

## INTERJECTIONS IN BAHASA INDONESIA; FORM AND FUNCTION

Mei Hardiah  
Universitas Bengkulu  
mhardiah@unib.ac.id

### ABSTRACT

*This paper entitled “Interjection in Indonesian” deals with the form and the function of interjection in communication. This is a descriptive qualitative research which apply observation technique in collecting the data. The data are in the form of spoken and written language. The former were collected from the daily conversations in several settings while the later were taken from some sources such as dictionary, text books, novel and comics. Moreover, the writer intuitions as the native speaker is also considered. The data are, then, classified and analysed by applying distributional method and supported by delition and reverse technique. The function of interjections in communication are analysed based on pragmatics, particularity contextual approach. The result of analysis are presented informally which only used common words. There are some conclusions can be stated based on the analysis; 1) there are two basic forms of interjection namely primary and secondary interjection. In addition, there is compound form which consist of the combination of primary and secondary interjection 2) Interjections have multifunction in communication that one form of interjection can express several functions and some of interjections are used in phatic communication as a greeting to begin the communication and the strategy to change the topic of conversation.*

Keywords ; *interjection, form, function*

### INTRODUCTION

Human being is a creative creature in using language. They can express their feeling effectively through one word. Every single word, according to de Saussure (1988) is an arbitrary sign consist of signifier and signified. In other word signifier is form and signified is meaning. One word can express many meanings while one expression can be expressed in many ways. For example the word *aduh* in Bahasa Indonesian can express many meanings depends on the context of the utterance. In the first context, the speaker say it while holding his stomach and followed by *i have got stomachache*. In this context the word *aduh* is the expression of painful. The second context the word *aduh* is uttered by a student as the response when the teacher asks him to submit the assignment. In this context the meaning of word *aduh* is as the expresion of the speaker anxiety that he forget to bring the assignmnet and he will be punished by the teacher as the consequence. It will be clearer when the word is follwed by the utterance; *I forget my homework*. Those examples show that the word *aduh* can be used to express different feeling in this case pain and anxiety. On the other hand one feeling can be expressed in some ways for example when someone is surprise, the words that express his feeling can be in some forms such as *hah, apa??!, gila, masya Allah, ya ampun, oh Tuhan*, and many others.

Forms of language that express the feeling of the speakers such as those examples are called interjections. In order to emphasize the feeling such as surprised, admire, sad, disgust and many others feeling people used such kind of expression besides the main sentence. Grammatically, interjections are not related to the other part of sentence (Moeliono:2003). Kridalaksana identified interjection as the cathegory whose role is to express the speaker’s feeling and syntactically does not depend on others word in a sentence. It is an extra-sentences part that usually in the initial posistion of utterances as an independ exclamation (2005:120). This characteristic distinguishes interjection with particle in Indonesian such as *lah, dong, sih* which lexically can be put in any position of a sentence.

As a word the meaning of interjection can be found in the dictionary. However the definition usually in general that do not give more definite explanation about it. For example, in *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia* the interjection *wah* is defined as an utterance to express admire, heran, surprise, and anxiety (KBBI, 2005). Moreover there is another interjection *eh* which defined as the expression of confuse, surprised, etc (KBBI, 2005). Both interjections *wah* and *eh* can be used to express surprised, hence, there is no explanation how to differenciate these interjections in the sentence. Based on this condition, it can ce said that the meaning of interjection is not only can be interpreted lexically by consulting the dictionary. Moreover the meaning will be depend on the context of the utterance; where, when, who and to whom, and in what situation that the interjections are used. Contextual analysis will be needed in interpreting the meaning of interjections in daily life.

So far, interjections are treated as peripheral in language that do not attract attention of linguist, especially Indonesian linguists. In Indonesian, some linguists such as Kridalaksana, Ramlan, and Moeliono categorise it as function word. However, the explanation about it is restricted on its simple definition and insufficient classification of its function. A comprehensive research on the meaning, function, and the role of interjections in Indonesian is still limited

Based on this background, the writer is interested in analysing comprehensively the form and function of interjection in Bahasa Indonesia.

## METHODOLOGY

This research applies descriptive methods which is based on the reality or phenomena which empirically lived in the speakers so that the results or notes are the use of language just like a portrayal (Sudaryanto, 1988:62). The method applies in collecting the data is observation which is by observing the language in use. Next, the writer record the conversations in written or spoken in order to get the data. The techniques used is note taking in where the writer noted the use of interjections in communication and followed by orthographic transcription on the data card. Finally, the collected data are classified based on the form and function. Oral sources of the data are taken from daily conversation in campus, home, and TV program which represents the use of daily language. The written data are cited from the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, and text book entitled *Tata Bahasa Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, short stories, novel, comic, prose/poem. Then, the collected data are classified based on its category and analysed in order to get the description. In order to see the lexical behaviour of interjection, distribution method is applied and deletion and reverse technique are used. Whereas, in order to identify the function of interjection in communication pragmatic approach is applied especially contextual approach. The result of analysis is explained informally by using common word (Sudaryanto, 1993:145). The result is the answer or any findings related to the problems have been stated.

## ANALYSIS

After analyzing the data of interjection in the Indonesian language, some conclusions can be outlined as follows;

There are two forms of interjection in Bahasa Indonesia namely primary and secondary forms. Primary form is a form commonly known as non-words. This means that this form is just a short word that has no grammatical function. This form can be grouped again into the form of shouting, calling, and ask for attention.

Shouts, the form is usually used to express various feelings such as: happy, surprised, angry, disgusted, disappointed, surprised, annoyed. In other words, the form is used to express the cry of a variety of feelings experienced by speaker such as; *hey, well, ha*. The second form is the primary interjection form of solicitation. Solicitation that is the intent of the speakers ask the partners to do something that have been done or expected by the speaker. On a more relaxed situation solicitation interjection commonly used is yet to come on a more formal situation, or addressed to the person who is more respected form of solicitation interjection used is here. Calls are used to draw the attention of opponents said. This call can be both positive and negative.. Interjection examples of calls for attention; *hey, hey, uh*.

Secondary forms of interjection is words derived from another words categories. In other words, this form is a form of interjection of a class of words that can undergo affixation process, or may occupy the function of lexical classes in other words. Form the secondary interjection can be divided into three groups: a form that can undergo affixation, tense uptake of other languages such as Arabic, English, language or region, and forms of abuse.

This form of interjection is a form that can also be used as another word class. For example, the word *ouch* as stand-alone interjection, but when it gets to be a lament that has the word meaning a state. Examples of such other forms of fun and forgiveness. Interjection forms Indonesian lot of words are found uptake of other languages such as Arabic, English or regional language. In general, uptake of Arabic interjection is *tayyibah* phrases or sentences that contain elements of both the name of Allah. This is probably because most of the population of Indonesia is Muslim. In its development, even the forms of uptake of the Arabic language has become a common thing for a non-Muslim Indonesian speaker, so the call from the Arabic phrase like my God, thank God the Indonesian language has become common. Interjection from the Arabic is used to express a variety feeling of speakers such as feeling shocked, amazed, annoyed, irritated, delighted, sympathy, wonder, and deny. Here's an example that uses the

interjection from the Arabic form of uptake; *Alhamdulillah, my God, Astaghfirullah, innalillah*. besides, it is a unisex form of interjection adopted from English language. English form of this absorption can be directly absorbed form as the form *wow* that is used to express admiration and a form that is absorbed after adjusting the sound in the Indonesian language as a form of *aw ouch, horray a hurray*. Additionally abuse can also be used to show surprise, disbelief, etc.. In some situations abuse is used to demonstrate familiarity even among the participants. Forms of abuse that serves as interjection is usually a single word and monomorfemik or polimorfemik. In general, this form of abuse has referents or reference which can be animals (monkey, pig, dog, bitch), state (crazy, damn, brash), and body parts (monyong). In addition to the above forms, in this study the authors found a form of interjection in the Indonesian language which is a combination of two words. combined form is usually composed of primary forms and secondary

Interjection is an expression that represents the feeling of spontaneous expressive speakers. An interjection can be used to express a variety of speakers feeling accordance with the purpose and context of the speakers when the interjection is used. In other words, has multifunctional in the interjection of communication that can be understood by analysis of the interjection kontekstual. Selain can also play fatis function in communication between the other as a conversation starter and as a sign to change the subject.

Realization of the variety interjection generally informal, although there are some commonly used forms in formal variety. Based on place interjection is not limited to the place and time, meaning that interjection is used in all settings such as homes, schools, markets, in telephone conversations, depending on the topic. From the standpoint of the participants, interjection is also not limited by age or gender, although it is more often used by children age up to teenagers, usually girls. In addition the distance between the speakers and said opponents also play a role, as between the speakers and said opponents are not too familiar do these forms of interjection often used. The attitude of the speakers when using this interjection is usually in a tone that is not so hard, or slow depending on the purpose to be conveyed. Interjection generally used orally in the form of a dialogue between two people or more, or any form of monologue as an expression of feelings of speakers on the situation. Interjection in the written form is found in short stories or novels or comic books that are written to present an oral form. There are some specific forms of interjection commonly used in written language such as the interjection O and amboi are widely used in literature in the form of prose or poetry.

## CONCLUSION

Interjection is a part of the language used to express mental feelings of speakers. Interjection is a short phrase that independent of other lexical units and has its own meaning, its shape can be either single words or derived words. Interjection expressing a spontaneous expression of feelings, desires and thoughts of speakers on aspects of language or linguistics, or outer aspect of the language or extra-linguistics so its use predates that accompany speech and are contextbound (depending on context). Interjection used especially in informal variety of language and are not limited to the place and time. Interjection meaning can be viewed conceptually by looking at the cognitive aspects of the speakers and a pragmatic view of meaning based on context of use. In other forms of communication have multifunctional interjection interjection meaning a form can be used to express a variety of different feelings. In addition it can also occupy the interjection fatis function is used as a strategy to start a conversation or change the subject.

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## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Name : Mei Hardiah

Institution : Universitas Bengkulu

Education :

★ Undergraduate; English Letters Department, Andalas University

★ Graduate Program , Linguistics, Gadjah Mada University

Research Interest :

★ Pragmatics

★ Sociolinguistics

★ English Language Teaching