

COMPOUND WORDS IN MALAY LARANTUKA

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ABSTRACT

The study explores the types of compound words in Malay Larantuka and the word classes used to form them. It was conducted in Lebao, Puken Tobi Wangin Bao Village, Larantuka Sub-district of East Flores Regency, East Nusa Tenggara. The data was collected through observation, interview, and note-taking. The study found that Malay Larantuka has endocentric and copulative compound types, and eight combinations of word classes are used to form compound words. The findings suggest further research on compound words in Malay Larantuka for local and native speakers.

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INTRODUCTION

Human life depends heavily on Language as a tool of communication. Language, according to Hornby (1995:662), is a system of communication in speech and writing used by people of a particular country. A language has both an oral and written form (or sign) and meaning. By using language, people can express their willingness, dreams, agreement, disagreement, likes, inequalities and so on. In accordance with social function, language serves as a medium of communication and interaction with one another in social lives. Language is significant since it conveys ideas or thoughts, feelings, and emotions that are meaningful to its speakers.

Many distinct languages are spoken in different parts of East Nusa Tenggara. Malay Larantuka is one of them. According to Akoli, M.Y. (2019), Malay Larantuka (ISO: 639-3) is a Malay variation which is spoken in three different places in East Flores regency of East Nusa Tenggara province, they are Larantuka town, Wure (on Adonara Island) and Konga (close to the border between East Flores and Sikka regency). This variety is spoken by around 20,000 speakers (Eberhard & Simons G. F., & Fennig, 2019) with nearly 90% of them are Roman Catholic.

Larantuka town has two main languages spoken in the area; the first is the Lamaholot language, and the second is Larantuka Malay (Bahasa Nagi). According to Paauw (2009:66), Nagi is the term that refers to the city and the ethnic group who speak the language. Larantuka Malay serves as the main language of daily life in the city and is the native language of the majority of the population. Malay Larantuka is also a language that belongs to the Austronesian language family.

Language can be studied scientifically and the science that studies language is called linguistics. Linguistics is a science of language or science that renders the language its object of study. Linguistics has several branches, and morphology is one of the linguistics branches that study about words. According to Verhaar (1984), morphology is a linguistic field that studies about grammatical

arrangement of words. The word-forming process in morphological studies consists of two derivations and compounding. This study only focuses on compound words.

Compounding is a linguistics phenomenon. Every single day, people unconsciously uses the compounding. For example, in Indonesia: *matahari* (sun), *anak panah* (arrow), *kereta api* (train), *buruk rupa* (ugly), *merah muda* (pink) and so on. According to Fabb (2001), a compound is a word that consists of two or more words. Compounds are subject to phonological and morphological processes, which may be specific to compounds or may be shared with other structures, whether derived from words or phrases. Meanwhile, Bauer (2003:40) defines a compound as the formation of a new lexeme by adjoining two or more lexemes. Furthermore, Jackson (2000:81) stated that a compound word consists of two roots and compounds in which one of the elements is complex. A compound consisting of two roots is the simplest type of compound. Edward Arnold (1990:90) has the definition of compound words, that is: "A compound word is a word which is formed from two (or more) other words and there are no clear rules for writing compounds".

There are some kinds of compound words in English, including noun compound words, verb compound words, and adjective compound words. Nouns combine with nouns, adjectives, verbs, or prepositions to make noun compound words where the rightmost words are nouns. Therefore, noun compound words include several types: noun-noun compound words (*cheekbone*), adjective-noun compound words (*blackboard*), preposition-noun compound words (*upside*), and verb-noun compound words (*washroom*). In the simplest case, a compound consists of two lexemes that are joined together (called compound numbers). Indonesian allows several types of combinations of different word classes (N: noun, A: adjective, V: verb), but not all such combinations are possible. Some examples from Indonesian are listed as follows:

- N + N *air mata* "tears" (*air + mata*)
- A + N *pecah belah* "glassware" (*pecah + belah*)
- V + N *jalan kaki* "walk" (*jalan + kaki*)
- N + V *susu kocok* "milkshake" (*susu + kocok*)
- N + A *kerja keras* "hard work" (*kerja + keras*)
- A + A *gagah berani* "brave" (*gagah + berani*)

A compound word has the function of a single word in a sentence. Compound words are different from inflectional and derivational words because in compound words, two constituents are words that exist now or existed historically and the constituents of the compound words are mostly from open-class word sets in a language.

According to Lieber (2009:48), there are two types of compounds, they are endocentric compounds and exocentric compounds. Furthermore, Kroon (2016:88) stated that besides endocentric and exocentric, there is another type of compound word called a copulative compound. **An endocentric compound** is a compound with a head and dependents, where the semantic head's meaning is a hyponym of the entire compound. In English, compound words are right-headed, while in Malay Larantuka, they are mostly left-headed, with the head appearing in front of the modifier. Examples include windmill, truck driver, and popcorn. **Exocentric compounds** are those without a headword and dependent word, denoting entities not expressed by the constituents. They are not hyponyms of either element, making their meaning difficult to discern. Examples include a pickpocket being a person, or a redhead being a person with red hair, while Copulative or Dvandva compound is a form of entity formed by combining coordinate words. It has no semantic head and no semantic head. English copulative compound words include bittersweet, sleepwalk, player-manager, secretary-treasurer, father-daughter, and mother-son. The process is limited in productivity.

Based on the word class resulting from the compounding process, compound words are divided into three, they are compound nouns or commonly said as noun headwords, compound verbs or commonly said as verb headwords, and compound adjectives or commonly said as adjective headwords (Carstairs-McCarthy 2002).

1. Compound noun

Usually, compound nouns have two parts. The first part describes the type of object, person or purpose. While the second part identifies the object or person described in the first part. Compound noun often has different or more specific meanings from the two words that compose them, for example:

a. Noun + Noun

Sun + Flower = Sunflower

Boy + Friend = Boyfriend

b. Adjective + Noun

Black + Box = Black box

Hot + Dog = Hot dog

c. Verb + Noun

Swim + Suit = Swimsuit

Surf + Board = Surfboard

d. Preposition + Noun

Under + World = Underworld

Up + Grade = Upgrade

2. Compound verb

A compound verb is a verb made up of multiple words. In the English language, compound verbs create a new word greater than the meaning of the original words. Compound verbs are sometimes written with a hyphen (like “*dry-clean*”) and a single word (like “*babysit*”). Most compound verbs consist of a noun plus a verb. However, it is possible to combine a verb with a different word class of words other than a noun, for example:

a. Verb + Verb

Test + Drive = Test-drive

Fall + Back = Fall back

b. Noun + Verb

Hair + Cut = Haircut

Rain + Drop = Raindrop

c. Adjective + Verb

Clear + Cut = Clear-cut

White + Wash = Whitewash

d. Preposition + Verb

In + Come = Income

Out + Come = Outcome

3. Compound adjective

An adjective headword is a process of a compound adjective production by adding a noun, adjective, or preposition in front of an adjective lexical category. This process will create a new word which is called an adjective compound word, for example:

a. Adjective + Adjective

Good + Looking = Good-looking

Long + Lasting = Long-lasting

b. Noun + Adjective

World + Famous = World-famous

Sun + Dry = Sundry

c. Preposition + Adjective

Over + Wide = Overwide

In + Growing = Ingrowing

Every language has its interesting characteristics. Malay language spoken in Larantuka, East Flores regency is no exception. One of the interesting characteristics is the morphological phenomenon

known as compounding. The writer is interested in studying this phenomenon in his language and would like to conduct a study under the title *Compound Words in Malay Larantuka*. The study aims to find out the types of compound words in Malay Larantuka and also the pattern of word classes used to form those compound words in Malay Larantuka.

METHOD

This research aimed to explore the linguistic phenomenon of compound words in Malay Larantuka using a qualitative method. Data was collected from native speakers in Lebao, Puken Tobi Wangin Bao village, Larantuka Sub-district of East Flores regency. The data was collected through direct communicative interaction and written form from sentences or phrases in Malay Larantuka into Indonesian. Oral data was collected through recording discussions between the informants and the writer. The data was qualitative, meaning it was meaningful in providing information about the linguistic phenomenon, particularly compound words in Malay Larantuka. The data was transcribed into sentences, analyzed to find compound words in each sentence, and translated into Indonesian and English based on lexical and grammatical meaning. The study aimed to identify the types of compound words found in Malay Larantuka. The qualitative data was valuable in providing insights into the linguistic phenomenon in the region.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. Types of Compound Words in Malay Larantuka

Based on the data collection, the writer found some compound words in Malay Larantuka that are classified into endocentric and copulative compounds.

a) Endocentric compounds

In Malay Larantuka, a compound word of this type is created by merging two distinct word classes, one of which must be a headword. Each word has a different meaning. Nevertheless, when they are put together, they produce a new lexical category of words as well as a new meaning. For example, 'Kemamu nagi'. *Kemamu nagi* is a compound word formed by combining two components. Those components are morphemes from the same or different categories, the first morpheme is *kemamu* "man" (N), and the second is *nagi* "village" (N). Both morphemes can stand alone as words because they are free morphemes. According to the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, the word "man" means an adult male human. Meanwhile, a "village" is a very small town located in a country area. The word **kemamu nagi** is considered an endocentric compound. The word **kemamu nagi** has **kemamu** as the head and **nagi** as the modifier. This combination carries a new meaning "adult male from Larantuka". Other examples of endocentric compound found by the writer are: **kemamu nagi**, **kebara nagi**, **kaju api**, **sejo dapa**, **nagi tana**, **kebara tua**, **awan bera**, **kemamu tua**, **ae masin**, **benta belakang**, **ae nae**, **keka lindo**, **rambo masa**, **ae mata**, **kelang kabo**, **mata ae**

b) Copulative compounds

This type of compound word in Malay Larantuka is constructed by combining two free morphemes. The meaning of this compound word is based on semantic relation, cannot change places and cannot be replaced by others. The meaning of this compound word can be understood if those two words are combined into a single unit. However, if we interpreted them individually then the meaning would be different. For example, the compound word *maso minta*. It has two free morphemes, they are, the word *maso* (V) "to enter" and the word *minta* (V) "to ask". The word *maso* "to enter" and *minta* "to ask" are both verbs and each of them has its own meaning.

The word *maso* “to enter” means to come or go into something, and the word *mint* “to ask” means to tell somebody that you would like them to do something (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary). In Malay Larantuka, the meaning of the compound word: **maso mint** is a *marriage proposal* or an act of formally asking somebody to marry you. Other compound words that belong to this type are : **maso mint, anta besa, angka hati, pete pata, tikam turo, beda tite, hari bae**

2. Combination of Word Classes Forming Various Compound Words In Malay Larantuka

Compound words in Malay Larantuka are formed by combining words from two similar or different word classes. Below are some patterns of compound words in Malay Larantuka along with their word classes as follows:

1. N (noun) + N (noun).

There are 10 compound words found in Malay Larantuka formed by combining words from the same word class or in this case they are formed by combining a noun and a noun. Those are: *kemamu nagi* (kemamu ‘man’+ nagi ‘village’), *kebara nagi* (kebara ‘woman’ + nagi ‘village’), *kaju api* (kaju ‘wood’ + api ‘fire’), *muka tai* (muka ‘face’ + tai ‘), *nagi tana* (nagi + tana), *tikam turo* (tikam + turo), *pohon bao* (pohon + bao), *pohon sire* (pohon + sire), *ae mata* (ae + mata), *mata ae* (mata + ae)

2. N (noun) + Adj (adjective)

There are 5 compound words under this category. They are formed from two different word classes which are a noun and an adjective, such as *kebara tua* (kebara + tua), *awan bera* (awan + bera), *kemamu tua* (kemamu + tua), *pante besa* (pante + besa), and *hari bae* (hari + bae)

3. N (noun) + V (verb)

This type of compound word is formed from two different word classes which are a noun and a verb, for example: *ae nae* (ae + nae), and *rambo masa* (rambo + masa)

4. V (verb) + V (verb)

This compound word is formed from the same word class, they are formed by combining two verbs, for example: *pete pata* Pete + pata, *maso mint* Maso + mint, *beda tite* Beda + tite

5. V (verb) + N (noun)

This compound word is created by adjoining two different word classes which are verb and noun, for example: *mati badan* Mati + badan, *angka hati* Angka + hati, *benta belakang* Benta + belakang

6. V (verb) + Adj (adjective)

This compound word is built by combining two different word classes which are verb and adjective, for example: *anta besa*: anta + besa

7. Adj (adjective) + V (verb)

This compound word is combined by adjoining adjective with a verb, for example, *keka lindo* keka + lindo, *sejo dapa* sejo + dapa

8. Adj (adjective) + (Adj) adjective

This compound word is formed from the same word class, they are formed by combining two adjectives, for example *kelang kabo* (kelang + kabo)

In conclusion, the writer found that compound words in Malay Larantuka are mostly constructed by combining verbs, nouns, and adjectives. The meaning of each combination is various based on the presence of the head word and its semantic relationship between each constituent. Not all the word classes can be combined to form a compound word in Malay Larantuka. For example the combination

between preposition **data** “top” and noun **buke** “hill”. This combination does not create a new word or a new meaning but it is a phrase with the meaning of someone or something on the top of a hill.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the data found in Lebao, Puken tobi Wangi Bao village, there are about 27 compound words have been taken. For the word class that forms up the compound words in Malay Larantuka are from (N: noun, V: verb, Adj: adjective) N + N, V + N, V + V, N + Adj, V + Adj, Adj + Adj. The types of compound words found in Malay Larantuka are a). Endocentric compounds. There are sixteen compound words categorized as endocentric compounds found in this research, they are **kemamu nagi, kebara nagi, kaju api, sejo dapa, awan bera, kebara tua, kemamu tua, nagi tana, ae nae, benta belakang, keka lindo, ae masin, ae mata, rambo masa, kelang kabo and mata ae.** b) Copulative compounds. There are eight compound words categorized as a copulative compounds found in this research, they are **pete pata, maso minta, anta besa, tikam turo, beda tite, angka hati and hari bae.** The writers believe that there are still many compound words in Malay Larantuka but only several words are taken from the data source.

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