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## A CONTRASTIVE STUDY OF 'MAKE' VERB IN ENGLISH AND 'HABU' VERB IN MUNANESE LANGUAGE

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### Abstract

The aims of this study was to investigate the similarities and differences of 'make' verb in English and 'habu' verb in Munanese language in terms of semantics and grammar construction. The data of this study consisted of English data which collected from Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) and Munanese language data that obtained from field research through process of observation and in-depth interview. Both of the data were analyzed by descriptive and qualitative analysis. The result showed that semantically, 'make' verb and 'habu' verb apply similar meaning that refers to 'to create or prepare something by combining materials or putting parts together; to cause something to exist happen'. The differences of two verbs are on the grammatical construction. The verb 'make' is applied in construction VII. The interesting thing that 'make' verb also can be applied in variant construction VIIb (the variant which is not stated in the Dixon's theoretical framework) based on COCA data. Meanwhile, the construction applied in habu verb is also construction VII, and some extra variant which is also not stated in Dixon's theory. Furthermore, 'habu' verb can be applied in Giving verb semantic role. As the main point, it is proved that the variety of language is determined of cultural background.

**Keywords:** *Contrastive, Verb*

### Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menyelidiki persamaan dan perbedaan kata kerja 'make' dalam bahasa Inggris dan 'habu' dalam bahasa Muna dalam hal semantik dan konstruksi tata bahasa. Data penelitian ini terdiri dari data bahasa Inggris yang dikumpulkan dari kumpulan data bahasa Amerika (COCA) dan bahasa Muna yang diperoleh dari penelitian lapangan melalui proses pengamatan dan wawancara mendalam. Kedua data dianalisis dengan analisis deskriptif dan kualitatif. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa secara semantik, kata kerja 'make' dan kata kerja 'habu' menerapkan makna yang sama yang mengacu pada 'untuk membuat atau menyiapkan sesuatu dengan menggabungkan bahan atau menyatukan bagian; menyebabkan sesuatu terjadi terjadi'. Perbedaan dua kata kerja berada pada konstruksi tata bahasa. Kata kerja 'membuat' diterapkan dalam konstruksi VII. Hal menarik dari kata kerja 'make' yakni juga dapat diterapkan dalam varian konstruksi VIIb (varian yang tidak dinyatakan dalam kerangka teori Dixon) berdasarkan data COCA. Sementara itu, konstruksi yang diterapkan dalam kata kerja 'habu' juga konstruksi VII, dan beberapa varian tambahan yang tidak dinyatakan dalam teori Dixon. Selain itu, kata kerja 'habu' dapat diterapkan dalam memberikan peran semantik kata kerja. Sebagai poin utama, terbukti bahwa variasi bahasa ditentukan dari latar belakang budaya.

**Keywords:** *Contrastive, Kata Kerja*

## INTRODUCTION

Language is one of important elements in social life. It is a fundamental communication tool that connect people in order to fulfill their needs. Suherman (2018) stated that during communication process, language is needed to support the effective transmission and reception of human's thoughts. According to Yassi (2016), people use to shape and express their thought through language as the medium. It may consist of a series of words, figures, or signs that arranged by the speaker and received by the hearer. In addition, language is not only used in communication between citizens, but also as a symbol of social civilization and the cultural community.

Furthermore, Susanto (2011) noted that every language has its uniqueness since it is interrelating with the context of culture.

One of local languages that has its uniqueness is Munanese language. It is an Austronesian language belonging to the *Celebic* of Western Malayo-Polynesian branch of that family (van den Berg, 2014). It is also used as a colloquial in daily interaction by people on the Island of Muna and some smaller neighboring island. Besides, as other languages, Munanese language has the potential for linguistic studies scattered from the various aspects of the language. Here, the linguistic aspect covers morphological, phonological, syntax, semantics and speech (pragmatic) symptoms.

According to Varga (2010) phonology deals with the study of sound, morphology concerns to the study of word formation, syntax studies the sentence formation and semantics deals with the meaning of words and sentence. Semantic and syntactic phenomenon are interesting aspects to be studied based on the five linguistic symptoms since they are engaged. It is very important to consider both of concepts in building a meaningful sentence. In other words, meaning is an essential aspect in constructing a sentence. On the other hand, it also can be implied that structure plays important role in determining the meaning of word and sentence.

In regard with the importance of grammar and semantics, one of the experts, R.M.W. Dixon develops a new approach in describing the aspect of language by seeing grammar from a semantics point of view. In the theory, he assumes that when one faces a new word, firstly they will learn the meaning and afterward they will have an understanding of the morphological and syntactical form of the word. Another way is the one will learn the grammatical construction of the word and then conceiving its meaning (Dixon, 2005:6; Latif, 2016; Zen et al., 2021).

The key point in identifying the grammatical construction of a clause or sentence is its verb since it is one of the word classes that become the most central part of a clause or a sentence. Dixon (2005:96) divided types of verbs in English into two; the primary and secondary one. Primary verbs refer to some activity or state i.e verbs which can make up a sentence by themselves with appropriate NPs filing the various semantic roles. Meanwhile, the secondary verbs concerning those providing semantic modification of some other verbs, with which they are in syntactic or morphological construction. Moreover, some or all of these verbs may be realized as verbal affixes in languages that show a complex morphology.

Thus, this study focused on investigating the similarities and differences of ‘make’ verb in English and ‘habu’ verb in Munanese language in terms of the syntactic and semantic aspect.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This study used descriptive qualitative method in terms of describing and elaborating the ‘make’ verb and ‘habu’ verb in Munanese language both in meaning aspect and in grammatical construction. The data of this study consisted of English data which were collected from Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), *corpus.byu.edu/coca* and Munanese language data that were obtained through observation technique by investigating and observing the Munanese language. Besides, to strengthen the data, this study used in depth interview (supported by recording and note taking technique).

In analyzing the data, the researcher used some technique. Firstly, the data from Munanese language which gained from observation and in-depth interview transcribed, while English data do not need to be transcribed anymore. Both data which were collected reduced by selecting the data which could representative others. Then, the presented data analyzed using Dixon’s semantic principles. Furthermore, the researcher determined the meaning of ‘make’ verb by referring to

Oxford Dictionary, whereas the meaning of ‘habu’ verb in Munanese language based on the information gained. Then, the researcher made the conclusion.

## DISCUSSION

Affect verb invoked three basic Semantic roles, namely an *Agent* moves or manipulating something (referred to as Manip role) thus it comes into contact with something or person (the *Target* role). The *Manip* or the *Target* (or, occasionally, both) will be affected physically by the activity. These roles can be mapped onto three ways, as follows:

- I. John (Agent) hit the vase (Target) with the stick (Manip))
- II. John (Agent) hit that stick (Manip) on/upon/against the table (Target)
- III. That stick (Manip) hit the vase (Target)

Based on the three constructions, Dixon (2005) stated that the most general construction Affect verb is construction I. It is focused on Target which is being affected by the Manip that is brought into contact with the Target. In this construction, the Manip may or not be omitted. The construction II presents distinct meaning which the Manip put in O slot. Here, the Target stronger than the Manip so that physically Affected by impact of Manip on Target. The Target itself marked by preposition such as *on, upon, again*. In the construction III, the Manip is put in A (transitive subject) slot and the Target should be in O slot. It can be inferred that the Agent is not responsible for the result of action because the action is the result of natural force.

Besides, Dixon (2005) proposed that there are also other variant of construction I. It can be seen as follow:

- IV. John (Agent) kicked at the door (Target) (with his hob-nailed boots (Manip))
- V. John (Agent) hit out (with that stick (Manip))

In the construction IV, there is a preposition that is inserted before the NP in O slot. On the other hand, the NP in O slot of construction V is replaced by an adverb.

Moreover, Dixon (2005) assumed that there are some other variant of main construction above occur in “rub” subtype, as follows:

- Ia. John rubbed {the polish into the table} (with that cloth)
- Ib. John rubbed {the mark (of the table)} (with that cloth)
- IVb. John rubbed {at the mark on the table} with that cloth

Furthermore, he also provided specific constructions which are applied in Build verbs subtype. Since the verbs refer to manufacture and cooking, those involve an Agent manipulating Manip so as to create something (called product role). The roles mapped onto syntactic relations in two ways:

- VI. Mary (Agent) built those bricks (Manip) into a wall (Product)
- VII. Mary (Agent) built a wall (Product) with those bricks (Manip)

In terms of grammar construction, it is critical to notice that apparently Dixon’s theory restricts itself to one of Affect verb of “Build” subtypes, ‘make’ verb, occurs in construction VI and VII. However, the interesting point here, in English language, based on COCA data, it is found that the construction of ‘make’ verb is not only limited to construction VI and VII but occurs in variant construction VIIIb. Whereas, in Munanese language, the construction VII and the variant constructions are also applied.

The other important point is in Munanese language the *Agent* can be filled by two *Agent*; the first is Pronoun that refers to Proper noun and the Prefix that attached to the VP. Most of the VP in Munanese language consists of prefix which reflects the subject pronoun of the clause such as *ne-, no-, do-*. Prefix *ne-* and *no-* reflects to the third person singular pronoun; and prefix *do-* reflects to

third plural pronoun. Such the variation of *Agent* forms some extra constructions VII in Munanese language while in English such constructions do not occurs. It can be seen clearly in the tables below:

Table 1. Construction type of *make* verb and *habu* verb

Languages	Construction	A	O	Peripheral
English	VII	(1) <i>They</i> Pro  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>made a meal</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	-
	Variant construction VIIb	(2) <i>I</i> Pro  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>made Nicky pancake</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	-
	VII	(3) <i>I</i> Pro  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>was making</i> VP chicken pot pies NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>with sage biscuits</i> Prep NP  <b>(Manip)</b>
Munanese language	VII	(4) <i>Inaku</i> NP  <i>ne-</i> 3sg  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu kue</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>nomaio we tarigu</i> Prep Prep flour  <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP  <b>(Manip)</b>
	<i>Ina -ku ne- habu kue nomaio we tarigu bhe</i> <i>Mother Poss 3sg make cake from from flour and</i> <i>untelino</i> <i>egg</i>  <i>My mother made cake from flour and egg</i>			
	Variant construction VIIa	(5) <i>Do-</i> 3pl  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu sanggara</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>so inodi</i> Prep Pro
<i>Do - habu sanggara so inodi</i> <i>3pl make fried egg Prep I</i>  <i>They made fried banana for me</i>				

Table 2. Extra construction type of *habu* verb I

Languages	Construction	A	O	A	Peripheral
English	-	-	-	-	-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIIb	(6) <i>Ne-</i> 3sg  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu kue</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>inaku</i> NP  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>nomaio we tarigu</i> Prep Prep flour  <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP  <b>(Manip)</b>
		<i>Ne- habu kue ina -ku nomaio we tarigu bhe</i> <i>3sg make cake mother Poss from from flour and</i> <i>untelino</i> <i>egg</i>  <i>My mother made cake from flour and egg</i>			

Table 3. Extra construction type of *habu* verb II

Languages	Construction	A	O	Peripheral	A
English	-	-	-	-	-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIIc	(7) <i>Ne-</i> 3sg  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu kue</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>nomaio we tarigu</i> Prep Prep flour  <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP <b>(Manip)</b>	<i>inaku a</i> NP Partcl  <b>(Agent)</b>
<p><i>Ne- habu kue nomaio we tarigu bhe untelino</i>                      3sg make cake from from flour and egg  <i>ina -ku a</i>                      mother Poss Partcl</p> <p><i>My mother made cake from flour and egg</i></p>					

Table 4. Extra construction type of *habu* verb III

Languages	Construction	Peripheral	A	O	A
English	-	-	-	-	-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIId	(8) <i>Nomaio we tarigu</i> Prep Prep flour  <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP  <b>(Manip)</b>	<i>ne-</i> 3sg  <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu kue</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>	<i>inaku a</i> NP Partcl  <b>(Agent)</b>
<p><i>Nomaio we tarigu bhe untelino ne- habu kue</i>                      from from flour and egg 3sg make cake  <i>ina -ku a</i>                      mother Poss Partcl</p> <p><i>From flour and eggs, my mother made cake</i></p>					

Table 5. Extra construction type of *habu* verb IV

Languages	Construction	Peripheral	A	O
English	-	-	-	-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIIg	(9) <i>Nomaio we tarigu</i> Prep Prep flour  <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP <b>(Manip)</b>	<i>inaku</i> NP  <i>ne-</i> 3sg <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>habu kue</i> V NP  <b>(Product)</b>
<p><i>Nomaio we tarigu bhe untelino ina -ku</i>                      From from flour and egg mother Poss  <i>ne- habu kue</i>                      3sg make cake</p>				

		<i>From flour and eggs, my mother made cake</i>
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Table 6. Extra construction type of *habu* verb V

Languages	Construction		O		A	Peripheral
			A			
English	-		-		-	-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIIIh	(10) <i>O kue</i> Art NP	<i>no-</i> 3sg  <b>(Agent)</b> <b>(Product)</b>	<b><i>habue</i></b> V	<i>inaku</i> NP <b>o</b> <b>(Agent)</b>	<i>nomaio we</i> Prep Prep <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP <b>(Manip)</b>
		<i>O kue no- habue -e ina -ku nomaio we Art</i> <i>cake 3sg make 3sg mother Poss from from</i> <i>tarigu bhe untelino</i> <i>flour and egg</i>  <i>The cake was made by my mother from flour and egg</i>				

Table 7. Extra construction type of *habu* verb VI

Languages	Construction	Peripheral		O		A
				A		
English	-	-		-		-
Munanese language	Extra construction VIIi	(11) <i>Nomaio we</i> Prep Prep <i>bhe untelino</i> Conj NP  <b>(Manip)</b>	<i>o kue</i> Art NP	<i>no-</i> 1sg  <b>(Agent)</b> <b>(Product)</b>	<b><i>habue</i></b> V	<i>inaku</i> NP  <b>(Agent)</b>
		<i>Nomaio we tarigu bhe untelino o kue ne- habue -e</i> <i>From from flour and egg Art cake 3sg make 3sg</i> <i>ina -ku</i> <i>mother Poss</i>  <i>From flour and eggs, the cake was made by my mother</i>				

‘Make’ verb and ‘habu’ verb apply similar meaning that refers to ‘to create or prepare something by combining materials or putting parts together; to cause something to exist happen’. Grammatically, the verb ‘make’ is applied in construction VII as in the data (1), (2) and (3) focused in Product role in slot O. The Manip of the verb may or may not be stated. Note that, interestingly, on the data (3) taken from COCA, there is a proper name *Nicky* followed by NP *pancake* as indirect object in slot O. It indicates that semantically the meaning of the clause also can be applied in construction II in Giving verb semantic role; *I (Donor) made Nicky (Recipient) pancake (Gift)*.

Thus, the verb 'make' is not only applied in Affect verb semantic role but also in Giving verb, and researcher named it as the variant construction VIIb.

The 'habu' verb is classified as Class *ae-* and *ne-* as the subject marker of third singular person. The construction applied in 'habu' verb is also construction VII (data 4) and variant construction VIIa (data 5). The focus of the construction is on the Product role in slot O, while the Manip may or not be stated. If the Manip is mentioned, then there are two prepositions, *nomaio* and *we*, put before the peripheral NP. The data (5) also presents the benefactive NP *so Inodi* (for me). In other words, 'habu' verb can be applied in Giving verb semantic role; *Do-* (Donor) *habu sanggara* (Gift) *so inodi* (Beneficiary). Furthermore, the syntactic role in Munanese language is varied since all the verb must be followed by the affix agent e.g *ne-habu* (she make) so formed the various extra construction VII as in the data (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), and (11). Data (7) shows that the A slot in the last syntactic roles shows *a* particle as the characteristic of Munanese language if it is ended by the agent that can stand alone. In the data (10) and (11), those construct the passive form which is marked by the article **O** and inflectional subject *-e*. Besides, the prefix *ne-* that is attached in the verb becomes *no-*. Therefore, *Nehabu kue inaku a* is the active form, becomes *O kue nohabue inaku*. However, there is no additional particle **a** after the Proper Agent in the last slot since it is in the passive form such *\*O kue nohabue inaku a*.

## CONCLUSION

After discussing the phenomenon of the data, the researcher has drawn the conclusion. Semantically, 'make' verb and 'habu' verb apply similar meaning that refers to 'to create or prepare something by combining materials or putting parts together; to cause something to exist happen'. The differences of two verbs are on the grammatical construction. The verb 'make' is applied in construction VII. The interesting thing that 'make' verb also can be applied in variant construction VIIb (the variant which is not stated in the Dixon's theoretical framework) based on COCA data. Meanwhile, the construction applied in *habu* verb is also construction VII, and some extra variant construction such as construction VIIa, VIIb, VIIc, VIId, VIIg, VIIh, VIIi. All variant constructions are not stated in Dixon's theory. Furthermore, *habu* verb can be applied in Giving verb semantic role. It is proved that cultural background become the main point in determining the variety of language.

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