

## An Investigating the Use of Dixon's 'Sit' Subtype of Rest in English and Selayar Language

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### ABSTRACT

*The study was about Investigating 'sit' subtype of Rest in English and Selayar language. The objectives of the research were to investigate the Rest verbs in English and Selayar language according to sit subtype based on Dixon's theory and to identify the differences and the similarities between English and Selayar Language based on the semantic and the grammatical construction. The data about sit subtype in English was collected by using Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), and the data from Selayar language was collected by interviewing the people who use Selayar language and observation. The qualitative descriptive analysis was used to investigate the data. The study reveals that some rest verbs belong to the sit subtype. They exist; Kneel, crouch, squat, lean, hang down, float, and assemble are all forms of sitting. Furthermore, in the Selayar language shows some words that refers to sit subtype of rest. They are; toolong, akkedeng, doko'doko', toolong kabetaang, tingro-tingro, deporo', tolong jaha, akkalantu', A'lanto, A'bingkojeng, Ammenteng, a'se're, a'rupa, and assendere'. The differences between English and Selayar language that is in Selayar language some verbs using prefix a\_, it can be seen in this research. There are some words that start with prefix a\_ while in the sentence structure, they use the same grammatical construction between English and Selayar Language.*

### ARTICLE HISTORY

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### KEYWORDS

Corpus of Contemporary (COCA); Dixon's Theory; Rest Verbs; Subtype

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### 1. Introduction

English is used all around the world by using speakers of different languages; therefore, its functions a lingua franca (Rahman, 2018). In different phrases, it is used as a general approach of conversation between humans from specific nations all over the world (Sain et al., 2020; Sukmawaty et al., 2022). It is utilized in several contexts, for instance; in education, enterprise, amusement, and a lot of others. Examples, between students with distinctive nationalities, or while an Indonesian enterprise person desires to talk with his/her client from Australian, English may be used to bridge the distance between them due to the fact as long as they share one language that they apprehend, they will be able to recognize each other (Andini et al., 2021; Tahir et al., 2018).

Though English is used for people communication around the world, English also have varieties of English (Rahman & Weda, 2018). Some countries have their own variety of English (Hamuddin et al., 2023). The countries that used English are Britanian, American, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others. They have their own English. Commonly, the three main ones are American, British and Australian English (Van Ostade, 2018; Sukmawaty et al., 2022).

In general, these three countries have the same language, grammar, and vocabularies (Prihandoko et al., 2022; Sahib et al., 2021). It is also have common understanding that there are some difference among them such as the way to pronounce and the use of some words. Basically refers to same thing but in the language or word they use the different word. Such as, in American they use "Autumn" but in British they use "Fall". They have the same meaning but the different word. It causes confusing for learners of English, especially in Indonesia.

The differences between American, British, and Australian English can be problematic for us because English is a foreign language in Indonesia and the variety we are most familiar with here is American English. Since it does not fully understand which words belong to which variety, we may not always know when to use the appropriate vocabulary (Mokoginta et al., 2021). Even though the differences between American and British English are explained in Indonesian

English classes, they are not given a lot of attention. In addition, descriptions of the differences between Australian English and the other two varieties are practically absent from our English education. As a result, it is essential that Indonesian English learners are made aware of these distinctions in order for us to expand our understanding of the various varieties of English.

Beside English varieties in Indonesia also has many kinds of languages that is used by the society in Indonesia. One of them is Selayar language. Selayar is one of the regency in South Sulawesi. The speaker of the language called 'To Silajara'. Generally, they have two dialects. They are; Silajara Tanete and Silajara Palembang.

The following are some brief explanation of previous studies that are connected to the current study, such as; the first (Pratiwi, 2014) who conducted the research about frequencies and the conjugations of the verbs reject and refuse. The study's goals were to determine the collocations of the verbs refuse and reject as well as the frequency of the verbs in the corpus of contemporary American English (COCA). The corpus study was used in this quantitative and qualitative study. The study showed that the verb refuse was used more frequently than the verb reject. The frequency of rejects was 42,41 percent, while the frequency of refuses was 57,57 percent. There are many different ways to use the verbs reject and refuse. The nouns and pronouns were the collocations of the verb reject. There were three collocations shared by the verbs reject and refuse. The second (Nurhayati, 2018) conducted the study on the Wolio verb "Bawa" and the English verb "Deliver." The purpose of the study was to examine how the "deliver" verb in English and the "bawa" verb in Wolio language, as proposed by Dixon, were constructed and how "bawa" was used in various types of sentences. The descriptive qualitative method was used in this study. For the English data, the researcher obtained it from COCA or BNC, while for the Wolio data, the author obtained it from observation or an interview. The last is (Karjo, 2014) was conducted the research with the title 'Far away days' or 'Far distant days'? assessing translation acceptability in corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) and British National Corpus (BNC). The research aimed to check the acceptability of the translations of Indonesian reduplications into English, by comparing the translation with the similar expressions in COCA and BNC. The results showing the frequency of usage for these expressions will determine whether these translations are actually spoken by the speakers of English or not.

### **Rest verbs of SIT Subtype in Corpus and in Selayar Language**

Dixon in his book with the title *A Semantic Approach to English Grammar*, Dixon (2005) divides some verbs into types and analyzes them according to the construction type that is common to a particular type of verb. As a result of that, the researcher wants to compare between the word 'SIT' in a part of Rest verb based on Contemporary American English (COCA) and or British National Corpus (BNC) with Selayar Language.

Sit means adopt or be in a position where one's back is straight and one's weight is supported by one's buttocks rather than one's feet. Based on the corpus analysis, sit can be collocates with the NOUN (table, chair, bed, desk, fat, bench, couch, and seat), VERB (Stare, relax, sip, chat, hunch, slump, motion, transfix), ADJECTIVE ( still, front, fat, cross-legged, wooden, idle, motionless, rocking), and ADVERB (down, there, around, alone, quietly, across, straight, tight).

The Sit subtype, refers to a lying down position, for instance. Sit (down), stand (up), lie (down), kneel, crouch, squat, lean, hang (down), float, assemble,. The features on sit verb such us using chair, bench, floor, mat, ground and bed. In Selayar language, there are some verbs that refers to the sit verb . they are; toolong, akkedeng, doko'-doko', toolong kabetaang, tingro-tingro, deporo', tolong jaha, akkalantu', A'lanto, A'bingkojeng, Ammenteng, a'se're, a'rupa, and assendere'.

Toolong refers to sit such as on the chair, bench, floor, bed, ground and etc. doko'-doko' means sit on the floor, ground, or mat without using chair and our buttocks does not touch any features. Toolong kabetaang means sit and holding the knee without using any features. Tingro-tingro refers to lay down on the floor, mat, ground or any others. Deporo' means sit on the floor, mat or on the ground without using any features. Toolong jaha means sitting on the floor, ground or mat by crossed the legs. And the last is sendere'. It refers to lean on the wall. It can be using chair, bench, or on the floor, mat ground and bed.

Squat has similar meaning with doko'-doko' refers to assume or hold a position in which the feet support the body and the knees are bent so that the buttocks rest on the heels or close to them. Crouch has the same meaning as toolong kabetaang. It refers to Sometimes to defend oneself or to avoid detection, adopt a position with the knees bent and the upper body lowered.

Lie down has the same meaning as *tingro-tingro*. It refers to be in resting position or to lie down or be in a prostrate position for sleep or rest.

Stand up has the same meaning as *a'menteng* refers to rise one's feet. Without using any features. It can be on the floor, mat, and on the ground.

Kneels has the same meaning as *Akkalantu*. It refers to be in or assume a position where the knees or knees support the body, such as when praying or submitting.

Lean has the same meaning as *assendere'*. It means that be in a sloping position or move into one. It can be use a chair, or a bench. Float has similar meaning with *A'lanto*. It refers to rest or move on or near the surface of a liquid without sinking. It does not use any features and it can be on the water. Hang down has similar meaning with *A'bingkojeng*. It means that be suspended or suspended from above with a free lower part.

The basic Grammar of English and Selayar Language. In basic grammar, English and Selayar language have the same basic grammar, which is subject is followed by predicate, the followed by object. The structure or basic grammar in English and Selayar language. They are;

**Table 1: Grammatical construction by Dixon**

|     |                 |                               |                        |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| I   | John (Donor)    | gave a book (gift)            | To Tom (recipient)     |
| II  | John (Donor)    | gave Tom (Recipient)          | A book (Gift)          |
| IIw | John (Donor)    | supplied the army (Recipient) | with bully beef (Gift) |
| III | Tom (Recipient) | Bought a book (Gift)          | From John (Donor)      |

The purpose of this study is to investigate and expand on the construction type within Dixon's framework using data in English and Selayar. It will also try to find the phenomenon that could be related to the theory. Additionally, the goal of this study is to demonstrate how the Selayar language affects a variety of sentence structures.

**Table 2 : The construction of Selayar Language**

| Construction Type | A (Transitive Subject) | O (Transitive Object) | Peripheral     |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| I                 | Nakke                  | toolong ri kadera     | -              |
| II                | Ammak                  | la mange ri           | pasara         |
| III               | Nakke                  | riyek a               | ri pasikolaang |
| IV                | Bahinengku             | pallu i               | ri dapuru      |

Based on the explanation above, the grammar construction between English and Selayar language have the save structure. Both of the in basic grammar have Subject/Agent, Predicate and peripheral or complement.

## 2. Methodology

The researcher used a descriptive qualitative approach to compare rest verbs in English and Selayar, both in terms of their grammatical construction and meaning, using data analyzed by the researcher. Comparisons of the rest verbs in both languages were provided for descriptive purposes. This study consisted of field and library research. The researcher begins by listing the English verbs and Selayar verbs that are indicated rest before gathering information. Then, using distinct methods, the example of English and Selayar verb usage became learned.

In order to respond to the researcher's questions, the researcher employed various data analysis techniques. The techniques are; transcription was done on the collected data. The data were transcribed from the Selayar language for the first step. Using Google, the information was gathered through interviews with and observations of Selayar residents. Additionally, COCA was the source of the English data. because it doesn't need to be transcribed.

By selecting the word that related to or represented another word, the number of transcribed data was reduced. Based on the Sit subtype divided by Dixon, the reduced and chosen data were presented. Selayar language comes first, followed by English words.

Word classes and semantics were used to analyze the data. The researcher looked up the meaning of English rest verbs in the Oxford Dictionary. However, the rest of the verbs in the Selayar language was concluded by reading the word's context.

### 3. Result and Discussion

In Selayar, there are twenty eight verbs that refers to rest verbs, they are attolong, akkedeng, cengke, kedeng-kedeng, tinro, golong-golong, anggoling, ammonrang, deporo', tolong raha, tolong deporo, tolong ballo, tolong jaha, a'tolong opu, tolong sulengka, minsandere', a'kkalantu', ammoha, A'lanto, lio-lio, a'gantung, bingkojeng, a'ngambik, menteng, a'sekre, a'kumpulu, siuppa, assiruppa.

Rest refers to be supported so as to maintain a particular position. The verbs itself act as a predicate. It means that there are subject/agent and the words above are the predicate.

Based on the Selayar language data shown in finding, there are some variation shown on the language. It showed in the table

**Table 3. The Pattern of Selayar Language**

| Pattern   | Verb  |
|-----------|---|
| VP        | Cengke, attolong, akkedeng, kedeng-kedeng, tinro, golong-golong, etc.   |
| VP+ADV    | A'kkalantu, a'kumpulu, a'sekre, siuppa, assiruppa, bingkojeng, a'ngambik, etc.  |
| NP+VP+ADV | Attolong, akkedeng, cengke, kedeng-kedeng, anggoling, ammonrang, etc.   |
| ADV+VP    | Attolong, akkedeng, cengke, kedeng-kedeng, tinro, golong-golong, anggoling, ammonrang, deporo', tolong raha, tolong deporo, tolong ballo, tolong jaha, a'tolong opu, tolong sulengka, minsandere', a'kkalantu', ammoha, A'lanto, lio-lio, a'gantung, bingkojeng, a'ngambik, menteng, a'sekre, a'kumpulu, siuppa, assiruppa. |

In Selayar language, there are some variation of grammatical sentences. Adverb (ADV) can be in the first sentence and also can be at the end of the sentence. The verb phrase (VP) can be before adverb and after adverb. The prefix that usually used in Selayar language is prefix a' with emphasize the prefix before the word itself.

### 4. Conclusion

In Selayar language there some words that refer to rest verb subtype sit. It shows in this research. The words are Attolong, akkedeng, cengke, kedeng-kedeng, tinro, golong-golong, anggoling, ammonrang, deporo', tolong raha, tolong deporo, tolong ballo, tolong jaha, a'tolong opu, tolong sulengka, minsandere', a'kkalantu', ammoha, A'lanto, lio-lio, a'gantung, bingkojeng, a'ngambik, menteng, a'sekre, a'kumpulu, siuppa, assiruppa. All the words mentioned that has same meaning with sit subtype of rest verbs. The clause structure or the grammatical construction between English and Selayar language has the same variations. In selayar language, the structure variation such as; VP, VP+ADV, NP+VP+ADV, ADV+VP. Some words in Selayar can stand alone without any other words because the meaning has been understood. Some words in Selayar language use prefix a\_ before the words. In the other hand, some words that refers to sit subtype of rest are Sit (down), stand (up), lie (down), kneel, crouch, squat, lean, hang (down), float, and assemble.

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