

COMPARATIVE FORMS OF ADJECTIVES BY AFFIX COMBINATIONS *UM-AN* IN TOBA BATAK

Esron Ambarita

Fakultas Sastra Universitas Methodist Indonesia, Medan, Indonesia

Email: esronambarita@gmail.com

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.46880/methoda.Vol12No1.pp15-23>

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this paper are to investigate the formation of complex words that have more than one affix i.e comparative forms of adjectives by affix combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak. The results show that inflectional comparative forms of adjectives by affix combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak result in various morphological and phonological processes as follows: (1) if affix combinations [um-an] is attached to adjectives preceded by vowels [a], [e], [i], [o], and [u], affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [umm-an] sound with double [m]. (2) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b], affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [ub-an] sound as its allomorph. (3) if the initial phoneme of a base adjectives is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g], affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [uŋ-an] sound. (4) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j] affix combinations [um-an] is spelt as [un-an] sound but pronounced as [uj-an] sound. (5) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] affix combinations [um-an] does not change. (6) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n], affix combinations [um-an] is spelt and pronounced as [un-an] sound. (7) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p], affix combinations [um-an] is spelt as [um-an] sound but pronounced as [up-an] sound. (8) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r], affix combinations [um-an] is spelt and pronounced as [ur-an] sound. (9) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s], affix combinations [um-an] is spelt as [un-an] sound but pronounced as [us-an] sound. (10) if the initial phoneme of a base adjective is an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t], affix combinations [um-an] is spelt as [un-an] sound but pronounced as [ut-an] sound. The stress of the adjectives attached with affix combinations [um-an] is put in the final syllable, i.e. in [-an] of the modified words.

Keyword: *Comparative Forms, Affix Combinations, Adjectives, Inflectional.*

ABSTRAK

Tujuan penulisan artikel ini adalah untuk mengetahui pembentukan kata-kata kompleks yang terdiri atas lebih dari satu afiks yaitu bentuk komparatif ajektiva dengan menggunakan kombinasi afiks [um-an] dalam bahasa Batak Toba. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa bentuk komparatif ajektiva dengan menggunakan kombinasi afiks [um-an] dalam bahasa Batak Toba mengalami proses morfologi dan proses fonologi sebagai berikut ini: (1) apabila kombinasi afiks [um-an] diimbuhkan ke ajektiva yang fonem awalnya vokal [a], [e], [i], [o], dan [u], kombinasi afiks [um-an] diucapkan sebagai bunyi [umm-an]; (2) apabila kombinasi afiks [um-an] diimbuhkan ke ajektiva yang fonem awalnya konsonan bersuara plosif bilabial [b] kombinasi afiks [um-an] diujarkan sebagai bunyi [ub-an] sebagai alomorfnya; (3) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan

bersuara plosif velar [g], kombinasi afiks [um-an] diujarkan sebagai bunyi [uŋ-an]; (4) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan bersuara afrikat alveolar palato [j], kombinasi afiks [um-an] diujarkan sebagai bunyi [un-an] tetapi diujarkan sebagai bunyi [uj-an]; (5) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan bersuara nasal bilabial [m], kombinasi afiks [um-an] tidak berubah; (6) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan bersuara nasal alveolar [n], kombinasi afiks [um-an] dieja dan diujarkan sebagai bunyi [un-an]; (7) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan tidak bersuara plosif bilabial [p], kombinasi afiks [um-an] dieja sebagai bunyi [um-an] tetapi diujarkan sebagai bunyi [up-an]; (8) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan bersuara rol alveolar [r], kombinasi afiks [um-an] dieja dan diujarkan sebagai bunyi [ur-an]; (9) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan tidak bersuara frikatif alveolar [s], kombinasi afiks [um-an] dieja sebagai bunyi [un-an] tetapi diujarkan sebagai bunyi [us-an]; (10) apabila fonem awal bentuk dasar ajektiva konsonan tidak bersuara plosif alveolar [t], kombinasi afiks [um-an] dieja sebagai bunyi [un-an] tetapi diujarkan sebagai bunyi [ut-an]. Tekanan suku kata ajektiva yang diimbuhkan dengan kombinasi afiks [um-an] berada pada suku kata terakhir yaitu pada suku kata [-an] kata jadian tersebut.

Kata Kunci: *Bentuk Komparatif, Kombinasi Afiks, Ajektiva, Infleksional.*

INTRODUCTION

There are around 6.912 languages in the world (Ethnologue, 2015). Indonesia has 742 regional languages which place Indonesia as the second country that possess the most languages after Papua New Guinean. All of the regional languages in Indonesia which have functions as regional identities and as communication tools among the ethnic members are protected by constitutions because they are the richness of Indonesian culture. Besides, they have a role as introductory language in elementary schools in particular areas in the archipelago.

One of the regional languages in Indonesia is Toba Batak. It belongs to Austronesian. The original homeland of the speakers of Toba Batak is located around Lake Toba. In the heart of the Batak territory lies Samosir island and on the northwest bank of Lake Toba, stands Mount Pusuk Buhit which the Toba Batak believe marks the point of origin of all the Batak people. The speakers of Toba Batak are mostly settle in North Sumatra exactly in *Tano Batak* 'Batak Land'. According to *Summer Institute of Linguistics* (2001) there are 5.150.000 Toba Batak speakers.

Toba Batak as a regional language becomes the topic under discussion in this study. The central issue in this study is comparative forms of adjectives by *affix combinations* [um-an] in Toba Batak. The present study is concerned with

all issues of affix combinations beyond inflectional affixes. Adjectives can be modified to form degrees of comparisons. Adjectives have attributive and predicative functions (Nababan, 1981). To modify means to change; an adjective modifies a pronoun or noun by describing or limiting or making it more spesific. That is to say, adjective is a word that modifies a pronoun or noun following it (Houghton, 1984).

Some characteristics of adjectives in Toba Batak are that they can be preceded by intensifiers *mansai* [massaI] 'very' *tung* [tuŋ] 'very', and *lam* [lAm] 'get like as indicated by the adjectives' (Sitorus, 1986). According to (Ambarita, 2018) there are seven affixes that can be attached to adjectives in Toba Batak, *i.e.* prefix [um-], infix [-um-], suffix [-an], four affix combinations, they are, [mars-i], [ha-assa], [ma-hu], and [sa-full adjective reduplication-na]. The results of attaching affixes to adjectives in Toba Batak are inflectional because the presence of the affixes do not change the word class of the new words (Ambarita, 2016).

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The analysis of any language, phonological and distributional data are relevant in establishing the limits of morphological unit (Nida, 1949). Ambarita found that adjectives in Toba Batak can be reduplicated in various forms,

they are, full reduplication, partial reduplication using prefix, partial reduplication using infix, partial reduplication using suffix, and partial reduplication using affix combinations (Ambarita, 2017). The attachment of suffix [-an] to base forms of adjectives does not consider the initial phonemes of the base adjectives as those when attaching prefix [um-] (Ambarita, 2021a). Superlative forms of adjectives by article *na* + prefix *um-* in Toba Batak, for example, is constructed without considering the numbers of syllables of the base forms of the adjectives as those in English (Ambarita, 2021b).

According to (Quirk, 1985) there are four criteria for adjectives to be considered, they are:

1. They can freely occur in attributive function, that is, they can premodify a noun, especially between the determiner and the head of a noun phrase. For instance, an *interesting* film, a *good* book, etc.
2. They can freely occur in predicative function, that is, they can function as a subject complement and object complement.
For example: The car is very *expensive*.
3. They can be premodified by the intensifier adverbs like *extremely*, *very*, and *so*. For example: The cake is *very sweet*.
4. They can take comparative and superlative forms. The comparison can be formulated by means of the inflections (-*er* and -*est*) or by the addition of the premodifier *more* and *most*.
(a) The road is *cleaner* now.
(b) She is the *most beautiful* girl I know.

Houghton (1984) states to make comparison in English correctly, there are some rules to be considered as in the followings:

1. Add the suffix -*est* to form the superlative of modifiers with one or two syllables. In some cases, to form the superlative form correctly, you must change a final *y* to *i*.
- tall → taller → tallest
- busy → busier → busiest
2. Use *most* to show the superlative forms with three-syllable words.
- interesting → more interesting
→ most interesting

3. Use *least* to form the superlative forms of comparison showing less.
- hopeless → less hopeless
→ least hopeless

4. Avoid double comparisons. Use either the word *most* or else the appropriate suffix. Do not combine the two.

Incorrect comparison:

Joice is *the most cleverest* of all.

Correct comparison:

Joice is *the cleverest* of all.

5. Avoid incomplete comparisons by clearly indicating the things being compared.

Incomplete comparison:

Louise is *the dilligent* students in his class.

Complete comparison:

Louise is *the most dilligent* students in his class.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The formations of comparative forms of adjectives by affix combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak will undergo morphological and phonological processes. The stress of the adjectives attached with affix combinations [um-an] is put in the final syllable, i.e. in [-an] of the modified words. Speaking of morpheme, traditionally morpheme [um-] in affix combinations [um-an] can be considered as a prefix or bound morpheme, whereas morpheme [-an] is considered as suffix or a bound morpheme. Affix combinations [um-an] functions as inflectional morpheme because it does not change the word class to which it is attached. The results and discussions are presented in the following parts.

The initial phonemes of the base forms of the adjectives are vowels

Adjectives of which the initial phonemes are vowels, such as, [a], [e], [i], [o], and vowel [u] can be modified to form comparative degree by affix combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak. The word *asom* [asom] 'sour', for example, if attached with affix combinations [um-an] will be [um-an] + *asom* → *ummasoman* [ummasoman] 'sourer'. As the result of affixation process, that is, by attaching affix combinations [um-an] to base adjective *arga*,

morphological process occurs to the base adjective. The attachment of affix combination [um-an] to the base form brings about combination or addition to the two elements.

In the example above, phoneme [m] which is added before the base form of adjective *arga* is called nasalization, that is, a process by adding or placing a nasal to the base form according to

the neighboring phoneme. In short, it can be said that if affix combinations [um-an] is attached to adjectives preceded by vowel sound, phoneme [m] is doubled. Thus, affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [umm-an] with doubled [m] instead of as [um-an] sound. The same word formations also occur to the following words.

Table 1. Comparative Forms of Adjectives Initiated by Vowels

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	asi	pity	ummasian	[ummmasian]	pitier
2	etek	small	ummetekan	[ummetekan]	smaller
3	uli	beautiful	ummulian	[ummulian]	more beautiful

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b]

Adjectives initiated by bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b] can be modified to form comparative form by affix combinations [um-an]. Affix combinations [um-an] + *bolak* 'wide' → *umbolakan* [ubbolakan] 'wider'. Affixation process takes place to *umbolakan* brings about morphological and phonological processes to the two elements.

In the word *umbolakan* [ubbolakan], phoneme [m] is pronounced as [b] sound according to the neighboring phoneme. In other words, phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [b] sound for all adjectives preceded by bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b]. Therefore, affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [ubb-an] sound with doubled [b] instead of as [um-an] sound. Some other data are presented below.

Table 2. Comparative Forms of Adjectives Initiated by Bilabial Plosive Voiced Consonant [b]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	bagak	beautiful	umbagakan	[ubbagakan]	more beautiful
2	bottar	white	umbottar	[ubbottar]	whiter
3	benget	kind	umbenget	[ubbenget]	kinder
4	bolon	big	umbolon	[ubbolon]	bigger

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g]

The base adjective *gale* [gale] 'weak' of which the initial sound is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g] can be modified to form comparative form. The process will be affix combination [um-an] + *gale* → *umgale* [uggale] 'weaker'. Word formation of *gale* becomes comparative form *umgale* undergo morphological and phonological processes.

In the word *umgale* [uggale], phoneme [m] is pronounced as [g] sound according to the neighboring phoneme. To sum up, phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [g] sound for all adjectives preceded by velar plosive voiced consonant [g]. Affix combinations [um-an] is pronounced as [ugg-an] sound with doubled [g] instead of as [um-an] sound.

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j]

The base form of adjective *jebu* [jebu] 'passionate', for instance, if attached by affix combinations [um-an] will be [um-an] + *jebu* [jebu] 'passionate' → *unjebuan* [ujjebuan] 'more passionate'. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is changed to alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n] in spelling; it is no longer [m] sound.

Morphological process occurs in the word formation is the change of phoneme [m] of affix combination [um-an] as a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] becomes an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]. The second change is that the modified [n] is not pronounced as [n] sound, but it is pronounced as a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j]. This latter change can be considered as phonological change. Some other data are presented below.

Table 3. Comparative Forms ff Adjectives Initiated by Bilabial Plosive Voiced Consonant [b]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	jemek	short	unjeppekan	[ujjeppekan]	shorter
2	jais	impolite	unjaisan	[ujjaisan]	more impolite
3	jamot	careful	unjamot	[ujjamot]	more careful
4	jut	hopeless	unjut	[ujjut]	more hopeless

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m]

The word *mokmok* [moʔmok] 'fat', for example, if attached with affix combinations [um-an] will be [um-an] + *mokmok* → *ummokmokan* [ummokmokan] 'fatter'. There is not any phonological change in the word formation of the word *ummokmokan* [ummokmokan] as comparative form. Affix combinations [um-an] remains [um-an] both in spelling and in pronunciation and so does the word *mokmok* [moʔmok] 'fat'.

Affix combination [um-an] and the base adjective *mokmok* do not undergo any change either morphologically nor phonologically. It is because the initial phoneme of the base form of the adjective *mokmok* are homogenous nasal with that of the phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an], that is, the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m]. The same construction also occurs to other adjectives of which initiated by the same initial phoneme [m]. Some other adjectives of the same kind are listed below.

Table 4. Comparative Forms of Adjectives Initiated by Bilabial Nasal Voiced Consonant [m]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	magopo	useless	ummagopoan	[ummagopoan]	more useless
2	male	hungry	ummale	[ummalean]	hungrier
3	manat	slow	ummanat	[ummanat]	slower
4	mohop	hot	ummohop	[ummohopan]	hotter

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]

The word *neang* [neang] 'light', for instance, if attached by affix combinations [um-an] will become: [um-an] + *neang* → *unnengan* [unneangan] 'lighter'. Other example is affix combinations [um-an] + *nunut* [nunut] 'diligent'

→ *unnunutan* [unnunutan] 'more diligent'. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combinations [um-an], both in [um-an] + *neang* and in [um-an] + *nunut* is changed to an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]. In other words, the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is no longer phoneme [m], but it changes to an alveolar nasal voiced

consonant [n] as the cause of the integration between affix combinations [um-an] and the base adjectives *neang* and *nunut* of which preceded by phoneme [n].

The change that occurs in this construction is a morphological change. Hence, from the data above it can be stated that if affix combinations [um-an] is attached to adjectives preceded by an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n], phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is spelt and pronounced as [un-] sound according to the neighbouring sound [n] of the initial sound of base adjective.

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p]

Adjectives initiated by bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p] can be modified to form comparative form by affix combinations [um-an]. For example, affix combinations [um-an] + *padot* 'diligent' → *umpadotan* [uppadotan] 'more diligent'. Affixation process takes place in forming the word *umpadotan* brings about morphological and phonological processes to the two elements.

There is morphological change in forming the word *padot* [padot] 'diligent' and *poso* [poso] 'young' becomes superlative form. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combination [um-an] is phonologically pronounced as a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p]. Thus, the modified word *umpadotan* 'more diligent' is pronounced as [uppadotan] with double /p/. If *umpadotan* is pronounced as [umpadotan] it is phonologically unacceptable in standard Toba Batak.

From the data above, it can be stated that, if affix combinations [um-an] is combined with adjectives preceded by a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p], it does not change in spelling. It remains [um-]; it, however, changes in pronunciation. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combination [um-an] is pronounced as a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p]. It is exactly the same with consonant following it. Therefore, [um-] is pronounced as [up-] sound. This change is regarded as a phonological change.

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r]

The word *roa* [roa] 'ugly', for instance, if attached by affix combinations [um-an] will become: [um-an] + *roa* → *urroaan* [urroaan] 'uglier'. Other example is affix combinations [um-an] + *ringgas* [ringgas] 'diligent' → *urringgasan* [urringgasan] 'more diligent'. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combinations [um-an], both in [um-an] + *roa* [roa] and in [um-an] + *ringgas* [ringgas] is changed to an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r]. The change that occurs in this construction is a morphological change. Hence, from the data above it can be stated that if affix combinations [um-an] is attached to adjectives of which preceded by an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r], phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is spelt and pronounced as [ur-] sound according to the neighbouring sound [r] of the initial sound of base adjective.

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s]

One example of the base form of adjective preceded by an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s] is *sompit* [soppit] 'narrow'. Therefore, Affix combinations [um-an] + *sompit* → *unsompitan* [ussoppitan] 'narrower'. Both morphological and phonological change occur in the formation of the modified word. The morphological change occurs is that the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combination [um-an] is spelt as a nasal alveolar voiced consonant [n]. Phoneme [n] is pronounced as [s] sound in the word *unsompit* [ussoppitan].

Based on the data above, it can be concluded that if affix combinations [um-an] is attached to adjectives initiated by an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s], phoneme [m] of affix combinations [um-an] is spelt as [n] sound, however, pronounced as [s] sound.

Some other data of the same characteristics are presented below below.

Table 5. Comparative Forms of Adjectives Initiated by Alveolar Fricative Voiceless Consonant [s]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	sabar	patient	unsabar	[ussabaran]	more patient
2	sombu	satisfied	unsombu	[ussobbu]	more satisfied
3	senu	crazy	unsenu	[ussenu]	crazier

The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t]

The base form *tabo* [tabo] 'delicious', for instance, if attached with affix combination [um-an] will be [um-an] + *tabo* → *untaboan* [uttaboan] 'more delicious'. The first change is morphological change in which bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of affix combination [um-an] becomes an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n] in spelling. Next, the phonological change occurred is that phoneme [n] of the modified word *untaboan* [uttaboan] is pronounced as an

alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t] sound. Thus, *untibuan* is pronounced as [uttibuan] with double [t].

From the analysis above, it can be stated that if affix combination [um-an] is attached to adjectives preceded by an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t], phoneme [m] of affix combination [um-an] is spelt as [n] sound. Finally, the modified [n] sound is no longer pronounced as [n] but it is pronounced as [t] sound instead.

Table 6. Comparative Forms of Adjectives Initiated by Alveolar Plosive Voiceless Consonant [t]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	tanggo	strong	ummagopoan	[ummagopoan]	more useless
2	tangkak	clear	untangkak	[uttakkak]	clearer
3	tibu	punctual	untibu	[uttibu]	more punctual
4	tigor	straight	untigor	[uttigor]	straighter

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results and discussions above, it can be concluded that comparative forms of

adjectives by affix combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak can be summarized as in the following table:

Table 7. Summary of Affix Combinations [um-an] in Toba Batak Denoting Comparative Forms

No	Initial Phonemes of Base Adjectives	Morphological Change	Phonological Change
1	[a], [e], [i], [o], [u]	umm-an	[umm-an]
2	[b]	um-an	[ub-an]
3	[g]	um-an	[ug-an]
4	[j]	un-an	[uj-an]
5	[m]	um-an	[um-an]
6	[n]	un-an	[un-an]
7	[p]	um-an	[up-an]
8	[r]	ur-an	[ur-an]
9	[s]	un-an	[us-an]
10	[t]	un-an	[ut-an]

DAFTAR PUSTAKA

- Ambarita, E. (2016). Morphological Analysis of Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language. *METHOLANGUE Journal: Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistics and Literature*, 1(1), 9–20.
- Ambarita, E. (2017). Morphological Analysis of Adjective Reduplications in Toba Batak Language. *Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Bahasa Dan Sastra*, 2(1), 130–137. <https://doi.org/10.32696/ojs.v2i1.157>
- Ambarita, E. (2018). *Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language: A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives*.
- Ambarita, E. (2021a). Comparative Forms of Adjectives by Suffix –an in Toba Batak. *The Explora*, 7(2), 1–10.
- Ambarita, E. (2021b). Superlative Forms of Adjectives by Article Na- + Prefix um- in Toba Batak. *The Explora*, 7(3), 13–22.
- Ethnologue. (2015). *Language of the World*.
- Houghton, M. (1984). *Grammar and Composition* (First Cour). Boston: University of Texas.
- Nababan, P. W. (1981). *A grammar of Toba-Batak*. Canberra.
- Nida, E. A. (1949). *Morphology: The descriptive analysis of words*. New York: The University of Michigan Press.
- Quirk, R. (1985). *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. New York: The University of Michigan Press.
- Sitorus, M. (1986). *Sistem Kata Benda dan Kata Sifat Bahasa Batak Toba*. Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa, Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan.

AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Esron Ambarita, S.S., M.Hum. is currently the Vice Dean II in charge of finance and administration at the Faculty of Letters, Universitas Methodist Indonesia, Medan.

Besides, he is also an Editorial Board Member (Reviewer) of International Journal of English

Language Teaching and Linguistics Studies. Born on August 28, 1972 in Jorlang Hulan, a small village in Simalungun Regency, North Sumatra Province, Indonesia, he received his Bachelor Degree, Sarjana Sastra (S.S.) in English from Faculty of Letters, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (1998). He attended the program under fellowship from Beasiswa Konferensi Waligereja Indonesia (KWI) Jakarta. He was awarded an Honorary Certificate as the best alumnae. He received his Master's degree, Magister Humaniora (M.Hum.) in English from English Applied Linguistics Study Program, Universitas Negeri Medan (2010) under fellowship from Beasiswa Pendidikan Pascasarjana (BPPs) Kementerian Riset, Teknologi, dan Pendidikan Tinggi (RISTEKDIKTI). He received his Doctorate degree, Doktor (Dr.) in Linguistics from Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sumatera Utara (2018) also under fellowship from Beasiswa Pendidikan Pascasarjana (BPPs) Kementerian Riset, Teknologi, dan Pendidikan Tinggi (RISTEKDIKTI). He taught English at Logo Education Centre Medan (1997-2002); He taught English and Bahasa Indonesia (for foreigners) at Australia Centre Medan (1998-2013); Besides, he also taught English at Faculty of Letters, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (1998-2011), Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Paulus Medan (2007-2011), Faculty of Letters, Universitas Darma Agung Medan (throughout 2011), and Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (2013-2015). His skills and expertise cover Pure and Applied Linguistics, Morphology, Phonetics, Phonology, Syntax, Semantics, English Language, and Language Learning. He has also been a speaker in dozens of national and international seminars, conferences, and workshops to disseminate his prominent works. His scholarly research-related works have been published in national and international-indexed journals and proceedings. Some of his published articles are Superlative Forms of Adjectives by Article Na + Prefix um- in Toba Batak (2021), Comparative Forms of Adjectives by Suffix -an in Toba Batak (2021), Comparative Forms of Adjectives by Infix -um- in Toba Batak (2020), Denominal Nominals in Toba Batak: A Generative Transformational Study (2020), Comparative Forms of Adjectives by Prefix um- in Toba Batak (2019), Deverbal Nominals in Toba Batak Language: A Generative Transformational Study (2018), Adverbial Derivation in Toba Batak Language:

A Generative Transformational Study (2018), Nominal Word Formations in Toba Batak Language: A Study of Generative Morphology (2018), Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language: A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives (2018), Sistem Morfologi Bahasa Batak Toba: Kajian Transformasi Generatif (2018), Sociolinguistics Routines in Social Interactions in Toba Batak Language (2017), Denominal Verbs in Toba Batak Language (2017), Morphological Analysis of Adjective Reduplications in Toba Batak Language (2017), The Urgency of Linguistic Communication and Culture in Social Interactions (2017), Daftar Morfem dalam Sistem Morfologi Generatif Bahasa Batak Toba (2017), Morphological Analysis of Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language (2016), Toba Batak Language Morphological System: A Generative Transformational Study (2016), Postcolonial Identity in Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe (2015) won the Indonesian government-DIKTI research fund, Peran Aplikasi Android Google Translate terhadap Pemahaman Teks Berbahasa Inggris dan Berbahasa Indonesia (2015), Code-Switching in Politic and Law Texts of the Daily KOMPAS (2010), Degrees of Adjective Comparisons in Toba Batak Language: A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives (2003), and Degrees of Adjective Comparisons in Toba Batak Language (1998).