

## CONSTRUCTIVE ANALYSIS ON ENGLISH AND INDONESIA, NOUN SUBJECT AND VERB AGREEMENT IN THE SENTENCE

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### Abstrak

Fokus utama dalam penelitian ini adalah perbandingan subject verb agreement pada bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Indonesia. Perbandingan ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persamaan dan perbedaan subject verb agreement antara bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Indonesia. Persamaan dan perbedaan tersebut membawa aspek pedagogis yang positif dalam proses pembelajaran bahasa. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dan merupakan penelitian kepustakaan. Instrumen penelitian berupa kalimat bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Indonesia yang dibuat oleh peneliti dan kalimat-kalimat lain yang diambil dari buku-buku dan kutipan internet yang mendukung topik utama. Data dianalisis dengan menggunakan teori Hsiu Fang Hsieh & Sarah E Shannon (2005) untuk menarik kesimpulan. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa subject verb agreement bahasa Inggris harus didasarkan pada kata ganti orang pertama, kedua, dan ketiga serta tenses dalam kalimat. Di sisi lain, subject verb agreement bahasa Indonesia dapat digunakan dalam bentuk tunggal maupun jamak. Kata ganti orang pertama, kedua, ketiga dan tidak bergantung pada bentuk kalimat.

**Kata Kunci:** Kata kerja subjek analisis kontrastif

### Abstract

*The main focus in this research is the comparison of subject verb agreement on English and Indonesia. The comparison aimed to find out the similarities and difference subject verb agreement both English and Indonesia. The similarities and difference brought positive pedagogical aspect in the process of language learning. This research applied qualitative descriptive method and was library research. The research instrument were English and Indonesian sentences which generated by researchers and others sentences taken from books and internet citation supporting the main topic. The data was analyzed by applying Hsiu Fang Hsieh & Sarah E Shannon (2005) to draw interpretation. This research found that subject verb agreement English must based on singular, plural, first, second, and third pronoun and tenses in the sentences. On the other hand, Indonesian subject verb agreement can be used both singular, plural. First, second, third pronoun and it is not depend on tenses.*

**Keywords:** Subject verbs contrastive analysis



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## INTRODUCTION

Contrastive analysis is an activity which tries to compare some aspects of second language L2 (English) and first language L1 (Indonesia) in order to know the difference and the similarities both languages. It is very important for Indonesian student who wants to study English as a target language. Besides to know about the rules English as well they know about Indonesian rules. The important of contrastive analysis is for helping the language learners as recognition of the important of the students' native language in new language. In language learning has known as contrastive analysis. (Al-khresheh, 2015). Several previous studies have been carried out by some researchers. Dwijati and Puspani (2016) on Indonesian noun phrase and relative clauses and their translation in English and finding of the study was the types of Indonesian noun phrases are the same with relative clause containing adjective and noun phrase. Another interesting research was conducting by Taghinezhad (2017) entitle A contrastive analysis complement clause in English and Persian resulting statement that although there are a lot of similarities between English and Persian language regarding their complement clause and one of the differences between them might cause confusion for English speakers who are trying to learn Persian. One of the differences between English and Persian complements is that the former follows an SVO pattern whereas the latter follows an SOV pattern.

The previous research focus on noun phrase and relative clause and finding of the study was both English and Indonesia have the same containing adjective and noun phrase. And second previous research focused on complement clause between English and Persian. The result of this study was one the different English and Persian is that the former follow an SVO pattern whereas later follow an SOV pattern. The similarity with previous research was the contrastive between two languages (English x Indonesia and English and Persian). the different with this research the authors focus on subject verb agreement in the sentence both English and Indonesia. Subject-verb agreement is the grammatical rule that the verb or verbs in a sentence must match the number, person, and gender of the subject; in English, the verb needs to match just the number and sometimes the person. Agreement means selecting subjects that agree in person and number with verbs and selecting pronouns that agree in person number with reference nouns and other pronouns. (Pamela.J, 2002, 257). Learning language cannot separate from grammar. According to Abdul Chaer (2006:328) " Subject and predicate is the most important thing on Indonesian, where as object and predicate should not always exist. The definition of grammar is system of rules that allow us to structure sentences, includes several aspect of the English language, like part of speech, clause, mechanism of language (words order, sentence, semantics, and sentence structure (DELFINO, 2022). Constructing a good sentence both English and Indonesian must fix based on their own rules of languages. By understanding about the similarities and difference between English and Indonesian the learners will not confused to construct the sentence in both languages. According to Rasul (2019:134), "Sentence is must express a complete thought." Sentence comes from what we thought and we produce sentence by using our articulation of speech. Moeliono et al (2017:407) state that" secara gramatikal kalimat pada dasarnya terdiri atas unsur Subject yang dapat diikuti oleh objek, pelengkap, dan keterangan. Perlu atau tidaknya kehadiran obyek, pelengkap, atau keterangan bergantung pada verbal pengisi predikat." The researchers believed that language learners will construct the correct sentences after analysis the difference and the similarities using subject verb agreement both English and Indonesian languages. The significant contribution this research specially for someone who will conduct the research which is related to between languages.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted in Jakarta. The research was qualitative. Qualitative research presents data and research in term of qualitative descriptive. In collecting the data, authors applied the library research by reading several books from the library as data source, some written material, and literature from internet and all data sources had put them in the references in the last page of this article. The authors used them to find out the contrastive analysis between English and Indonesian specially about subject verb agreement. The authors generate some sentences and others taken from (Silvester,2016) and translate into Indonesia to find out the contrastive analysis subject verb agreement (Fahmi sofyan, 2016,411). This research also applies several theories about contrastive analysis (CA) stated by Hsiu Fang Hsieh & Sarah E Shannon (2005) to draw interpretation. The findings then were explained qualitatively. This method analysis investigates detail which exist in English and bahasa Indonesia by comparing the same thing ( subject verb agreement) or (kecocokan subject and kata kerja) in order to know the differences and similarities both languages. Contrastive analysis general is defined as a systematical comparison of selective linguistics features of two or More languages (Fauziah, 2014).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Since the main purpose of the research is to analyze similarities and differences between English (subject verb agreement) and Indonesian (*kecocokan subjek dan kata kerja*) in qualitative content analysis. It started with describing all the data found, then illustrate the difference of the studies to apply the analytical procedures. Agreement adalah kecocokan antara subjek dan kata kerja (Fahmi sofyan, 2016,411) Agreement means selecting subjects that agree in person and number with verbs and selecting pronouns that agree in person number with reference nouns and other pronouns. (Pamela.J, 2002, 257). The following are the raw data generate by the authors and took from some (Pamela, J,2022)

### 1. Subject verb agreement in English and Indonesia use verb (be) in simple present tense.

- (1) I am a university student.
- (2) Saya adalah seorang mahasiswa
- (3) You are a university student.
- (4) Anda adalah seorang mahasiswa
- (5) You are university students.
- (6) Kalian adalah para mahasiswa
- (7) We are university students.
- (8) Kita adalah para mahasiswa
- (9) They are university students.
- (10) Mereka adalah para mahasiswa
- (11) Hanifah is a student university.
- (12) Hanifah adalah seorang mahasiswi
- (13) She is a student university.
- (14) Dia adalah seorang mahasiswa
- (15) Fauzi is a student university.
- (16) Fauzi adalah seorang mahasiswa
- (17) He is a student university.
- (18) Dia adalah seorang mahasiswa

From above sentences number; (1), (3), (5), (7), (9), (11), (13), (15), (17). In English must use *be* (*am, are, is*) in order to agree with subject or subject pronouns with verb *be*. All those sentences above explain about singular noun and plural nouns. Sentences number; (1). Singular subject (first person) *be (am)* explain about singular noun. Number 3. Singular subject (second person) *be (are)* explain about singular noun. Number 5. Plural subject (second person) *be (are)* explain about plural noun. Number (7). Plural subject (first person) *be (are)* explain about plural noun. (9). Plural subject (third person) *be (are)* explain about plural noun. (11), (13), (15), (17). Singular subject (third person) *be (is)* explain about singular noun. Sentences number (11) and (13), subject (Hanifah and she) refer to a woman. Sentences number (15) and (17), Subject (Fauzi and he) refer to a man.

On the other hand, in Indonesian there is not *be*. Menurut badan pengembangan dan pembinaan bahasa Indonesia, dalam kamus besar bahasa Indonesia (2016), adalah merupakan kata kerja yang memiliki makna: identik. From sentences number (2), (4), (6), (8), (10), (12), (14), (16), (18) above, all sentences use *adalah* for both singular and plural subjects. *Dia* in sentences number (14), (18), can be used for both man and woman.

From English and Indonesian sentences above have similarity that verb *be* and *adalah* agree with subject or subject pronoun. On the other hand, they also have differences that in Indonesian both singular and plural subjects only use *adalah* to explain singular or plural noun. English has difference based on singular subject or plural subjects, first person singular subject (*I am*), second person singular subject (*you are*), first person plural subject (*we are*), second person plural subject (*you are*), third person singular subject (*she or he is*), and third person plural subject. (*they are*). English also differentiates man and woman using personal pronoun.

## 2. Subject verb agreement in English and bahasa Indonesia use verb (*be*) in simple past tense.

- (19) I was an elementary student in 1980s.
- (20) Saya adalah siswa SD di tahun 1980an
- (21) You were an elementary student in 1990s.
- (22) Anda adalah seorang siswa SD pada tahun 1990an
- (23) You were junior high school students in 1990s.
- (24) Kalian adalah siswa- siswa SMP pada tahun 1990an
- (25) We were junior high school students 1990s.
- (26) Kami adalah siswa-siswa SMP pada tahun 1990an
- (27) They were high school students in 1990s.
- (28) Mereka adalah para siswa SMA pada tahun 1990an
- (29) She was a senior high school student 1990s.
- (30) Dia adalah seorang pelajar SMA pada tahun 1990an
- (31) He was a senior high school student 1990s.
- (32) Dia adalah seorang siswa SMA pada tahun 1990an

Sentence number; (19). Singular subject pronoun as first person (*I*) agree with *be* (*was*) in the sentence. Sentence (21), Singular subject pronoun as second person (*you*) agree with *be* (*were*) in the sentence. (23). Plural subject pronoun as second person (*you*) agree with *be* (*were*) in the sentence. (25). Plural Subject pronoun as first person (*we*) agree with *be* (*were*) in the sentence. (27). Plural subject pronoun as third person (*they*)

agree with be (were) in the sentence. (29). Singular subject pronoun as third person (she) agree with be (was) in the sentence. (31). Singular subject pronoun as third person (she) agree with be (was) in the sentence.

Sentences (19), as first-person singular subject and sentences (29), (31) as third person singular subject agree with be (Was) in the sentences to explain about past event in sentence. Sentence (21), as second person singular subject (you) agree with be (were) in the sentence to explain about past event. Sentences (23), (25), (27), as first person and third person singular subject must agree with be (were) in the sentences. All sentences number (19), (21), (23), (25), (27), (29), (31) agree with be (was and were) in order to explain about past event and in English called simple past tense.

Sentences number; (20), (22), (24), (26), (28), (30), (32), all sentences agree with (adalah) for both singular subject pronoun and plural subject pronoun and also for first, second, and third person. In Indonesian there is a not tense to explain about past event. To emphasize about past event, sentences using time signal such as kemarin, tadi malam, minggu lalu, tahun lalu, and so on.

### 3. **Modified subject verb.**

- (33) His knowledge of languages and international relations aids him in his work.
- (34) Pengetahuannya tentang beberapa bahasa dan hubungan internasional membantu dalam pekerjaannya
- (35) All trade between the two countries was suspended pending negotiation of new agreement.
- (36) Semua perdagangan diantara dua Negara di tangguhkan menunggu keputusan negosiasi tentang persetujuan baru

### 4. **Subject with accompaniment and verb**

- (37) The guest of honor, along with his wife and two sons, was seated in the first table.
- (38) Tamu terhormat, bersama istri dan kedua anaknya, ditempatkan dimeja pertama
- (39) The ambassador, with his family and staff, invites you to a reception the embassy on Saturday evening.
- (40) Duta besar, bersama keluarga dan staffnya, mengundang anda pada resepsi kedutaan pada hari sabtu malam.

### 5. **Subject with appositive and verb**

- (41) The books, an English dictionary, and a chemistry text, were on the shelf yesterday.
- (42) Buku buku, sebuah kamus bahasa inggris dan teks kimia, di rak kemarin.
- (43) Several pets, two dogs and a cat, need to be taken care of while we are gone.
- (44) Beberapa hewan peliharaan, dua anjing dan satu kucing, perlu dirawat ketika kita tidak ada.

### 6. **Subject verb order**

- (45) There were ten people in line already when we arrived.
- (46) Telah ada sepuluh orang di antrean ketika kami tiba.
- (47) There has been very little rain this summer.
- (48) Ada sangat sedikit hujan dimusin panas saat ini.

- (49) Here is their house.
- (50) Ini adalah rumah mereka

7. **Collective subject with verb**

- (51) Twenty dollars is the price.
- (52) Dua puluh dolar adalah harga
- (53) Many people are coming to the graduation.
- (54) Banyak orang sedang datang ke wisudahan

8. **Noun and pronoun**

- (55) it is easier to talk about a problem then to resolve it
- (56) ini adalah lebih mudah membicarakan satu masalah daripada menyelesaikanya
- (57) Amir is interested in mathematics and its application.
- (58) Amir tertarik pada matematika dan aplikasinya

9. **Impersonal pronoun**

- (59) If one knew the facts, one would not be so quick to criticize.
- (60) Jika seseorang telah mengetahui fakta, seseorang tidak akan dengan cepat mengkritik
- (61) The more hemoglobin one has, the more oxygen is carried to one's cells.
- (62) Semakin banyak hemoglobin seseorang punya, semakin banyak oksigen di salurkan ke sel-selnya seseorang

Sentences number (33) and (35) are modified subject and verb that the entire pattern must be agreement subject and verbs. Number (33), His knowledge... agree with verb (aids) in the sentence. Number (35), all trade ... agree with verb (was suspended) in the sentence. In this verb (was suspended) as passive voice sentence which the subject does not perform the action of the verb.

Sentences number (37) and (39) are the subject with accompaniment and verb that entire patterns avoid using a verb that agree with a phrase with of accompaniment instead of with the subject itself. Number (37), Subject the guest of honor must agree with verb (Was seated) in the sentence. In this verb (was seated) function as adverb of place that explain where the guest of honor was sitting. Number (39). Subject the ambassador agrees with verb (invites) as third person subject pronoun in the simple present tense.

Sentence number (41) and (43) are the subjects with appositive and verb that an appositive verb is a word or phrase that follows a noun and defines it. An appositive usually has comma before it and a comma after it. Number (41) Books must agree with verb (were) in the sentence. In this sentences verb (were) function to explain about adverb place that where the books were. Number (43), several pets must agree with verb (need) as plural third person subject in the simple present tense.

Sentences number (45), (47), and (49) are subject verb order (there and here), the subject must agree with the verbs. Number (45), subject there must agree with verb (were) to explain the number of people (ten people).in the sentence. Number (47), subject there must agree with verb (has) to explain uncountable noun (little rain) in the sentence. Number (49), subject here must agree with verb (is) to explain (their house) as singular noun in the sentence.

Sentence number (51) and (53) are collective subject and verb. That subject must agree with singular verbs. Number (51), subject twenty dollars must agree with verb (is) refers to uncountable noun in the sentence. Number (53), Subject many people must agree with verb (are) refers to countable noun in the sentence.

Sentences number (55) and (57) are noun and pronoun. All patterns there must be agreement noun and pronoun. Number (55),

Sentence number (59) and (61) are subject impersonal pronoun. Remember that for formal writing, it is necessary to continue using the impersonal pronoun throughout a sentence. Number (59), subject one must agree with verb (knew), in this sentence (knew) refers verb 2 and using it for simple past tense. Number (61), subject one must agree with verb (has) that it refers to the third person singular subject for simple present tense.

While in Indonesian sentence number (34), subject pengetahuanya must agree with verb (Membantu) although, in English is simple present tense as verb (aids) must use inflection 'S' to emphasize simple present in the sentences. Sentence (36), subject perdagangan must agree with verb (ditanggguhkan). this sentence for both English (was suspended) and Indonesian ditanggguhkan) as passive voice. Sentence number (38), subject in this sentence is tamu terhormat, it must agree with verb (ditempatkan) as passive voice, using inflection prefixed (di) and suffixed (kan). Sentence number (40), subject in this sentence is Duta besar and agree with verb (mengundang), in English verb (invites) using inflection 'S' simple present in the sentence. Number (42), subject in this sentence are buku-buku and agree with demonstrative pronoun (di) to show position of something. In English called adverb of place. Number (44), subject in this sentence is plural, beberapa hewan and agree with verb (perlu), in English verb (need) without using inflection 's' in the simple present tense because of plural subject.

Sentence number (46), (a) Sepuluh orang telah ada di antrean ketika kami tiba or (b) Telah ada sepuluh orang di antrean ketika kami tiba, (c) ketika kami tiba, sepuluh orang telah ada di antrean. (d) ketika kami tiba, telah ada sepuluh orang dalam antrean. Sentences (46); (a), (b), (c), and (d) in bahasa Indonesia still make sense. The verb subject order (ada sepuluh) but in this sentence is adding (telah) become (telah ada sepuluh) to explain past event. In English sentence only using verb (were) as a simple past tense. Number (48), verb subject order in this sentence (ada sangat sedikit hujan) to explain uncountable thing (hujan) and (sangat) as adverbial to explain about (sedikit) also as adverbial. Number (50), verb subject order (ini adalah) which (ini) is demonstrative pronoun agree with verb (adalah) that identical with someone or something. Number (52), collective subject of this sentence is (dua puluh dolar) and agree with verb (adalah) that identical with something (harga) (54), collective subject of this sentence is (banyak orang) and agree with verb (datang) but in the sentence (sedang) as adverbial to explain an event in progress, in English called present progressive tense. Number (56), in this sentence, there is not subject pronoun refers to (satu Masalah) and (nya) refers to masalah in (menyelesaikanya), but in the previous of this sentence there (ini) as demonstrative pronoun roles as subject of this sentence. Number (58), subject of the sentence is clear (Amir) and agree with verb (tertarik), mathematics as noun and (nya) refers to mathematics in (aplikasinya). Number (60), subject of this sentences is (seseorang) and agree with verb (mengetahui) and verb (mengkritik). This sentence is really different from English, in English using impersonal pronoun (one) refers to someone or (seseorang). Number (62), Subjects of this sentence is (seseorang) and agree with verb (punya) and (nya) in (sel-selnya) seseorang. This sentence is really different from English, in English

using impersonal pronoun (one) refers to someone or (seseorang), but in Indonesia using personal pronoun (seseorang) and possessive pronoun (nya) to make agreement.

## CONCLUSION

Constructive analysis on English and Indonesia noun subject and verb agreement in the sentences. From above discussion the authors conclude that noun subject and verb agreement in English and Indonesia is different. In English, noun subject must agree with verb based on first, second, third plural and singular subject. In English has tenses such sentences number (1), (3), (5), (7), (9), (11), (13), (15), (17) using verbs (am), (are), and (is) as simple present tense and number (19), (21), (23), (25), (27), (29), and (31) using verb (was) and (were) as simple past tense, but Indonesia does not have tenses. On the other hand, in Indonesia all subjects such as first, second, third plural or singular subject must agree with verb without additional inflection. In English need additional inflection based on tenses such as verb number; (33) his knowledge agrees with verb (aids), (35) all trade agrees with verb (was suspended) and (37) the of honor agrees with verb (was seated) which verb suspended and seated are added by inflection (ed) to tell about simple past tense. (39) the ambassador agrees with verb (invites), (41) (were), (43) (need), (45) (arrived), (47), (49), (51), (53) (are coming), (55), (59), (61), Number (33) and (39) verb (aids) and (invites) using inflection 's' that tells about third person singular subjects of simple present tense. Number (35), (37), and (57) verbs (suspended), (seated), and (interested) using inflection 'ed' that tells about simple past tense. Number (53), verb (coming) using inflection 'ing' that tells about the event in progress as simple present progressive tense.

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