



## HE CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH AND AMBONESE PERSONAL PRONOUN

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### *Abstract*

*The purpose of this study is to find out the difference and similarity of the English and the Ambonese personal pronouns based on those standard grammatical literary sources. Type of research descriptive qualitative research. The data were collected using observation, interview and recording of native speaker speech. The findings showed that the form of personal pronouns in English and Ambonese languages have variation based on gender. In English, variations in the use of personal pronouns based on gender are found in the use of third singular person he and she. Whereas in Ambonese language, variations in the use of personal pronoun by gender are found in the use of second singular person, abang, caca, bu and usi. The differences between English and Ambonese in their function as subjective and objective pronoun are English personal pronoun is more varied than Ambonese personal pronoun because almost all of English personal pronoun is different according to the function except you and it. Unlike the English personal pronoun, all Ambonese personal pronouns are the same between subjective and objective pronoun. Ambonese personal pronoun is also based on considerations of gender, age and politeness distinction. The similarities between English and Ambonese personal pronoun is based on considerations of gender.*

**Keywords:** *Contractive study, Ambonese personal pronoun, English personal pronoun*

### *Abstrak*

*Tujuan dari penelitian ini untuk mengetahui perbedaan dan persamaan kata ganti orang dalam bahasa Inggris dan kata ganti orang dalam bahasa Ambon berdasarkan sumber-sumber kepustakaan tata bahasa. Jenis penelitian yaitu kualitatif deskriptif. Pengumpulan data menggunakan observasi, wawancara dan rekaman pembicaraan penutur asli. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa bentuk kata ganti orang dalam bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Ambon mempunyai variasi berdasarkan jenis kelamin. Dalam bahasa Inggris, variasi penggunaan kata ganti orang berdasarkan jenis kelamin terdapat pada penggunaan kata ganti orang ketiga tunggal he dan she. Sedangkan dalam bahasa Ambon, variasi penggunaan kata ganti orang berdasarkan jenis kelamin terdapat pada penggunaan kata ganti orang kedua tunggal, abang, caca, bu dan usi. Perbedaan bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Ambon dalam fungsinya sebagai kata ganti subjektif dan objektif adalah kata ganti orang bahasa Inggris lebih variatif dibandingkan kata ganti orang bahasa Ambon karena hampir semua kata ganti orang bahasa Inggris berbeda sesuai fungsinya kecuali you dan it. Berbeda dengan kata ganti orang bahasa Inggris, semua kata ganti orang Ambon sama antara kata ganti subjektif dan objektif. Kata ganti orang Ambon juga didasarkan pada pertimbangan perbedaan jenis kelamin, umur dan kesopanan. Persamaan kata ganti orang bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Ambon didasarkan pada pertimbangan jenis kelamin.*

**Kata-kata kunci:** *Kajian kontraktif, kata ganti orang bahasa Ambon, Kata ganti orang bahasa Inggris*

## INTRODUCTION

Language serves as a crucial tool for communication within human society and its surroundings. It plays a significant role in enabling individuals to convey their thoughts and emotions. Each language possesses distinctive characteristics, functioning as an arbitrary system of vocal symbols employed by humans for communication. The fundamental element integral to language is the sentence, and it adheres to specific rules, which vary across different languages, even if they belong to the same language family. In various myths and religious beliefs worldwide, language is regarded as the origin of human life and power. For instance, in certain African cultures, a newborn is initially considered a "thing" (kintu) rather than a "person" (muntu), and it is only through the acquisition of language that the child attains full humanity. English is one important language used by people all over the world, because it is an international language.

Most Indonesians, aside from speaking the national language, are fluent in at least one of the more than 700 indigenous local languages; Javanese, Sundanese, Balinese, Buginese and Ambonese which are commonly used at home and within the local community. However, the writer feels interested to make a research about Contrastive Analysis of English and Ambonese Personal Pronoun.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Ambonese Language

The Ambonese, also referred to as South Moluccans, constitute an ethnic group in Indonesia with a

heritage that blends Austronesian and Papuan origins. Predominantly practicing Christianity or Islam, they hail from Ambon Island in the Maluku archipelago, situated east of Sulawesi and north of Timor in Indonesia. Besides Ambon Island, they reside in the southwest of Seram Island, part of the Moluccas, as well as in Java, New Guinea (particularly on the West Papua side), and various other regions across Indonesia. Notably, there is a sizable Ambonese diaspora, with approximately 35,000 individuals residing in the Netherlands. As of the 2007 census, the population of Ambonese people in Ambon, Maluku, stood at 258,331 by the end of the 20th century.

The primary language spoken on the island is Ambonese Malay, also known as the Ambonese language. This language evolved as the trade language in central Maluku and is utilized as a second language in other parts of the Maluku region. Bilingualism is prevalent in Indonesian, particularly around Ambon City. The Ambonese people are an ethnic blend of Southeast Asians and the Melanesian population of New Guinea, and they communicate using a Malayo-Polynesian language.

Ambon Language is a language classified as a family or dialect of the Malay language spoken in the Maluku Province region which includes Ambon City, Ambon Island, Lease Islands namely Saparua, Haruku and Nusalaut, as well as Buano Island, Manipa Island, Kelang Island, Seram Island and also used as a trade language or trade language in Kei, Banda, Watubela Islands, Buru Island, Southeast Maluku to Southwest Maluku.

### Ambonese Personal Pronoun

Certainly, the use of personal pronouns in Ambonese Malay reflects

typical features found in Austronesian languages. Personal pronouns often have full forms, as well as shortened or variant forms. These pronouns exhibit variations in terms of number (singular and plural) and clusivity, distinguishing between exclusive forms (excluding the addressee) and inclusive forms (including the addressee). This linguistic characteristic is common in Austronesian languages, contributing to a nuanced and context-specific communication structure. The following table provides a summary of all the pronouns found in Ambonese Malay:

Table 1  
Ambonese Personal Pronoun

		Personal pronoun	
		Subject	Object
First-person	Singular	<i>Beta</i> ( <i>bet; be</i> )	Beta
	Plural	<i>Katong</i>	<i>Katong</i>
Second-person	Singular	<i>ose</i> ( <i>os; se</i> ) <i>ale</i> ( <i>al</i> )	<i>ose</i> ( <i>os; se</i> ) <i>ale</i> ( <i>al</i> )
	Plural	<i>Kamong</i>	<i>Kamong</i>
Third-person	Singular	<i>Dia</i> <i>Ontua;</i> <i>Ongtua;</i> <i>Antua;</i> <i>Angtua</i> <i>Akang</i>	<i>Dia</i> <i>Ontua;</i> <i>Ongtua;</i> <i>Antua;</i> <i>Angtua</i> <i>Akang</i>
	Plural	<i>Dorang</i>	<i>Dorang</i>

### English Personal Pronoun

Pronouns linked to distinct grammatical persons (first, second, or third) display changes in shape influenced by factors like number, gender, case, and formality. In this context, the term "personal" pertains solely to the grammatical dimension,

as personal pronouns encompass entities beyond humans, encompassing animals and objects. These pronouns are vital in language, enriching communication by offering precision and flexibility across diverse linguistic contexts.

The utilization in certain languages of a single personal pronoun to represent a second personal pronoun with formality or social distance—often employing a second person plural to denote second person singular formal—is referred to as the T–V distinction, derived from the Latin pronouns *tu* and *vos*. Instances include the majestic plural in English and the substitution of "vous" for "tu" in French.

English personal pronouns exhibit diverse forms based on number, person, case, and natural gender. Despite Modern English being often characterized as an analytic language due to its minimal inflection of nouns or adjectives, the personal pronoun system retains some of the inflectional intricacies inherited from Old English and Middle English.

Unlike nouns, which are not inflected for case except for possession (*woman/woman's*), English personal pronouns have a number of forms, which are named according to their typical grammatical role in a sentence.

- objective (accusative) case (*me, us, etc.*), used as the object of a verb, complement of a preposition, and the subject of a verb in some

constructions. The same forms are also used as disjunctive pronouns.

- case (*I, we, etc.*), used as the subject of a verb
- subjective (nominative)

Table 2  
English Personal Pronoun

			Personal pronoun	
			Subject	Object
First-person	Singular		I	Me
	Plural		We	Us
Second-person	Singular	Standard (plural and later formal)	You	You
		Standard	You	You
	Plural	Nonstandard	<i>you all</i> <i>y'all</i> <i>youse</i> etc. (see above)	<i>you all</i> <i>y'all</i> <i>youse</i>
		Feminine	She	Her
Third-person	Singular	Masculine	he*	him*
		Neuter	It	It
	Plural		They	Them

## RESEARCH METHODS

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative research which

aims to analyze contrastively the English and Ambonese personal pronoun. The data is analyzed using descriptive qualitative method and contrastive method.

The population of this research was people of Negeri Batu Merah Ambon whose age about 20 – 40 years old while the sampling technique is accidental sampling. According to Sugiyono (2009: 85), accidental sampling is a technique of determining samples based on coincidences, ie consumers who incidentally meet with researchers can be used as samples, if it is deemed that people who happen to be met are suitable as data sources.

### Instruments

In this study, there are three instruments used as the technique of data collection. They are observation, interview and recording of native speaker speech

## DISCUSSION

### The Form of Personal Pronoun in Ambonese and English Language

In order to predict the similarities and differences Ambonese learners of English will encounter, contrasting of the English and Ambonese language, personal pronouns in this respect, is needed. To do this, the procedures for contrastive analysis are done based on the suggestion given by Brown in Pateda (2010) below:

Table 3  
The Form of Personal Pronoun in Ambonese and English Language

Pronoun			Male		Female		Neutral		
			English	Ambonese Language	English	Ambonese Language	English	Ambonese Language	
First Person	Singular	Subjective Pronoun	I	Beta Be	I	Beta Be	I	Beta Be	
		Objective Pronoun	Me	Beta Be	Me	Beta Be	Me	Beta Be	
	Plural	Subjective Pronoun	We	Katong Katorang	We	Katong Katorang	We	Katong Katorang	
		Objective Pronoun	Us	Katong Katorang	Us	Katong Katorang	Us	Katong Katorang	
Second Person	Singular	Subjective Pronoun	You	Ose Se Abang Bu Ade Bapa Tete	You	Ose Se Caca Usi Ade Mama Nene	You	Ose Se Kaka Ade	
		Objective Pronoun	You	Ose Se Abang Bu Ade Bapa Tete	You	Ose Se Caca Usi Ade Bapa Tete	You	Ose Se Kaka Ade	
	Plural	Subjective Pronoun	You	Kamong Kamorang	You	Kamong Kamorang	You	Kamong Kamorang	
		Objective Pronoun	You	Kamong Kamorang	You	Kamong Kamorang	You	Kamong Kamorang	
	Third Person	Singular	Subjective Pronoun	He It	Dia Antua Akang	She It	Dia Antua Akang	- - It	Dia Antua Akang
			Objective Pronoun	Him It	Dia Antua Akang	Her It	Dia Antua Akang	- - It	Dia Antua Akang
Plural		Subjective Pronoun	They	Dong Dorang	They	Dong Dorang	They	Dong Dorang	
		Objective Pronoun	Them	Dong Dorang	Them	Dong Dorang	The m	Dong Dorang	

The chart above shows that, there are dissimilarity and similarity of the application of English and Ambonese language personal pronouns. On the other hand, the usage of Ambonese language personal pronoun is various. Because, there are some factors which need to pay

attention to such as age, politeness distinction and gender.

### The Differences between English and Ambonese Personal Pronoun

#### a. First Singular Person

Based on the table above, we can see that there are some differences between English first singular

person and Ambonese first singular person.

- 1) The first difference is in English first singular person, subjective pronoun and objective pronoun are different. In its function as a subjective pronoun, the first singular person used is *I* while as the objective pronoun, the first singular person used is *me*. While in Ambonese language there is no difference in the use of a first singular person, whether in its function as a subjective pronoun or as an objective pronoun, both are using *beta* and *be*.
- 2) In English, the first personal pronoun does not vary as in Ambonese language. In Ambonese language, especially the one the writer found in Negeri Batu Merah, there are two first singular persons that are often used by residents, *beta* and *be*.

#### b. First Plural Person

There are some differences between first plural person in English and Ambonese language showed in the table above.

- 1) The first difference is in English first singular person, subjective pronoun and objective pronoun are different. In its function as a subjective pronoun, the first singular person used is *we* while as the objective pronoun, the first singular person used is *us*. While in Ambonese language there is no difference in the use of a first singular person, whether in its function as a

subjective pronoun or as an objective pronoun, both are using *katong* or *katorang*.

- 2) In English, the first personal pronoun does not vary as in Ambonese language. In Ambonese language, especially the one the writer found in Negeri Batu Merah, there are two first singular persons that are often used by residents, *katong* and *katorang*.

#### c. Second Singular Person

Based on the table above, we can see that there are some differences between English second singular person and Ambonese second singular person. Ambonese second singular person is more varied than English second singular person. If in English only use *you* as a second singular person, then in Ambonese language there are *ose*, *os*, *abang*, *caca*, *bu*, *usi*, *kaka* and *ade*. The use of Ambonese second singular person variations is based on considerations of gender, religion, age and politeness distinction

#### d. Second Plural Person

Based on the table above, we can see that there there are some differences between English second plural person and Ambonese second plural person.

- 1) In English, the first personal pronoun does not vary as in Ambonese language. In Ambonese language, especially
- 2) There are no considerations of age and politeness distinction in
- 3) using *you* as the second plural person in English. While there are considerations of age and politeness distinction in using

*kamong, kamorang and dong* at the second singular person in Ambonese language. Third Singular Person

e. Third Singular Person

Based on the table above, we can see that there are some differences between English third singular person and Ambonese third singular person.

- 1) The first difference is in English third singular person, subjective pronoun and objective pronoun are different. In its function as a subjective pronoun, the third singular persons used are *he* and *she* while as the objective pronoun, the third singular persons used are *him* and *her*. While in Ambonese language there is no difference in the use of a first singular person, whether in its function as a subjective pronoun or as an objective pronoun, both are using *dia* and *antua*.
- 2) In English, the first personal pronoun does not vary as in Ambonese language. In Ambonese language, especially the one I found in Negeri Batu Merah, there are two third singular persons that are often used by residents, *dia* and *antua*. The use of the word *dia* and *antua* is based on consideration of age and politeness distinction.

f. Third Plural Person

Based on the table above, we can see that there are some differences between English third plural person and Ambonese third plural person.

1. The first difference is in English third plural person, subjective pronoun and objective pronoun are different. In its function as a subjective pronoun, the third plural person used is *they* while as the objective pronoun, the third plural person used is *them*. While in Ambonese language there is no difference in the use of a first singular person, whether in its function as a subjective pronoun or as an objective pronoun, both are using *dong* and *dorang*.
2. In English, the third plural pronoun does not vary as in Ambonese language. In Ambonese language, especially the one the writer found in Negeri Batu Merah, there are two third plural persons that are often used by residents, *dong* and *dorang*.

**The Similarities between English and Ambonese Personal Pronoun**

a. First Singular Person

Based on the table above, we can see that the use of first singular person in English and Ambonese languages is not differentiated by gender. There is also no consideration of age and politeness distinction. In English, whether male or female, both use the first singular person *I* in its function as a subjective pronoun and *me* in its function as an objective pronoun. In Ambonese language, whether male or female, both use the first singular person *beta* or *be*. in their function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun.

b. First Plural Person

The table above shows us that the use of first plural person in English and Ambonese languages is not differentiated by gender. There is also no consideration of age and politeness distinction. In English, whether male or female, both use the first plural person *we* in its function as a subjective pronoun and *us* in its function as an objective pronoun. In Ambonese language, whether male or female, both use the first plural person *katong* or *katorang* in their function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun.

#### c. Second Singular Person

Based on the table above, we can see that the use of second singular person *you* in English and *ose* or *se* in Ambonese languages is not differentiated by gender. In English, whether it refers to male or female, both use the second singular person *you* in its function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun. In Ambonese language, whether it refers to male or female, both use the second person *ose* or *se* in their function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun.

#### d. Second Plural Person

The table above shows us that the use of second plural person *you* in English and *kamong* or *kamong* in Ambonese languages is not differentiated by gender. In English, whether it refers to male or female, both use the second plural person *you* in its function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun. In Ambonese language, whether it refers to male or female, both use the second person *kamong* or *kamong* in their function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun.

#### e. Third Singular Person

From the table above, we can see that the similarity of the use of third singular person in English and Ambonese language can only be found in the third singular *it* of English and *akang* of Ambonese language. Both words refer to a thing or an animal, without any consideration of gender, age and politeness distinction.

#### f. Third Plural Person

From the table above, we can see that the use of third plural person in English and Ambonese languages is not differentiated by gender. There is also no consideration of age and politeness distinction. In English, whether it refers to male or female, both use the third plural person *they* in its function as a subjective pronoun and *them* in its function as an objective pronoun. In Ambonese language, whether it refers to male or female, both use the third plural person *dong* or *dorang* in their function as subjective pronoun and objective pronoun

### CONCLUSION

The form of personal pronouns in English and Ambonese languages have variation based on gender. In English, variations in the use of personal pronouns based on gender are found in the use of third singular person *he* and *she*. Whereas in Ambonese language, variations in the use of personal pronoun by gender are found in the use of second singular person, *abang*, *caca*, *bu* and *usi*. The differences between English and Ambonese in their function as subjective and objective pronoun are English personal pronoun is more varied than Ambonese personal pronoun because almost all English personal pronoun is different



according to the function except *you* and *it*. Unlike the English personal pronoun, all Ambonese personal pronouns are the same between subjective and objective pronoun. Ambonese personal pronoun is also based on considerations of gender, age and politeness distinction. The similarities between English and Ambonese personal pronoun is based on considerations of gender. English personal pronoun use *he* and *she* while Ambonese personal pronoun uses *abang, caca, bu,* and *usi*. Kajian semantik merupakan bagian dari ilmu linguistik mempelajari tentang penggunaan makna dalam bahasa. Semantik digunakan untuk memahami bagaimana makna kata dan struktur bahasa dalam berkomunikasi. Salah satu kajian semantik yaitu gaya bahasa. Sarkasme termasuk kedalam bentuk gaya bahasa, sarkasme adalah jenis gaya berbicara yang ditujukan untuk menyindir ataupun menghina seseorang dengan penggunaan kata-kata yang kasar dan menyakiti hati. Hasil dari analisis yang telah dilakukan maka diketahui bahwa dalam lagu yang berjudul "Alay" terdapat unsur gaya bahasa sarkasme. Ditemukan terdapat 3 bait yang didalamnya terdapat majas sarkasme. Majas atau gaya bahasa sarkasme yang ditemukan yaitu, sindiran, ejekan, mengolok-olok, dan merendahkan. Kemudian diketahui bahwa makna sarkasme yang ada dalam lagu tersebut sesuai dengan realita kehidupan anak zaman sekarang yang suka nongkrong tanpa tujuan yang jelas dan ingin terlihat gaul namun tidak sesuai dengan kemampuan dirinya.

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