

Chapter I

Introduction

Basic Consideration

Human is social creature who needs to communicate to each other to express his/her feelings and ideas. In order to communicate or to converse, human needs language as the tool of communication, whether in form of verbal or non-verbal. Along with this statement, Lyons (as cited in Pateda & Pulubuhu, 1993, p.3) states that language is a system of symbol designed for the purpose of communication.

“A language is a social fact, a kind of social contract. It exists not in an individual, but in a community” (Bauer, 1988, p.3). In the world, with all of the communities in it, there are thousand kinds of language that exist. Every language has its characteristics that make it different from others. There are so many variations of language based on the difference of educational, social, culture, and geographical background of the community or society. As a multi-cultural and ethnic country, Indonesia has hundreds of regional languages. One of them is Kaidipang language as the vernacular language of Kaidipang and Bolang Itang ethnics in North Sulawesi.

The data from Kaidipang Sub district office shows that in 2012 there were 12.363 inhabitants. It did not include people of Bolang Itang who also speak Kaidipang. Therefore, it is concluded that there are approximately 20.000 speakers of Kaidipang language.

In the past, Kaidipang sub district applied kingdom government system that classified people into several classes; nobilities, common people, and slaves. This classification automatically caused classification in the usage of language. Kaidipang language was then divided into refined or high language, common language, and crude language. However, since the collapse of kingdom government system, there is no more classification in

Kaidipang language based on the class of society. Now, most Kaidipang people speak common language.

Kaidipang language is open syllabic, where every word ends in vocal sound. Kaidipang language is divided into two dialects, they are Kaidipang (*aparu Keidupa*) and Bolang Itang (*aparu Bulangita*). The two dialects have only few lexical differences, but similar in the phonology, morphology, and syntax systems (Usup, 2000). These variations of language not only exist in Indonesian, but also in foreign languages, for example English with its American, Australian and British varieties.

Those variations of language above definitely have many differences in forms and systems. Moreover, English and Indonesian, including Kaidipang language, come from different language family. Indonesian is derived from Austronesian, and English is from Indo-European language. However, there must be some similarities between the two languages (English and Kaidipang language). The similarities and differences may occur in the past form of verbs.

In English, it is known that there are two types of verbs namely regular and irregular verbs. Regular verbs end in *-d* or *-ed*, whereas irregular verbs take many different forms. Kaidipang language has regular verbs only, therefore, the ones that can be compared are the regular verbs in the two languages.

To obtain the similarities and differences between the regular past verbs of English and Kaidipang language, this research used contrastive analysis method. According to Tarigan (1989), contrastive analysis is a comparison of linguistics system on two languages such as sound system or grammatical structure. In accordance with that, Buren (as cited in Pateda, 2004, p.4) states that “contrastive analysis should convey as many insight as possible into differences or similarities between the languages been compared”.

Based on the explanation above, the title of this research is:

“A Contrastive Analysis of Regular Past Verb between English and Kaidipang Language”.

Research Question

Based on the basic consideration above, the research question is ‘what are the similarities and differences between regular past verbs of English and Kaidipang Language?’.

Reasons for Choosing the Topic

There are several reasons why this topic is chosen:

- Every language has its characteristics that make it different from others, so that it is interesting to be investigated
- Kaidipang language is the writer’s first language
- To know the similarities and differences between English and Kaidipang language

The Objective of Research

The objective of this research is to describe the similarities and differences of regular past verbs between English and Kaidipang language.

The Significance of Research

The significance of this research is to enrich the readers’ knowledge about morphology, especially in contrasting the past verbs between English and Kaidipang language. It is also expected that this research can help the English learners, especially those who are originally from Kaidipang, to learn English easier after getting the similarities and differences between the two languages. Moreover, it is also expected that this research will be useful for the next researcher who will conduct a research related to this topic.

The Scope of Study

This research is limited to regular past verbs, especially the past form markers in English and Kaidipang language.