

A Contrastive Analysis of Imperative Sentences in English and Javanese Language

Pikir Wisnu Wijayanto

School of Applied Science at Telkom University, Jl. Telekomunikasi No 1, Terusan Buah Batu Bandung, 40257, West Java, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify the similarities and differences between the functions of imperative sentences of English and Javanese languages. The contrastive analysis used as the research method to compare the two different languages. Based on the analysis, in the English imperative sentence, there are seven functions which are a command, prohibition, invitation, request, advice, suggestion, and compulsion. While, in the Javanese imperative sentence, it has nine functions, which are a command, prohibition, invitation, request, advice, suggestion, compulsion, *panantang*, and *pangece*.

Keywords: Contrastive analysis, English imperatives, Javanese imperatives

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E-mail addresses:

pikirwisnu@tass.telkomuniversity.ac.id/

pikirwisnu@telkomuniversity.ac.id

(Pikir Wisnu Wijayanto)

INTRODUCTION

The word of contrastive derives from the word “contrast,” which has the meaning to compare two things in order to find the difference clearly (Hornby, 2015). Then, the word of analysis is the identification or separation into parts with comment and judgment of the result of performance. As explained by Lado (as cited in Pranowo, 1996), contrastive analysis is a means of comparing two different languages synchronically to find similarities and differences. He also explained that contrastive analysis was considered as the comparison of the structure of language

to define the point that differed them and the differences of the source of difficulty in achieving the target of language (Lado, 1962). While Subyakto and Nababan (1993) said that using a contrastive analysis of two different languages, it could help the educator to identify the expectation, prediction and explained the interference. Numerous research used this technique organization as a way of classifying data (Wilkinson, 2000). In short, contrastive analysis is a study of comparing the two languages and as a term used in linguistics to find the difference between the units. It also as a means to differentiate the meaning of language in a sentence.

A sentence is described as a group of meaningful words that can make complete sense or feel as its units. Jackson (2002) defined a sentence as a grammatical structure combines with some clauses and had the subject and verb. It can contain an object, complement, and adverbial: usually written with a capital letter at the first word, and final full stop or other marks. In a particular sense, a sentence can be defined as a written by an initial capital and is ended by terminators such as period, exclamatory, or question mark. Frank (1972) defined a sentence as a full of prediction comprising a subject and a predicate with a predetermined verb. In short, a sentence is a group of words that apply the grammatical rule with at least has a subject and a predicate.

The classification of sentences based on its functions can be classified into four types; they are a declarative sentence (statements), interrogative sentence (questions),

exclamatory sentence (exclamations), and imperative sentence (command, requests). Frank (1972) classified a sentence according to the function into four categories, which were exclamatory, declarative, interrogative, and imperative. An **exclamatory** sentence is used for expressing someone's feeling or emotion. It starts with the exclamatory words or phrase, and ends with exclamatory mark. For example, "What a wonderful woman she is!" A **declarative** sentence shares an idea in order to convey information or make statements of an assertion, either by expressing pitch or starting a fact in speech. It is ended by the period while in written shape extensively utilized more regularly than the alternative ones. For example, "Tony plays the piano." For asking a question, we use an **interrogative** sentence, and we have to put a question mark at the end of the sentence. The verb used in an interrogative sentence always rises before the subject. For example, "Is that your pencil?" For saying a command or request, we use an **imperative** sentence to the listener or addressee. We use a period or exclamatory mark to issue orders or directives. The subject is not specified, and it can express the verb or predicate. For example, "Close the window!"

According to Hornby (2015), English Imperatives is a sentence that comprises of commands, requests, or prohibitions. It is addressed or spoken by the speaker to the addressee or listener to do something. English Imperatives has a different rule between the speaker and the addressee or listener. The speaker has the authority to

give a command to the addressee or listener to do something. Therefore, the addressee or listener should give a response to the speaker commands, requests, or prohibitions. In an imperative sentence, the “You” subject is understood. It has the meaning that the speaker gives a command to the listener or addressee, and she/he understood what the speaker said, even without using “You” as the subject. In here, the imperative sentence usually ends with a period, but it may also end with an exclamation point (!) to emphasize the strength of a command. Also, a question mark (?) would be used when a person can choose whether or not to do it because it is more polite.

As a language, English and Javanese have some similarities besides the differences. One of them is in imperative sentence or *ukara pakon* in the Javanese language. An imperative sentence is used when the speaker has the power or authority to give a command to the listener to do something. Within the English imperative sentence, the subject is not existent; however, the predicate is spoken. Meanwhile, in the Javanese imperative, sometimes the subject is stated or said by the speaker. In English culture, the levels of speech are not different. However, the different manners of speaking may vary based on the relationship between the speaker and the listener or addressee.

In the Javanese language, speaking with older people are different from the children or the same ages. This rule is called “*Unggah-ungguhing basa.*” According to Setiyanto (2010), “*Unggah-ungguhing basa*” or the rules of language are divided into

three types of main levels. They are *krama*, *madya*, and *ngoko* or high, middle, and low level. *Krama* and *ngoko* are the most commonly used in speaking. Each level in the Javanese language has its characters in terms of a set of vocabulary. Someone who has a high status will speak to someone who has low status by using *ngoko*, while the other will use *krama* as the more formal. Then for the necessary level of *ngoko* sometimes is used between friends with equal’s level of status.

This study aimed at identifying the similarities and differences of the English and Javanese imperative sentence by using a contrastive analysis related to their functions. This study only emphasizes on the imperative sentences of English and Javanese that have the functions to give a command, prohibition, invitation, request, advice, suggestion, and compulsion. Then, the analysis of contrasting both of the languages can be a feasible manner to resolve the problem of interventions or interferences between the English and Javanese. This study can also help the readers to understand easily related to the functions of imperative sentences in English and Javanese.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The sets of data used in this research were the imperative sentences that are stated or said in English and Javanese language. A documentary analysis of related articles, books, theses, journals, and internet sources was conducted as well as observation methods for data collection.

Then a contrastive analysis method was used to compare the English and Javanese language by identifying the similarities and differences between the imperative sentences of both languages related to their functions, respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The Contrastive Analysis of the Functions of English and Javanese Imperative Sentences

The imperative sentence as **command** asks the listener or addressee to do what the speaker says. The imperative sentences both in English and Javanese language are commonly used as a command. The imperative sentence as prohibition in English and Javanese has a similar meaning. The imperative sentence as **prohibition** means that the speaker gives a prohibition to the listener to do something. In the imperative as an **invitation**, it could be identified that the speaker gives the command to the addressee by using the imperative sentence to invite. It means that the speaker asks or wants the listener or addressee to follow his/her wants or needs. The imperative sentence as a **request** in English and Javanese language

has a more polite sense of meaning when the speaker gives the command to the listener or addressee. In the imperative sentence as **advice**, the speaker gives or offers the message or idea to the listener or addressee to do something better or avoid something worse. In terms of **suggestion**, it seems that the imperative sentence used as the command, but the listener is asked to do or not to do what the speaker's said together. Meaning that the speaker gives the suggestion to the listener or addressee to do or not to do something collectively. The imperative sentence as **compulsion** in English and Javanese language has a similar function. The listener or addressee has to do what the speaker says. There will be a sanction or punishment if the listener or addressee does not obey it. It happens in English and Javanese language. Even the imperative sentence as compulsion has a similar meaning to the command, but a compulsion imperative has more stress to the listener or addressee to do what the speaker says. The example of sentences English and Javanese Language related to their functions mentioned above are listed in Table 1 below:

Table 1
Example of imperatives sentences for several functions

| Functions | English | Javanese |
|------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| As command | Take my pencil! | Jupukna pensilku! |
| | Go first! | Mangkata dhisik! |
| | Turn off the lamp! | Patenana lampu kui! |
| | Type down on your laptop! | Ketikna ning laptopmu! |

Table 1 (Continued)

| Functions | English | Javanese |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| As prohibition | Don't smoke in the room! The students are not allowed to smoke! Don't be noisy, Dad is sleeping! | <i>Aja udud ing jero ruangan!</i> <i>Bocah sekolah ora kena ngrokok!</i> <i>Ampun rame nggih, bapak nembe sare! (karma)</i> <i>Bocah cilik ora keno nonton film horor!</i> |
| | Children must not watch a horror movie! | |
| As invitation | Come to my office this afternoon! | <i>Kowe mengko awan dolana ning kantorku yo!</i> |
| | Come to my office, won't you? | <i>Dolan neng kantorku, yo?</i> |
| | Come to my brother's party tomorrow! | <i>Sesok teko ning acara pesta masku!</i> |
| | Would you like to come to my brother's party? | <i>Kowe teko neng pesta adiku yo?</i> |
| As request | Could you pass the sugar, please? | <i>Tulung jipuke gula yo?</i> |
| | Please, get the chalk in the teacher room! | <i>Tulung, pundhutke kapur ing ruangan guru!</i> |
| | Will you come to my office this afternoon? | <i>Mbok kowe mengko awan dolan menyang kantorku! (ngoko)</i> <i>Sampeyan mangkeh sonten dateng wonten syukuran nikahanipun kula, nggih! (krama)</i> |
| As advice | Be serious! | <i>Sing tenanan!</i> |
| | Don't be a lazy person! | <i>Aja dadi wong males!</i> |
| | Take medicine and you'll get well soon!! | <i>Ombenen obate ben lek mari!</i> |
| | | |
| As suggestion | Let's read this novel! | <i>Ayo ndang diwaca novel iki!</i> |
| | Let's take a break! | <i>Leren dhisik saiki, yo!</i> |
| | Let's have meals together! | <i>Ayo padha mangan bareng!</i> |
| | Let's not go to that place again! Let's not be lazy! | <i>Aja lungu ngono maneh!</i> <i>Ayo aja padha males-malesan!</i> |
| As compulsion | You must bring many vegetables! | <i>Kowe kudu gawa sayuran sing akeh!</i> |
| | You must come here! | <i>Kowe kudu teko rene!</i> |
| | You must study hard now! | <i>Kowe kudu sinau sing sregep saiki!</i> |
| As "panantang" in Javanese language | Put off that sign if you don't want to be hit! | <i>Cabuten tanda kuwi yen kowe ora kepengen diantemi wong!</i> |
| | If you're brave, come here! | <i>Yen kowe wani mrenea!</i> |
| | You may hit fast in case you want to be wounded! | <i>Gagean balangen yen kowe arep jalok benjot!</i> |
| | | |

Table 1 (Continued)

| Functions | English | Javanese |
|--|---|---|
| As “ <i>pangece</i> ” in Javanese language | Just put all the snacks, don’t give it to your brother, you’re younger than him! | <i>Jupuken kabeh jajanan kuwi, kakangmu ora usah dingengehi, wong isih cilik wae!</i> Dolana terus karo konco- |
| | Just play with your friends on the field, don’t study hard, your mark will be all five! | koncomu nang lapangan, ora usah sinau, bijine kowe ben lima kabeh! |

The imperative function as “*panantang*” is only in the Javanese language. It has the meaning that the speaker asks or gives the addressee a challenge or encounter to do something that the listener or addressee is not afforded to do it. Besides the “*panantang*” functions above, the Javanese imperative sentence has the additional meaning as *pangece*. It has the meaning that the speaker mocks or ridicules the listener or addressee by giving a command to do something. In other phrases, they are in the opposite condition to the fact or reality, as stated by Antunshono (as cited in Kurniawati, 2013).

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the contrastive analysis used for the imperative sentences of English and Javanese language related to their functions, it can be inferred that the English have only seven functions which are a command, prohibition, invitation, request, advice, suggestion, and compulsion. While, the Javanese imperative sentence has nine functions, which are a command, prohibition, invitation, request, advice, suggestion, compulsion, *panantang*, and *pangece*.

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