THE DIFFERENCES OF PREFIXES
IN ENGLISH AND MANDAILING LANGUAGE

BY

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui perbedaan imbuhan khususnya awalan *(prefixes)* pada bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Mandailing dengan melakukan penelitian *descriptive analysis*. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan observasi dan interview penutur asli bahasa mandailing. Dari penelitian ini ditemukan bahwa ada perbedaan awalan *(prefixes)* pada bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Mandailing yaitu awalan *(prefixes)* pada bahasa Inggris dapat diimbuhkan pada kata benda sehingga membentuk kata benda juga, sedangkan pada bahasa Mandailing awalan *(prefixes)* seperti itu tidak ada; awalan pada bahasa Mandailing dapat diimbuhkan pada kata benda sehingga membentuk kata kerja daan kata sifat menjadi kata keterangan, sedangkan pada bahasa Inggris awalan seperti itu tidak ditemukan.

Kata kunci: *prefixes, bahasa Inggris, bahasa Mandailing, perbedaan.*

A.   INTRODUCTION

Linguistics includes many kinds of sub system. Any sub system deals with a certain feature such as morphology, phonology, and semantics and so on. Morphology is the study of word formation and word structure such as affixation, reduplication, compounding and its formation and word structures. As Nida (1971) says "Morphology is the study of morphemes and their arrangements in forming words".[2]

Word formed by the combination of bound and free morpheme are the result of the process of affixation. Although English uses only two, Prefixes and suffixes, but many other languages use infixes and confixes. For example, affixation in Mandailing language is grouped into four; prefix, suffixes, confixes and infixes.

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[2]Nida, E. A. 1971. *Morphology: The Descriptive Analysis of Words.* New York. Ann Arborr. The University of Michigan.

Mandailing is one of the ethnics in Indonesia. Mandailing language and Batak Toba language are more or less similar in grammar and vocabulary but they are undeniably different in dialect. The differences, however, seem apparently easy to recognize Mandailing language is spoken by about one million people in North Sumatera especially in Padangsidimpuan, Mandailing Natal, Tapanuli Selatan and its surroundings. The use of Mandailing language can be influenced when they are studying foreign language especially English. Many problems occur in studying English.

**Table 1. The Mandailingnese Students' Score of SMA Negeri 1
Padangsidimpuan in testing of Prefixes in English**

Initial Name	Score
AR	60
MR	60
ARA	65
SN	70
DH	65

The Prefixes task was 20 numbers of questions and the students are in SMA Negeri 1 Padangsidimpuan. The scores were low because they have a problem in determine the affixation in English. They made the affixation form of English the same as their mother tongue, Mandailing language. For example, the mandailing student often state 'ripens' consist of three morphemes (ripe+-en+-s) whereas, English ripens is a verb (ripen + s   stem+3rd person singular).

 Interested by the fact, the writer wanted to discuss the problem in Mandailing language particularly prefixes in comparing available in English and Mandailing language. Related to the background, the problem in this study was formulated as follows: what are the differences of prefixes in English and Mandailing language?

The scope of this study was limited into the morphological process of affixes which is prefixes in English and Mandailing Language. The discussion focused on the distribution of the prefixes in both of the languages. The objective

of this study was to find out the similarities and the differences the formation of prefixes between English and Mandailing language.

The result of the study can be useful in Linguistics study, linguistics universal in term of differences of prefixes. The result of the study can be used as reference for those who want to conduct a study in English and Mandailing language. Practically, the result of this study can be useful for English teachers, to support teaching-learning process, in which they can get the easier way to teach student and for students of Mandailing in Studying English.

B. AFFIXATION

Affixation is a part of morphological which deal with the word formation. According to Maclin (1995), an affix is a morpheme which only occurs when attached to some other morpheme such as root, stem, or base. Affix has four types: prefix, infix, suffix and confix.[3]

Maclin (1995) says that sometimes the addition comes at the beginning of the base word or root and sometimes it comes at the end.[4] According to these ideas, it is clear that affixation is the process of attaching an affix to the base form. Affix has four types; prefix, suffix, infix and confix.

1 Prefixes

Prefixes are process of attaching an affix to the beginning of a stem or root word. Maclin (1995), states that prefixes is an affix attached before a root or root of w word.[5] It is also stated by Rangkuti (1983) mandokkon "panjoloi ima I tamba dijolo sebelum kata dasar" (prefix is affix which is attached in the beginning of base).[6]

2. Affixation Distribution in English

2.1 Negative Prefixes

This prefix is attached to give the meaning of 'not". Negative prefixes can be divided into four types, they are:

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[3]Maclin, A. 1995. *Reference to Guide English; A Handbook of English as a Second Language.* Delkalb College.
[4]*Ibid*
[5]*Ibid*
[6]Rangkuti, N. 1983. *Bahasa Daerah:Angkola dan Mandailing.* Medan Unpublish

a. Prefix *in-*

in + accurate	inaccurate
in (il) + legal	illegal
in (im) + perfect	imperfect
in (ir) + rational	irrational

b. Prefix *dis-*

| dis + similar | dissimilar |
| dis + qualified | disqualified |

c. Prefix *non-*

| non + support | nonsupport |
| non + sense | nonsense |

2.2 Pejorative Prefix

This prefix is attached to give the meaning of 'wrongly or badly'.

e.g. mis + judge   misjudge

2.3 Prefixes of Degree or Size

It is used to give the meaning of 'above or beyond'.

e.g.   over + pass   over pass (above)

over + head   overhead (above)

out + grow   outgrow (beyond)

2.4 Prefixes of the Position in Time or Space

a. **Prefix under-**

This prefix is attached to give the meaning of "too little".

e.g.   Under + expose   underexpose

Under + clothes   underclothes

b. **Prefix fore-, and pre-**

This prefixes are attached to give the meaning of 'before'.

e.g.   fore + name   forename

pre + war   prewar

pre + view   preview

c. **Prefix mid-**

The meaning of prefix post is 'after'

e.g.   mid + night   midnight

d. **Prefix inter-**

This prefix is attached to give the meaning of 'between or among'.

e.g. inter + marriage   intermarriage

  inter + national   international

2.5 Prefix of Number

e.g. bi + lingual   bilingual

  bi + cycle   bicycle

3. Affixation Distribution in Mandailing Language

Rangkuti (1983) states that affixation in Mandailing language is group into for: prefixes. Suffixes, infixes and confixes.[7] Among these four groups, the must are prefix. But in this study the writer limited the analysis on six prefixes, three suffixes, two infixes and four confixes. The examples of affixation in mandailing were taken from Rangkuti (1983) and other sources.[8]

1. Prefix (di):

a. Prefix (di-) + verb:

Di + elek   dielek (to be persued)

Di + jagit   dijagit (to be received)

Di + ligi   diligi (to be seen)

b. Prefix (di-) + noun:

Di + sapu   disapu (to be swept)

Di+ paku   dipakuto (be neiled)

2. Prefix (sa)

a. Prefix (sa) + verb:

Sa + sikola   sasikola (the same school)

Sa + bagas   sabagas (live at the same house)

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[7]Rangkuti, N. 1983. *Bahasa Daerah:Angkola dan Mandailing.* Medan Unpublish
[8] Rangkuti, N. 1983. *Bahasa Daerah:Angkola dan Mandailing.* Medan Unpublish

    b. Prefix (sa) + adjective:

       Sa + godang   sagodang (as big as)

       Sa + umur   Saumur (as old as)

3. Prefix (pa)

    a. Prefix (pa) + adjective:

       Pa + ias   paias (to clean)

       Pa +hiang   pahiang (to dry)

    b. Prefix (pa) + verb:

       Pa + jonjong   pajonjong (to stand)

       Pa + masak   pamasak (to cook)

4. Prefix (mar)

    a. Prefix (mar) + verb:

       Mar + lojong   marlojong (to run)

       Mar + mayam   marmayam (to play)

    b. Prefix (mar) + noun:

       Mar+ bou   marbou (to call someone as aunt)

       Mar + kudo   markudo (to ride on horse)

    c. Prefix (mar) + adjective:

       Mar + onom   maronom (a group of six)

       Mar + ribu   marribu (thousands)

5. Prefix (ma)

    a. Prefix (ma) + verb:

       Ma + sidung   masidung (have finished)

       Ma + mangan   mamangan (have eaten)

    b. Prefix (ma) + adjective:

       Ma + jeges   majeges (more beautiful)

       Ma + kayo   makayo (richer)

6. Prefix (tar)

    a. Prefix (tar) + adjective:

       tar + kayo   tarkayo (the richest)

       tar + lomlom   tarlomlom (the blackest)

C.   RESEARCH METHOD

This study was conducted by applying a qualitative descriptive method to the compare in contrastive analysis. Borg and Gall (1983), states that descriptive research primarily concerned with finding out "what is".[9] Moreover a descriptive qualitative method according to Nazir (1988) is which is used to make description of situation, events or occurrence, so that this method has an intention to accumulate the basic data.[10] And in depth, this description can be conducted in order to reveal the similarities and differences in morphological process of affixation in English and Mandailing language.

The subject of this research was people those who live in Sisingamangaraja, Mandailing Allay, Medan. There were five persons as native speaker of Mandailing language and some documents related to the study.

In this study, the data was collected by using observation and interview. The daily conversation used by native speaker of Mandailing was observed. In order to make data more accurate, five of Mandailing people who live in Sisingamangaraja, Mandailing Allay, Medan, were intervied. The informants chosen based on the characteristics of informants as stated by Mahsun (2005) as follows:

1. Native speaker
2. Sex; man and woman
3. The range of the age is about 25-65 years old. People at the age of 25-65 years have been able to communicate well with others. They can understand and comprehend what the interviewer asks about. So information needed is able to get easily.
4. The informant can pronounce accurately, they have complete organ speech
5. The minimal education is primary school. It means that the informants have been able to read and write well. Because those skill are needed in the process of observation and interview. They can write their opinion and read the observation sheet.

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[9] Borg, W.R. and M.O Gall. 1983. *Education Research*. Broadway. New York. Longman.
[10] Nazir, M. 1988. *Metode Penelitian*. Jakarta; Ghalia. Indonesia.

6. The informant must be in good health

7. Profession of the informant. Knowing the profession of the informant is very important. Because profession shows the profile of the informant. It means that, kinds of professions describe the background of someone. Different professions may have different point of view or opinion in about a case. [11]

In collecting the data, documentary technique was conducted. It means that reading and studying some references books, which are related to the study, gathered the data. The other data were also gathered by asking five informants. The data analysis was done by comparing a descriptive of affixation in English and Mandailing language and analyzing the description and to find out the similarities and differences between them. Technically, data analysis was done by following these steps:

1. Find the description of morphology in English and Mandailing language

2. Find the description of prefixes in English and Mandailing language

3. To contrast the distribution of prefixes in English and Mandailing language

4. To find out the differences of distribution of prefixes in English and Mandailing Language.

D. DATA AND THE DATA ANALYSIS

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the data of English and Mandailing language are obtained by documentary technique. Documentary technique has to be first employed before the data were collected. In this study, the information have been collected to support and to make data more accurate and also added by reading some references books to obtain the required data. After the data had

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[11] Mahsun, 2005. *Metode Penelitian Bahasa: Tahapan Strategis, Metode and Techniknya.* Jakarta. Raja Grafindo Persada.

been collected, the writer tried to contrast English and Mandailing languages prefixes that shown in the following section.

The distribution of affixation based on the form inflectional and derivational both English and Mandailing language.

Table 2.The Distribution of Prefixes in English and Mandailing language

English	Mandailing Language
Prefixes	**Prefixes**
1. Inflectional Prefix	**1. Inflectional Prefix**
prefix + adjective ⟶ adjective in + accurate ⟶ inaccurate	prefix + adjective ⟶ adjective tar + kayo ⟶ tarkayo
Prefix + noun ⟶ noun Over + head ⟶ overhear	-
Prefix + verb ⟶ verb out + grow ⟶ outgrow	Prefix + verb ⟶ verb pa + jonjong ⟶ pajonjong
2. Derivational Prefix	**2. Derivational Prefix**
Prefix + noun ⟶ adverb en + courage ⟶ encourage	Prefix + noun ⟶ adverb sa + bagas ⟶ sabagas
	Prefix + noun ⟶ verb di + sapu ⟶ disapu
	Prefix + adjective ⟶ adverb Sa + godang ⟶ sagodang

E. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

1. Finding

a. The finding of this research is that there are differences of affixation between English and Mandailing language. By analyzing the data of both languages, it was found the differences:

b. English prefix can be attached noun to form noun (inflectional) while, in Mandailing prefix was absent.

c. Mandailing prefix can be attached noun to form verb, and adjective to form adverb, while in English, it was absent.

2. Discussion

After conducting this research the differences and both English and Mandailing language found. The differences of them were; it was found in table 2, there was no prefix attached noun to form noun (inflectional) in Mandailing language, no prefix attached noun to form verb and adjective to form adverb in English.

The study of differences between English and Mandailing language can be implicated by English teacher in teaching prefixation process to their students especially for those of Mandailingnese as their native language. It can be said that this findings are very useful for the teacher who teach in Mandailing land.

By comparing the prefixes process in both of these languages, it is hoped that the teachers of English can explain the prefixes process clearly, so that the students understand how to form the affixation process through the addition of prefixes to the base, stem or root of word.

F.   CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Conclusion

After analyzing the data, conclusion are drawn as follows:

a. English prefix can be attached noun to form noun (inflectional) while, in Mandailing prefix was absent.

b. Mandailing prefix can be attached noun to form verb, and adjective to form adverb, while in English, it was absent

2. Suggestions

Based on the finding of the research, it was be suggested for the English teacher especially for those who teach the students with Mandailingnese as their native language, to present the similarities and differences of affixation process of these languages, when they are explaining the topic about it. It is become to comparison for the students in order they can receive the explanation clearly.

It is suggested for the English teacher to present the similarities first before the differences of affixation process.

At last, it is suggested to the learners of Mandailingnese as their native language to be more aware of their possibility in making errors in target language and try to learn from this research.

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