist (2013), tense is the time of a verb's action or state of being, such as present or past. However, the learner of non native English speakers including Muna tribes sometimes get difficulties to express ideas because of the lack of the sufficient knowledge of grammar.

Based on the above view, the researcher observes how the changes of verbs of both Muna language and English are. Hence, the researcher is Munanese and uses Muna language in the daily communication, so, the researcher can understand both languages well including their different systems. The differences can be found on the change of verb that might relate to the tenses. Those differences probably cause difficulties to Muna learners in learning English or we can assume that the similarities might facilitate to get the easiness for Muna learners to learn English. Brown (in Malomis, 2009, p. 1) states that learning a first language is natural to human being, while learning a second language is sometimes is not natural, because it should be learnt in more formal way so that it may difficult for some people, especially in learning the foreign language, such as English because of having different systems. Both English and Muna

language have differences, while at the same time having a similar system in the tenses, especially in the change of the verbs.

Based on the above description, this study tries to find out the similarities and differences of tenses in English and Muna language. As what has been stated above, that the similarity will facilitate the learner in learning English, while the differences may become obstacles in learning English.

Based on that reason, it is necessary to analyze which part of systems that have similarities or differences, in order to facilitate the learners of Muna in learning English. Therefore, the researcher formulated the title “A Contrastive Analysis: The Verb Change Based on Subject – Verb Agreement in Muna Language and English”.

Problem Statement

Based on the background of thinking about the research then the research problem is ‘what are the similarities and differences in verb change based on subject-verb agreement of Muna language and English?’

Objective of Research

The objective of this research is to describe the similarities and differences in verb change of Muna language and English.

Limitation of Study

In this research, the researcher focuses on the analysis of verb change especially in tenses in Muna language and English in simple past tense, simple present tense, and simple future tense.

Significance of Study

The significances of this research are as follows:

1. The result of this research give information to the teacher about the differences and similarities between Muna language and English tenses, especially how the verb changes of both languages are in teaching and learning process at school.
2. The student would be easy to learn both Muna language and English especially in verb change and tenses.