English Linguistics Theory for subtype complementary feature in comparison to Javanese Linguistics

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Javanese Language
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1. INTRODUCTION

The study of English Linguistics has emerged various theory of language development, from traditional to contemporary coverage. One of the most prominent linguists, R. M. W. Dixon even developed his theory in Linguistics by highlighting the operations of English verbs based on semantic approach (Dixon, 2019). He assumed that Semantics was an independent linguistic approach, as it should be combined with syntactic to analyse the grammar of certain language. Through his A Semantic Approach to English Grammar, he further classified verbs into Primary A and Primary B types; as well as Secondary A, Secondary B, Secondary C, and Secondary D types; with signature characteristics in their respective operations within certain clauses.

This work, in particular, highlights one of his insights on the syntactic properties of verbs that belong to Primary B types, especially the attention verbs. Attention verbs mainly focus on the use of subject's senses to perceive a certain impression. One of the attention verbs include the look-subtype. There, through a matrix, he mentioned the prohibition of the insertion of that-complement in the O slot of this subtype. The look-subtype consists of several verbs, including but not limited to “look (at),” “stare (at),” “glare (at),” “peep (at),” “squint (at),” “listen (to),” “eavesdrop (on),” “search (for),” “look (for),” “hunt (for),” “inspect,” “study,” “investigate,” “scan,” “scrutinize,” “examine,” “check,” “view,” “explore,” “survey,” and “visit.”

However, is this kind of semantic approach also acceptable in other languages, including Javanese language? As one language may have distinct features as its signature characteristics that differ it from other language, this work was embarked on the author’s belief, that the insertion of that-complement might probably happen in Javanese language's grammatical structure. To produce a clear proof on this idea, the author worked using Javanese language corpus on SEALang Library to discover a number of clauses that contained these look-subtype verbs with the insertion of that-complement in their O slots.

A previous study debunked Dixon's theory regarding the fall verbs' drop subtype (Wahidah & Yassi, 2017). With this regard, Dixon mentioned that all drop verbs, with the sole exception of “fall” verb, are used transitively, with the moving thing in the O slot. They used Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) to collect the data and found out that “fall” verb could be positioned as a transitive verb as well in the clause I fell down the slippery slope.

A study compared the construction of “deliver” verbs in English language as Dixon mentioned and the “buat” verbs in Wolio language (Nurhayati, 2019). Dixon mentioned that the verb only appeared at the construction I. Nevertheless, her study that was conducted using COCA and British National Corpus (BNC) revealed “deliver” verbs could be con-
structured in construction II. Meanwhile, in Wolio language, this type of verb appeared in two construction types that were excluded from Dixon's framework.

In particular, this work is an attempt to challenge other parts of Dixon's idea by highlighting the verbs in look-subtype, especially in regards with the disallowance of that-complement in their O slots. This study specifically referred to Javanese language as the comparison the theory of English grammar that Dixon established. The look-subtype verbs in Javanese language that would be analysed in this study consisted of various verbs, including but not limited to ndeleng (look at), mandeng (stare at), ngjinjer (peer at), mirengaken (listen to), nguping (eavesdrop), ngginjuk (peep at), nggoleki (look for), mriyos (inspect), mrikska (check), nanjih (survey), ndlaijah (explore), and mertamu (visit).

The author asserted the findings based on the data of Javanese language corpus garnered from the Southeast Asian Languages Library (SEALang Library) on the portal SEALang.net. Various findings from the corpus in various Javanese registers would be summed up as the proof to confront with Dixon's idea on the syntactic properties of look-subtype verbs, which disallowed the placement of that-complement in their O slots.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Dixon's Regarding Attention Verbs and Look-Subtype

Language consists of three main elements, including morphology, which deals with the structures of words; syntax, which deals with the combination of words; and semantics, which deals with the organization of meanings (Baron, 2013). In this case, meaning is associated with the production of phrases, clauses, and sentences. The clauses “The dog bit the postman” and “The postman bit the dog” clearly consist of same word, yet they both have distinct meanings due to the different syntactic arrangements. As language is used, meaning is both the beginning and the end point.

A further statement mentioned that verbs were classified into two subclasses, including those that require only one role as intransitive verbs and those that require two or more roles as transitive verbs. To facilitate this understanding, the abbreviatory letters that mark the verbs’ roles are required, such as S, which signifies an intransitive subject; A (transitive subject) and O (transitive object). The following instances mark this S-O-A pattern.

A. That Little Asian Girl has eaten her lunch
   A (transitive subject) O (transitive object)

B. That Little Asian Girl has eaten her lunch
   A (transitive subject)

Through his A Semantic Approach to English Grammar, he divided verbs into Primary A and Primary B types; as well as Secondary A, Secondary B, Secondary C, and Secondary D types. Each of those types have their respective subtypes and classifications. As for the instances, the Primary B types, which underlies the highlight of this study consisted of six verbs, including attention, thinking, deciding, speaking, liking, and annoying verbs. In particular, this work is focused on the discussion on the Primary B type’s attention verbs.

The attention verbs have two core roles. A Perceiver (which is human or higher animate) finds out an Impression through the use of their senses. A Perceiver is always mapped onto A and the Impression onto O syntactic relation. The Impression in attention verbs can be an NP or a complement clause. This type of verbs consists of at least seven subtypes, including the see subtype, show subtype, recognise subtype, discover subtype, witness subtype, look-subtype, and watch subtype. In a further set of operation, he elucidated the respective syntactic properties of these subtypes, as described by the following table.

The focus of this work mainly highlights his idea regarding the look-subtype. Dixon offered at least 22 examples of English verbs in this subcategory, including “look (at),” “stare (at),” “glare (at),” “peep (at),” “squint (at);” “listen (to),” “eavesdrop (on),” “search (for),” “look (for),” “hunt (for),” “inspect,” “study,” “investigate,” “scan,” “scrutinize,” “examine,” “check,” “view,” “explore,” “survey,” and “visit.”

Different from see subtype, with feel verb; he excluded the attachment of that-complement in the O slot of look-subtype. Such an example “I felt that the dough was sufficiently kneaded” was mentioned as a tactile observation. The clause places that the dough was sufficiently kneaded in the O slot. Yet, he did not mention any extension of syntactic establishment in the O slot that might contain that-complement in look-subtype overall.

2.2 Javanese Morphology

Javanese language is a member of the Austronesian language family, which is spoken in the central and eastern parts of Java. Language and culture are two different yet inseparable aspects, as language is the mirror of the culture and the identity of the speakers. Thus, culture makes possible that a certain language to have specific properties which are not owned by other languages (Harahap & Harahap, 2018).

The discussion of verbs is inseparable from the coverage of morphemes since derivational affixes may cause a change in category and meaning, but inflectional affixes never do [6]. Other perspectives mentioned that the presence of a derivational affix causes a major grammatical change, such as changing a word class into another, as if the suffix –ment in English that modifies the verb govern to be a noun government (Katamba, 2006).

Javanese verbs, based on the affixation process are classified into three types:

a. Verbs which consist of a free base that requires an affix to function as a verb, e.g. singkir (push aside) to be nyingkir;

b. Verbs which are basically free morphemes that can either stand alone or appear with affixes, e.g. lunga (go) that is attached with prefix ng- to be nglungani; and

c. Verbs which are basically bound morphemes, e.g. temu (find) that turns to be nemu after being inserted with prefix n (Wedhawati et al., 2001).

Meanwhile, the affixation in Javanese verbs consists of three process as explained below:

a. Verbs which consist of a free base that requires an affix to function as a verb, e.g. singkir (push aside) to be nyingkir;

b. Verbs which are basically free morphemes that can either stand alone or appear with affixes, e.g. lunga (go) that is attached with prefix ng- to be nglungani; and
Table 1. Syntactic Properties of Attention Verbs According to Dixon (2005)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complement Varieties allowed in O slot</th>
<th>Is O Omittable?</th>
<th>That</th>
<th>WH-</th>
<th>Modal (FOR) To</th>
<th>Judgement To</th>
<th>Ing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) SEE subtypes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>see, hear, notice</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smel, taste, feel</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>observe, perceive</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) SHOW subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>show</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) RECOGNIZE subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recognise, spot</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) DISCOVER subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>discover, find</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) WITNESS subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>witness</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f) LOOK subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look (at)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>listen (to) etc.</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g) WATCH subtype</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>watch, listen (to)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. To omitted in active, retained in passive
2. Only in the active

c. Verbs which are basically bound morphemes, e.g. temu (find) that turns to be nemu after being inserted with prefix n (Wedhawati et al., 2001).

Meanwhile, the affixation in Javanese verbs consists of three process as explained below:

a. Prefix (ater-ater), which consists of ater-ater hanussuara m-, n-, ng-, ny-; ater-ater tripurusakah-, ko-, di-; ater-ater pa + anusuara pam-, pan-, pany, pang-; as well as ater-ater a-, ma-, k-, ke-, sa-, mi-, p-, mer-, pri-, pra, tar-, kuma-, kali-, kapi-;

b. Infix (seselan), which consist of -in-, -um-, -m-, -l, -el-, -er-

c. Suffix (panambang), which consists of -a, -ne, -ipun, -i, -ni, -an, -nan, -er, -ane, -ana, -ake, -ke, aken, -ne, -na; and

c. Confix (ater-ater + panambang), which consists of n- + -a, -na, -i, -e, -ake, di + -e, -a, -i, -ne, -ake, pa + -an, -ane [9].

2.3 Javanese Registers

Javanese linguists divided the speech levels into three classes, which include krama, madya and ngoko (Poedjosoedarmo, 1968). The classes can be further classified into nine sub-levels: mudha-krama (MK), kramantara (KA), wredha-krama (WK), madhya-krama (MdK), madyan-tara (MdA), madya-ngoko (MdNg), basa-antya (BA), antya-basa (AB), and ngoko-lugu (Ngl). The sublevels have been simplified into four categories, including ngoko luqi (Ngl), ngoko alus (NgA), krama luqi (KrL), and krama alus (KrA) in the first Javanese Congress in 1991 (Wibawa et al., 2010).

The Javanese sentence has a basic structure of SVO (subject, verb, and object). The meaning of sentences is pragmatically diverse and related to subject and verb agreement (SVA). The SVA derives from non-linguistic factors (e.g. social status, ages and relationships) (Sukarno, 2010). The following instances show the different utilization of verbs due to the different social levels of their subjects, in where both are operating at the krama alus level:

a. Murid-murid saweg nedha. (The students are eating)
b. Guru-guru saweg dhahar. (The teachers are eating)

to signify whether a certain Javanese verb is either at ngoko or krama level, one can mark the use of affixes in the verb. Affixes in krama verbs include, but not limited to ater-ater dipun- as well as panambang -aken and -ipun.

2.4 SEALang Library

The SEALang Library was established in 2005. Its main portal is located online at SEALang.net. It provides language reference materials for Southeast Asia and was initially focused on the non-roman script languages used throughout the mainland. It now concentrates on the languages of insular SEA. SEALang Library resources include bilingual and monolingual dictionaries; monolingual text corpora; aligned bitext corpora; as well as the variety of tools for manipulating, searching, and displaying complex scripts.

It was developed under a collaborative effort between the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS). The team worked closely with the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) program, hosted by CSEAS on behalf of fourteen member institutions, including all the US National Resource Centers for
To avoid an interchangeable use of those conjunctions, that-complement in Javanese is contextually functioned to introduce a subordinate clause that provides additional information of the main clause. In this case, this study only stuck with the meanings of those four conjunctions, which should be perceived as that-complement despite their different registers.

3.3 Data Analysis

As for the analysis, it adopted data reduction, data display, and conclusion [13]. The reduction mainly only highlighted the relevant verbs in the look-subtype that were proven to be available for the insertion of that-complement in its O slot in certain clauses. Meanwhile, the display related to the presentation of analysis result in tables. Finally, a conclusion was produced as a further extension of the findings.
3.4 Data (iii)

Regarding the look at verbs, two verbs in Javanese language were found of having kang complement, including mirsani (mirsa + -ni) and madosi (m- + pandeng). Both of these verbs contextually mean as deliberately moving eyes toward certain objects to be in one’s view.

\[
\text{Ing jakarta, aku} \quad \text{sengit pandeng kali} \quad \text{kang ukah-ukehe buhehe coklat} \\
\text{A} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: ngoko lugu

3.4 Data (iv)

In addition to look at, mandeng can contextually mean stare at. It explains an activity of fixedly gazing, especially with wide-open eyes at certain objects.

\[
\text{Ndherehake Desri Sinta} \quad \text{mirsani palagan} \quad \text{kang lagi tinenggeran} \\
\text{A} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: krama lugu

3.5 Data (v)

Peeping refers to an activity to get a quick, cursory, often sneaky or surreptitious look at someone or something. In Javanese, it is perceived as nginguk, that is formed by ng- + inguk.

\[
\text{Sabtu 11/11/2006 esuk kelakon nyaiku nginguk adhiku} \\
\text{sing lagi ngathang-athang} \\
\text{1hat -- complement}
\]

Register: ngoko lugu

3.6 Data (vi)

Squinting means looking at someone or something with one or both eyes partly closed in an attempt to see the object clearer. Ndeleng has a close equivalence with that in Javanese. It is formed from n- + deleng.

\[
\text{Kaca iki} \quad \text{dipigunakake kanggo ndeleng kaca liya} \\
\text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: Ngoko alus

3.7 Data (vii)

This verb is best to describe an activity of assessing something in order to find out if there is any shortcomings. The formation of m- + priksa in Javanese makes it mriksa, as a verb that represents this activity.

\[
\text{Negara pangekspor} \quad \text{dikutodake mriksa idin impor} \\
\text{A} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: ngoko lugu

3.8 Data (viii)

To check means to clarify. In this context, mriksa is conceived as an activity to clarify whether something is safe, correct, or acceptable. Mriksa is established by m- + priksa.

\[
\text{Pranala kaca iki} \quad \text{kunggo mriksa kaca-kaca liya} \\
\text{A} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: ngoko lugu

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Table 2. Dixon’s Verbs of Look-subtype in Javanese Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In English Language</th>
<th>In Javanese Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Look (at)</td>
<td>Ndeleng, ndengok, ndili, ndulu, ngetksi, niginget, mandengi, mrisani, ningali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Stare (at)</td>
<td>Nginget, mandengi, mililik, nyawang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. View</td>
<td>Ndulu, mandeng, nyawang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Glare (at)</td>
<td>Mentheleng, mendeli, mloroki, mencereng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Peep (at)</td>
<td>Ngimpleng, nginguk, ngingtip, nglonog, mungup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Peer (at)</td>
<td>Nginjen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Squint (at)</td>
<td>Ndeleng, nyereng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Listen (to)</td>
<td>Midhanget, mijarsa, ngrungokake, mirengake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Eavesdrop (on)</td>
<td>Nguping, nalingan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Search (for)</td>
<td>Ngliru, nlasah, nlasari, nlengseng, nlasur, ntratus, ngubres, madosi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Look (for)</td>
<td>Nggoleki, ngilari, ngluruh, madosi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Hunt (for)</td>
<td>Mbujing, mbaru, ngoyoh, njoag, nggropyok, nguber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Inspect</td>
<td>Mirias, ninda, niti, nitipriksa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Study</td>
<td>Ngajeheke, ngansu, sianu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Investigate</td>
<td>Nkehehes, nglasar, nglari, mriksa, nylidhik, nishih, nonjih, niti, nlesih, nliko, nupiksa, ngsaut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Scan</td>
<td>Niti, nitipriksa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Scrutinize</td>
<td>Mriksa, neter, niti, nitipriksa, nilihtik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Examine</td>
<td>Nyicrih, nadasar, mriksa, neter, niti, nitipriksa, nilihtik, nundhes, nupiksa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Check</td>
<td>Nanjih, mriksa, niti, nitipriksa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Survey</td>
<td>Nanjih, mriksa, niti, nitipriksa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Explore</td>
<td>Ndlaioh, miling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Visit</td>
<td>Ndhayo, bertamu, merthayoh, ngendhongi, njuag, nglowed, nilihi, nuwi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

translating of respective lexemes, in addition to their dynamic translations in the form of clauses.

4.1 Data (i)

With this regard, ngrungokake is formed by ng- + rungu + -ake, which implies the process of a conscious listening activity and belongs to the classification of ngoko alus. The same implication is also applied to both verbs mireng and mirengaken (mireng + -aken), yet they both belong to the classification of krama alus.

\[
\text{Kang mriksani ingkang gadhah manah} \\
\text{-- complement} \\
\]

Register: krama alus

4.2 Data (ii)

In this context, madosi refers to an activity of searching that focuses more on the object being searched rather than the complement of place. This verb is formed by m- + pados + + i that indicates an active voice.

\[
\text{Bapak ngendika bilih saanten punika} \\
\text{A} \quad \text{O} \quad \text{That -- complement}
\]

Register: krama alus

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Maharani et al. / English linguistics Theory for subtype complementary feature
Based on the findings, around 36 percent of the verbs in look-subtype that (Dixon, 2005) mentioned are proven to be able to contain with that-complement in their O slots in the context of Javanese language practices recorded in the corpus of SEAlang Library. The verbs include mirengaken (listen to), madosi (look for), mandeng (look at, stare at), ndeleng (look at, squint at), mirsani (stare at), nginguk (peep at), and mriksa (inspect, check). Most of the verbs appeared in the register of ngoko lugu, reaching eight clauses; followed by krama alus, reaching three clauses; ngoko alus, reaching two clauses; and krama lugu that recorded one clause. The findings of clauses in krama alus might be due to this speech level that dominate the common utilization in the Javanese society. Meanwhile, the appearance of that-complement in the O slots of look-subtype regarding these Javanese verbs existed in the form of sing (five times), kang (five times), and ingkang (four times).

5. CONCLUSIONS

The existence of that-complement, marked by the conjuctions sing, kang, and ingkang in SEAlang Library’s Javanese corpus was commonly in the form of noun modifier of the object. The findings can be considered as the evaluation to Dixon’s idea that explicitly mentioned that no that-complement as the variety allowed in the O slot of the look-subtype verbs. So, this analysis in Javanese language had debunked his theory regarding this syntactic rule.

As an extension, even the data on COCA also recorded the direct insertion of that-complement in the clauses that contain look-subtype, as the following:

a. You have to listen to that unwavering voice that says you’re special, but it’s not.

b. Both clients were impressed by the wide professional net that decorators can cast when they look for that one part that will help a design supersede its sum.

c. If you take a look at that you will see she indeed does look nine months pregnant.

d. The lobster tank is still there in case you wish to inspect which you are about to eat.

Despite the limit of the recorded data on the corpus used as the instrument for analysis, the author still believes that there are more than these findings that can provide extension of the attachment of that-complement in this look-subtype. A more conventional data collection, such as investigation of Javanese manuscripts, might be required to complete this research. Through this effort, it is expected that the development of such a machine-based corpus or even virtual dictionary for traditional languages, especially Javanese could be developed further.

References


