THE CONSTRUCTION OF 'GIVE' VERB IN ENGLISH AND KUPANG MALAY BASED ON DIXON'S SEMANTIC THEORY

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Abstrak

Dixon mengklasifikasikan kata Bahasa Inggris ke dalam 'tipe semantik' berdasarkan elemen makna dan set properti gramatikal yang serupa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui konstruksi kata kerja 'memberi' dalam Bahasa Inggris dan bahasaMelayu Kupang yang dikonstruksikan berdasarkan tipe konstruksi Dikson. Data Bahasa Inggris diperoleh dari the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), sedangkan data Melayu Kupang diperoleh melalui observasi pada situasi sosial dan alkitab online Melayu Kupang. Metode yang digunakan adalah kualitatif deskriptif dan analisa semantik (pada data analisis). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Penerima pada konstruksi '*give* ' tipe I diindikasikan oleh preposisi 'to'. Sedangkan pada konstruksi 'kasi' terdapat tiga preposisi yang tidak hanya mengindikasikan Penerima tetapi juga bagaimana Penerima terlibat pada proses aktifitas memberi. Pada konstruksi tipe II, perbedaan terletak pada preposisi yang mendahului Penerima di slot O. Pada konstruksi '*give*' tipe II, Penerima dapat menghilangkan preposisinya dan pindah ke slot O, langsung setelah kata kerja. Sementara pada konstruki 'kasi' prepoisi dapat mendahului Penerima atau digabungkan. Konstruksi tipe III hanya terdapat pada konstruksi '*give*' tetapi frekuensi kemunculan data pada COCA tidak signifikan. Konstrksi tipe IV hanya terdapat pada konstruksi 'kasi'. Konstruksi ini

Kata kunci: kata kerja memberi, tipe semantik, tipe konstruksi, bahasa Melayu Kupang

Abstract

Dixon classifies English lexical words into 'semantic type' based on a common meaning element and a typical set of grammatical properties. This study aims to know the construction of English 'give ' verb and 'kasi' verb of Kupang Malay that constructed based on Dixon's constructions type. The English data were obtained from the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), while the data of Kupang Malay were obtained through observation in Kupang Malay social situations and Kupang Malay online Bible. The method used was descriptive qualitative method and semantic approach (in analyzing the data). The results show that the Recipient in 'give ' construction type I is indicated by preposition 'to'. Whereas in 'kasi' construction there are three prepositions occur that do not only indicate the Recipient but also how the Recipient involved in the process of giving activity. In 'give' construction type II, the Recipient can drop its preposition and moved into O slot, immediately after the verb, while in 'kasi' construction, the preposition can either precede the Recipient or omitted. Construction III occurs only in 'give' construction, but the frequency of appearance of such data in COCA is not significant. Construction type IV exists only in 'kasi' verb. It similar to Dixon's construction type, but 'give' verb cannot occur in this construction. In English, the Recipient and the Donor can be omitted when an adverb such as 'out, 'away', and 'back' is added to 'give ' verb, indicating 'general giving activity', while in Kupang Malay, 'kasi' can be added by a verb and a noun. In these constructions, all the roles can either be omitted or normally stated. Thus, Dixon's constructions are similar to basic construction of 'give' verb and 'kasi' verb but 'kasi' verb has different grammatical properties. Other constructions of both 'give' verbs are different.

Keywords: give verb, semantic type, construction type, Kupang Malay language

INTRODUCTION

Linguistic is a study of language. It concerns with identifying the meaningful elements of specific languages, describing how such elements are combined to express more complex meanings, and telling how these are related to each other (Kreidler, 1998). There are many branches of Linguistic. Among them, there is Syntax that deals with how word are combined together, and Semantic that deals with meaning. Here, in this study, the writer concerns on the meaning of a word which is in Semantic field and Grammar that cover Morphology and Syntax.

Semantic and Grammar are actually interrelated each other. The linguist Dixon (2005), in his book *A Semantic Approach to English Grammar* shows how grammar helps people communicate and looks at the ways grammar and meaning interrelate. He proposes that when a group of verbs use the same set of participant roles and common meaning element, they are categorized as a group of *semantic type*. One of them is *giving* semantic type that have three participant roles; the Donor transfer possession of some Gift to the Recipient. *Giving semantic type* consist of some verbs such as *give , hand (over), lend, sell, rent, hire, pay, owe, bequeath, serve, feed, supply, present, donate, contribute, deliver, let, tip, reward, bribe, borrow, buy, purchase, accept, and receive.* However, in this research, the researcher focuses only on verb *give* which is in Kupang Malay is known as *kasi*.

Furthermore, Dixon (2005), also proposed four constructions of *giving* semantic types with two basic constructions, which are the first focuses on the Gift in O (transitive object) slot, and the second construction focuses on the Recipient in O slot. The third construction is marked by preposition *with* in peripheral construction. In fourth construction, the A (transitive subject) syntactic relation is filled by the Recipient, while the Donor can be peripheral constituent marked by preposition *from*. Among the four constructions, *give* verb can be constructed only in the first and the second construction.

Give verb has attracted a lot of scholars' attention to get involved in deeply investigation on it. Newman (1998), edited twelve studies of twelve linguists that explore a range of interesting properties of *give* verbs in book *The Linguistics of Giving*. Other linguists, Muenjai & Thepkanjana (2007), investigate the extended meanings of the verb of giving in Vietnamese, i.e. *cho* and discuss the process of semantic extension of this verb. Chin (2011), observes five syntactic functions carried out by the double object verb [*pei*] (to *give*) in the Cantonese dialect. Litamahuputty (1994), conducted a study to describe a phenomenon of the use of *biking* and *kasi* in Ambonese Malay.

Futhermore, Yap & Shoichi (2000), try to outline the grammaticalization path of the morpheme *hây* 'give ' in Thai. This research is focused on how English verb and *kasi* verb of Kupang Malay are constructed based on the construction of GIVING semantic type proposed by Dixon.

Kupang Malay is one of Malay variety spoken in Eastern part of Indonesia, particularly in Kupang area and the islands nearby. Grimes in Jacob & Grimes (2006), explained that Kupang Malay is Malay based creole spoken in Kupang East Nusa Tenggara, on the West and Timor island. Since, Jacob (2001), explains some process of Kupang Malay development from a pidgin to a creole. They are pidginisation, simplification, calquing, borrowing, and creolization. All these process result to different linguistic characteristics of Malay variant compared to others Malay in Indonesia. One of them is *kasi* verb that parallel to English *give* verb.

Based on a preliminary study, the researcher found that there are some differences between *give* construction and *kasi* construction that related to their grammatical properties. Also, since they occur in different languages, there must be other construction can be constructed based on Dixon's construction. Thereby, this research aims to know the construction of English *give* verb and *kasi* verb of Kupang Malay that constructed based on Dixon's construction type

METHODOLOGY

Research Designs

This research used descriptive qualitative method, in which the construction types of 'give' verb of two languages are further presented descriptively in the form of comparison.

Procedures of Collecting Data

Data of this research consisted of English data and Kupang Malay language data. Different techniques of collecting the data were applied for English and Kupang Malay. For English data, the researcher collected the data from Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) accede on corpus.byu.edu/coca. COCA is the largest freely available corpus of English and the only large and balanced corpus of American English. The corpus contains more than 450 million words of text and it is equally among spoken, fiction, popular, magazines, newspaper, and academic paper. All the categories of source of text provided in COCA were chosen. Texts taken as the data were text containing *give* verb referring to their literal meaning and extended grammatical meaning. The data then saved into specific folder in computer. In the meantime, Kupang Malay data were obtained from observation, and a documentation analysis, in which the writer took the data from Kupang Malay online Bible.

Technique of Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data, some techniques were used. Firstly, the data which has been collected were then transcribed. The next step, the transcribed data were reduced. Furthermore, after the data of *kasi* verb have been transcribed, the research data are then translated into English. After that, the data in this study will be classified based on the needs analysis study. After the classification process, the next, the data were analyzed by using Dixon's theoretical framework of *giving* semantic type.

FINDING

The following are the construction types of English *give* verb compared to the construction types of *kasi* verb in Kupang Malay. The Donor (giver), the Gift (things given), and the Recipient are mapped onto A (transitive subject) syntactic relation and O (transitive object) syntactic relation proposed by Dixon.

Construction type I of 'give ' verb and 'kasi' verb

	A	**O**	**Peripheral**
1	*I want to give*	*a new toy*	*to a kid*
	(Donor)	**(Gift)**	**(Recipient)**
2	*Beta kasi*	*ini daera*	*sang lu pung turunan*
	1sg give	Det area	prep 2sg poss offspring
	(Donor)	**(Gift)**	**(Recipient)**
	I *give* this land to your offspring		
3	*Abi su satu piring kasi*		*pi tanta Semi*
	Abi already one plate give		prep aunt Semi
4	*Beta kasi*	*piso*	*di Iki*
	1sg give	knife	prep Iki
	(Donor)	**(Gift)**	**(Recipient)**
	I gave a knife to Iki		

This construction is similar to Dixon' construction I, in which it focuses on the Gift in O slot, center on 'giving a new toy' (1), *ini daera* 'giving this land' (2), *kasi satu piring* 'giving a plate of' (3) and *kasi piso* 'giving a knife' (4).

The Recipient in English sentence construction (1) is preceded by preposition 'to', while in in Kupang Malay (2), (3), (4) there are three prepositions used; pi 'to' ,sang 'to' and di 'to'. The preposition *sang* in data (2) indicates that the Recipient receives and possess the thing being given. Preposition *pi* in data (3) indicates that the Gift is addressed to the Recipient mentioned, but he/she may not receive the thing being given directly from the Donor. Preposition *di* in data (4) indicates that the Recipient may receive the given thing but not to possess it.

Construction type II of 'give ' verb and 'kasi' verb

	A	O	Peripheral
5	*They give*	*Them*	*money, food or clothing*
	(Donor)	**(Recipient)**	**(Gift)**
6	*Mas* **Kasi**	*dia*	*Tempe*
	mas give	*3sg*	*Tempe*
	(Donor)	**(Recipient)**	**(Gift)**
	Mas gave her *tempe*		
7	*Beta kasi*	*sang basong*	*Makanan macam-macam*
	1sg give	prep 3pl	*food various*
	(Donor)	**(Gift)**	**(Recipient)**
	I *give* you every seed-bearing plant		

The above construction is similar to Dixon's construction II. It focuses on the Recipient in O slot, centers on *giving them* (5), *kasi Dewi* 'giving Dewi' (6), *kasi sang bosong* 'giving to you' (7).

No preposition used in English sentence construction (5), while in Kupang Malay (6), (7) the use of preposition in O slot is optional. On the data (6)) preposition *sang* is omitted, while in data (7) the preposition *sang* preceded the Recipient in O slot. Only preposition *sang* 'to' can be used in this construction due to it functions as the preposition for Direct and Indirect Object in Kupang Malay.

Construction type III of 'give ' verb and 'kasi' verb

8		A	O	Peripheral
	English	*those pyamas*	*They*	*give you*
		(Gift)	**(Donor)**	**(Recipient)**
	Kupang malay			

In this construction, the Donor role in A syntactic slot is filled by the Gift role, while the Donor role is mapped onto O syntactic slot. No such construction occurs in Dixon's construction types of GIVING verb and kasi verb in Kupang Malay but it does exist in English data taken from COCA. However, its frequency of appearance in COCA is not significant.

Construction type IVof 'give ' verb and 'kasi' verb

	A	O	Peripheral
9	*Beta*	*dong*	*kasi Duapulima ribu sa*
	1sg	*3pl*	*give* Twenty five thousand only
	(Donor)	**(Gift)**	**(Recipient)**
	They only gave me twenty five thousand rupiah		

This construction only exists in Kupang Malay construction type of *kasi* verb. The A syntactic slot is filled by the Recipient, while the Donor role is placed in O slot.

DISCUSSION

   This research shows that basically, both the English *give* verb and *kasi* verb in Kupang Malay have similar construction type with the basic construction types of *give* verb of Dixon (2005), which constructed from two basic constructions. They involve also the same semantic roles of *give* verb; a Donor transfer possession of some Gift to a Recipient. Nevertheless, they have different grammatical properties that result to different meaning in the same constructions. Based on the data taken from COCA, there is one different construction but the appearance of data is not significant. *Kasi* construction of Kupang Malay also has other construction that similar to construction III proposed by Dixon (2005), but *give* verb cannot occur in this construction.

   In construction I, the Donors of both languages are mapped onto A syntactic slot, as a subject of the sentences. Dixon (2005), explains that the role that is most important for the success of the activity is put in A relation, most often human, most relevant to the success of the activity and initiate or control the activity. The Gift in this construction is mapped onto O slot and being focus of both languages. The Recipients in English *give* construction is marked by preposition *to*. Newman (2005), mentions that *give* verb requires preposition *to* in order to express the Recipient since it implies the motion towards a goal. In *kasi* construction of Kupang Malay the Recipient is marked by preposition *sang* 'to' *'pi*' 'to' and *di* 'to'. All these prepositions do not only indicate the Recipient of a given thing but also how the Recipient involved in the process of giving activity. The preposition *sang* is used to indicate that the Recipient receive and possess the thing being given. Preposition *di* is used to indicate that the Recipient may receive the *give* n thing but not to possess it. While preposition *pi* can be used to indicate that the Gift is addressed to the Recipient mentioned, whether he/she receives the thing being *give* n or not. It appears that the prepositions used in Kupang Malay also contribute to the meaning of a sentence construction. Paauw (2008), states that the function of prepositions in Kupang Malay is important because of the isolating nature of language.

   Turning now to construction II that is used for the direct transfer of ownership of some specific Gift and focuses on the Recipient in O slot. Since the focus is on the Recipient and regarded as the most salient, the Recipient then mapped onto O syntactic relation, with Gift being retained as second object. As Dixon (2005), explained that if there are two or more roles exist in a verb, the non A- role that regarded as the most salient for the activity (mostly affected by the activity) will be mapped onto O relation. In this case, the Recipient can drop its preposition and move into direct object slot, immediately after the verb. This is what Dixon said as the basic syntactic frame of

giving verbs. However, in Kupang Malay construction the preposition can either precedes the Recipient in O slot or omitted. Only preposition *sang* 'to' allowed in this construction because it is a multifunction preposition for both direct and indirect objects. The use preposition in this construction is optional. Nevertheless, both the languages' sentences construction types describe the direct transfer of ownership of some specific gift. Therefore, their grammatical property is different but the construction and meaning are the same.

Another construction type of *give* verb is the construction that exists only in English *give* verb taken from COCA. However, the frequency of appearance of such data is not significant. In this construction, the A syntactic slot is filled by Gift semantic role, while the Gift syntactic role is placed by Donor semantic role. No such construction found in data of *kasi* verb.

The last construction exists only in *kasi* verb of Kupang Malay. In this construction, the A syntactic slot is filled by the Recipient semantic role, while the Donor semantic role is mapped onto O syntactic slot. Even though the Recipient is mapped onto A syntactic role but it can not exercise the control in giving activity just like Dixon's construction III.

As shown above that the basic constructions of both English *give* verb and *kasi* verb of Kupang Malay are similar but they have different grammatical properties that result to different meaning. Their differences are resulted from their different development and historical linguistic background. Kupang Malay is a creole language that acquires some process in the development of creole. Among the process mentioned by Jacob (2010), Kupang Malay has experienced the process of calquing from the local vernaculars and their lexicon that contributes to its different linguistic characteristic. There are many contributions from many languages (both local and non-local) that have been assimilated into Kupang Malay. Pauuw (2008), mentions that Kupang Malay is categorized also as an isolating language characterized with a ferry few affix system. This is in line with the explanation by Gill (2008), that isolating languages are characterized by minimal morphology, with little or no affixation or other kinds of word-internal structure.

Contrast with Kupang Malay, Algeo (2010), states that English is categorized as an analytic language since it depends greatly on the use of word order and function word. Stockwell & Minkova (2001), mentions that English obtains its vocabulary from borrowing and word-creation. Latin, Greek, and French are languages in which their vocabulary are mostly borrowed by English language.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Thus, the basic constructions of both English *give* verb and *kasi* verb of Kupang Malay are similar to Dixon's basic construction but *kasi* construction has different grammatical properties that result to different meaning. *Kasi* construction has one different construction. It is similar to Dixon's construction III but *give* verb cannot occur in this construction. Furthermore, this research is purely an applied linguistic in which the data are explored by referring to Dixon's Framework of *give* construction type. Later on the writer expects that there will be other researches deal with other verbs of *giving* semantic type or other verb types proposed by Dixon. Furthermore, *Kasi* verb in Kupang Malay has lot of grammatical extended that open to be explored more

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