The Contrastive Analysis of the Sound in Vowel and Consonant in English and Batak Language

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Abstract:
This Article deals with the Contrastive Analysis of the sound in Vowel and Consonant of English and Batak Language. Since there are so many linguistics elements that exists in both of the language, the researcher try to investigate the Phonetic aspect of the language. This article uses the Descriptive Qualitative research design that elaborating and describing the whole perspective of how the sound of each language elements change when it is pronounced and it is exactly convey the different meaning. The researchers use the Literature review as the techniques of collecting data. The source of the data comes from the Book of Batak Grammar created by J. Echool and H.van der tuuk which is vividly points out the theory of Batak language grammatically. This article adopts the CA or Contrastive Analysis technique in analyzing the data and it is found that there is a similarity and the differences in Batak language sound (Vowel and Consonant) with The English version. It can be seen from the word structure that is change and so does the phonetic transcription that generates the different meaning too.

Keywords:
contrastive analysis; vowel and consonant of english; batak language

I. Introduction

Sianipar, Herman and Purba (2022) state that language is a main tool for communicating with people around the world. Language is one of the most important things in the life of every human being. Each of them is of course inseparable from language, the first time a child gets a language that is heard directly from the father or mother when the child is born into this world. Then as time goes by and as the child grows, they will acquire a language other than the language taught by the mother and father, either in the form of a second, third, foreign language or so on which is called language acquisition where it depends on the social environment and cognitive level possessed by these children through the learning process in their environment. (Purba, N. et al. (2020). When we want to express how do we feel, and expect we use a language. Language with its diversity has been spread all over the world and it’s important for knowing the pronunciation of each person especially in communicating with others (Galingging and Tannuary, 2022). We can’t deny that language is formed by the supported elements that make it well organized. However, with its variety and different system of course language also has a different phonemic system particularly in vowel and consonant. (Andi-Pallawa & Fiptar Abdi Alam, 2013). Vowel and Consonant usually emerges in utterances, it can produce a high and low voice or sound and helps someone understand the sign and the meaning of the language itself. Phoneme is a minimal contrastive sound unit of a language; it can recognize some words as being different sounds and meaning.

Batak language is one of the kinds of cultural linguistic communication that has so many uniqueness, Batak belongs to the family of languages called Malayo-Polynesian,
specifically to the western main division, which is distinguished from the eastern main division by a stronger phonetic system. The western main division can again be divided into two sections: a consonantal and a vocalic. In the consonantal are placed the languages which have a consonant as the closer of a word; in the vocalic, those which have only a vowel at the end of a word. Batak, as the language of an uncivilized people, is especially poor in words which can express the general, and very rich in those that define the particular for example, it has no word for monkey in general, but it has a name for each particular kind of monkey. However, through some of this case researcher is interested in observing the differences between the phonemic system in Batak language with English language with contrastive analysis.

II. Research Method

The method used by researcher is through Literature Review that is related to the Batak phonemic language (Vowel and Consonant). In this article, the researcher uses the book of Toba Batak Grammar language written by H.N Van Der Tuuk, which consist of many types of grammar descriptions. The researchers chose the Descriptive Qualitative mode for the research design and takes some of the phonemic aspect from Toba Batak language as the main instrument of the research. The way to analyze this data is by applying the theory of Contrastive Analyses which compare the certain aspect of Vowel and Consonant between Toba Batak language and English language.

III. Results and Discussion

Based on the process of observing the data from the Literature Review, we can conclude there are some differences between the Toba Batak language with English language as follows:

3.1 English Vowel and Consonant

In English, both Vowel and Consonant aspect is the part of Phonemic system in language. English has 24 consonants and 20 vowels. The Vowels consist of:

**Short Vowels**

ɪ / – fit /fiːt/, pick /piːk/, difficult /ˈdɪ.fɪ.kəlt/

/e/ – pet /pet/, sent /sent/, attention /əˈtenʃən/

/æ/ – pat /pæt/, flat /flæt/, family /ˈfæ.mə.li/

/ɑ/ – cut /kɑt/, jump /dʒʌmp/, cover /ˈkʌ.vər/

/ɔ/ – put /pʊt/, book /bʊk/, cushion /ˈkənʃən/

/ɒ/ – pot /pɒt/, dog /dɒg/, hospital /ˈhɒs.pl.təl/

/ə/ – about /əˈbaʊt/, system /ˈsɪst.əm/, complete /kəmˈplɪ.t/.

**Long vowels**

/iː/ week /wiːk/, feet /fiːt/, media /ˈmiː.dʒə/
/ɑ:/ hard /ha:/, park /pɑ:k/, article /ɑː.tɪ.kəl/
/ɔ:/ fork /fɔ:k/, walk /wɔ:k/, August /ɑːˈɡʌst/
/æ:/ heard /hɔːd/, word /wɔːd/, surface /ˈsɜː.fəs/
/u:/ boot /bʊ:t/, group /gru:p/, beautiful /ˈbjuː.tɪ.fəl/

3.2 Diphthong vowels (double)
/æt/ place /plɛts/, late /lɛt/, dangerous /ˈdeɪn.dʒərəs/
/ɑʊ̯/ home /hoʊm/, phone /foʊn/, global /ˈɡloʊ.bəl/
/au̯/ mouse /maʊs/, brown /braʊn/, accountant /ˈɑːkən.tənt/
/ɪə/ clear /klɪə/, fear /fɪə/, career /kəˈrɛər/
/eə/ care /kɛə/, wear /weə/, declare /dɪˈkleər/
/ɔɪ/ boy /bɔɪ/, toy /tɔɪ/, enjoyable /ɪnˈdʒɔɪ.əbl/
/æɪ/ find /fænd/, bite /baɪt/, tiger /ˈtæ.tɪgər/
/ʊə/ tour /tʊə/, pure /pʊə/, mature /məˈtʃʊə/

And English Consonants consists of:
/p/ pair, cup /b/ bad, crab /t/ tall, hit /d/ dark, head /k/ cab, lack /ɡ/ good, tag /f/ fine, wife /v/ very, above /ð/ thing, both /ð/ this, father /s/ saw, house /z/ zap, goes /ʃ/ shape, push /pleasure, beige /h/ her, ahead /x/ loch /tʃ/ cherry, match /judge, raj /m/ man, team /n/ nail, tan /ŋ/ ring, singer /l/ let, tall /r/ right, scary /w/ wet, away /j/ you, soy.

Whereas, when we pay attention to the Toba Batak language, they consist: e and a. I. The e may take the place of a because of an i in another syllable. In this aspect, the following apply:

1. e can occur in a heavy syllable in place of an a because of an i in the syllable following the a, e.g., mamutuhai instead of mamutuhei, from butuhai. In composition, this change can also occur in a light syllable, because of an i in a syllable of the word following, e.g., same-so-alip (alip must have meant to differ, as appears from silip).
2. The e may replace an a in a light syllable when the preceding syllable has an i, mostly if no solid consonant stands between these vowels, e.g., talinga = talinge, halilinga = halilinge, sandihe = sendika.
3. e and i. The e takes the place of an i in an ultimate light syllable when a preceding syllable has an a, e.g., pane, from phane.
4. e and o. Examples of an e taking the place of, or occurring beside an o in an ultimate light syllable are: parumaen - daughter-in-law, in place of parumaon - the one to be brought into the house, bahen or baen.
5. u and o. I. Usually, o takes the place of u in a last syllable when the latter is closed with a guttural consonant or a triller. In addition to the examples the following can be cited: gaor instead of gaur.
6. For o in a heavy penultimate syllable = u in other dialects. In the words tola and dana o occurs in place of u, in order to give these foreign words an indigenous appearance soma on the other hand, has become suma.
7. The explanation of u in a penultimate heavy syllable, such as in lumut = limut.
8. Sometimes T. has o has a - the reverse occurs less often e.g., ambol6ng = embalang, sorat = sarat, ganap = ganup, and sopo = sapo.

The Consonant Sound in Toba Batak

1. h and g. I.
h and g often alternate as the beginner of a word, e.g., gurap as well as hurap, gulok-gulok instead of kulok-kulok, gistung besides [hintung]., hi = kilow, hurtik besides gurtik. This change occurs less frequently between vowels or after a closing nasal.
2. d and l.
sulu-sulu besides sudu-sudu, si-adap-ari besides si-alap-ari, sadi as well as sali. Here are a1so, this occurs under the influence of the s. Another example is: dubalang = ulubalang.
3. h and s.
e.g., hurbit = surbit, harimborbor = sarimborbor, halimbubu = salimbubu, sinandjar = hinandjar, halittoktok = salit toktok, sinamora-a from hinamora-an, sarumaer = harumaer, humur = sumur.

3.3 Discussion

Based on the data from the literature that has been observed by the researchers, there are some of differences and similarities between the sound of English vowel and consonant with Batak sound of vowel and consonant especially (Toba Batak and Dairi Batak). In this case, researcher use the Contrastive Analysis Hypothesis in order to know the new insights from both of the language. As James (1980:166) declared that Contrastive Analysis is a problematic and controversial method for investigating the data of language, but we can say with the existence of CA we'll know the prediction of each phonetic language that may exist and unique. (Kavanagh, 2007)

Furthermore, here are some differences of sound in Toba Batak and English language.
a In Batak language the existence of double sound or triple sound is rare in Toba language while in English we can call it as diptong and triptong.
b There is no weak sound in Toba language, just like schwa in English phonetic sound. Toba Batak sound is strong and clear in utterances.
c In Toba Batak language, there are commonly a change of syllable whether in the beginning or the end of the word while in English it can be occurred in most of the position not only in the beginning and the end of the word. For example: In Toba Batak (Mamutuhai = Mamutuhei) while in English : Life = Live .(Echols & van der Tuuk, 1973)

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In spite of the differences, there are also the Similarities between both of the language, they are:
a In Toba Batak language the word Bahen that pronounce Baen. There is an omitting consonant in the word. Well, in English language it has the same structure with the word Ghost that pronounce gost or Rhyme that pronounced raim.

b In Toba Batak language, the vowel a can be pronounced as e for example: dipasude = dipasuda, it has the same case with the English word bare = ber.

IV. Conclusion

Every language has its own structure and uniqueness that can be a tool for conveying the certain message. Both of Toba Batak language in phonetic term has the differences and similarities in some cases, and it can be the new insightful information related to the linguistic aspect. The differences and Similarities of vowel and consonant are varied and it can be placed in certain position of word and sentence. From this paper, we can conclude that even if the syllable or the sound or other phonetic elements that has the same structure or form can have the different pronunciation. Therefore, it can be a helpful guidance for the people who wants to communicate with another one in bilingual or various language around the world.

References


