

## A Comparative Study Between Korean and Javanese Quantifier and the Application in Sentences

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**Abstract**— A language without grammar is a body without soul. Grammar truly holds an essential part in a language. In grammar, there is one important part which is said to be quantifier. Quantifier is specific words used to count numbers of an object. Such as found in the phrases, two pages letter, three bars of chocolate, etc. Quantifier is widely used in plenty languages, yet not all languages. There are several languages which do not recognise the system of counting object using quantifier. Those languages only use substitute words having the same function as quantifier. This paper explain a comparative study between language which use quantifier (in this case Korean) and language which do not use quantifier (Javanese), yet use substitute words instead. The differences then compared in the view of how it is applied in the sentences in each language.

**Index Terms**—Korean, Javanese, Quantifier, Sentence

### I. INTRODUCTION

Quantifier is specific words used to count an object. To utter a sentence, consist of several objects (nouns) without using quantifier will be confusing for the addressee. Learning quantifier, more over for languages which has plenty kinds of quantifiers should be done seriously, because there are particular nouns which can only be used with its special quantifier. For example, for cheese, we can say three bars of mozzarella cheese, we should use bars, here we cannot use page, unit or else pile.

Comparing quantifier between two languages is not merely a simple task, indeed. The use of quantifier effects the form and meaning of a sentence, quantifier scope constitutes a perennial challenge for uncovering the relations between form and meaning (Ruys and Winter, 2007;2) In conducting this literature research, there are actually several backgrounds which become the reason why this theme is being researched. First, by comparing quantifier in those two languages, it is expected that the learners of those languages will develop a better understanding on the grammar of each language. How the two languages differ in their grammar rules, sentences structure and also how it differs in each application of the sentences.

The second background is deals with the native speaker of the Javanese. In this recent era, where the use of original Javanese language is getting shrunken little by little, Javanese native speaker should be aware to preserve this noble culture in

the form of the language itself. Nowadays, lots of Javanese native speaker get confused when someone (which is non-native speaker of Javanese) ask the about grammar rule

of Javanese. Thus, with this literature research, it is expected that those Javanese native speaker can raise their awareness. They will not only be able to use the language in their daily life, but also can share to other Javanese learners about the grammar rules, in this case, especially quantifier or words used as the substitute of the quantifier, (since Javanese do not have original form of quantifier).

The third background is deal with the Korean learners. As the fact stated that Korean has numerous quantifier form, one of the riches language in quantifier vocabulary. Since knowing all those forms is compulsory, Korean learners is expected to recognize each type of quantifier for each different object, through reading this literature research. They are also expected that they can acquire an auto-recognizing system in their mind, when they want to use quantifier in their oral and written daily languages.

All in all, one ultimate objective possessed by this paper is to familiarized and share about those two languages, so that the language learners in the whole world do not feel that those languages are too foreign and strange, ever again. As in fact that Korean and Javanese has millions of speakers, since it's not only spoken in their origin nation but also in several other foreign countries. Korean,

beside spoken in South and North Korea, it is also spoken in China, Taiwan and Hongkong since several Korean tribes live there. Thousands Korean immigrants are also live within their community in some countries such as England, USA, Australia and many more.

## II. DISCUSSION

### A. Korean

Korean, or in its original version called “한국어/한국말” (Hangukeo/Hangukmal) is a language originally created in 1443 by King Sejong. One of the brightest king in Joseon dynasty. He created that language, along with the alphabet transcription (which is known as “한글”/Hangul), as the responds of the fact happened in his nations society. It is the fact that it was too difficult for ordinary people to learn and write in Chinese. Only the aristocrat, the rich and high educated people who can learn, speak and write using Chinese, since it is the only language used in Korea in the previous era. Hangukmal or Korean has a unique style of writing. It consist of ●, | and — . The symbol of ● refers to “하늘” (haneul) means sky. The character of | refers to “사람” (saram) means people. The character of — refers to ”지구” (jigu) means earth (Jung et all, 2015;19).

Korean has 21 kinds of vocal alphabet, some are pure vocal, some others are diphthongs. Some vocal written vertically and some others written horizontally. In the other hand, Korean has 19 consonants. Consonants shape is made imitating the shape of speech organ in producing those consonants. Consonants “ㄱ” is made imitating the shape of the tongue edge which covers throats. Consonants “ㄴ” imitate tongue shape which touch the end part of upper teeth ridge. Consonants ‘ㄷ’ is made by imitating the lips shape. Consonants ‘ㅌ’ imitate teeth shape as well and the consonants of “ㅇ” imitate the throat shape in producing that sounds.

Korean has two levels of speech, the first is “높임말 “ (nubim mal) which is the honorifics form. Used for the older people, people with the higher rank and position than the speaker and for

new acquaintance. Nubim mal’s sign can be seen in every sentence ending or in certain expressions, it will always ended with 아요/ 어요 (a yo/ o yo) or 습니다 (seum ni da). The second form is “반말” (ban mal) which is non honorifics, used for the younger people, for low rank people and as the slum language. This level do not used any additional ending. For example in the apology expression, “I’m sorry”, in nubim mal it is 죄송합니다/죄송해요 (jeosong hamnida/ jeosong hae yo) or 미안합니다/미안해요(mian hamnida/ mian hae yo), but in ban mal it is 죄송/미안해 (jeosong/mianhae), (Hwa, et al, 2008;114).

Korean has a unique structure. In English and many other languages use the S-V-O form. Whereas Korean use the S-O-V form. So it is not “Sari eats chocolate bread” but “Sari chocolate bread eat” or 사리가 초콜릿 빵을 먹는다 (Sari ga chocolate ppang eul meogneunda). The other different rules possessed by Korean is the position of the preposition. Preposition of place, for instance, it is not “in the house” but “집에서” (jibe seo/ house in) (Ekasari, 2013;51).

Quantifier or in Hangukmal known as 한정 기호 (hanjong giho) is spoken in plenty fields. Quantifier, by many languages used as numeral classifier in the sentences. It is used by millions of people, from the ordinary people to do buying and selling in the market, used by the scholars to count on objects in mathematics, used by housewives to count her spending, and to the businessman to count their project budget. Below are several quantifiers which are commonly used in everyday communication in Korean.

There are several frequently used quantifiers. The quantifiers and the noun (or objects) are like couple. We must not use a quantifier with the noun which is not suitable with it, or in other words not with its couple. There is also one object which can be used along with two kinds of quantifiers. The object is “people” it can use both the word 사람 (saram) or 명(myeong).

Numbers, in Korean also has sounds shifting when it is used along with the quantifiers. The number from 1 to 10 in Korean are 하나 (hana:1),

둘 (dul:2), 셋 (set:3) 넷 (net:4), 다섯 (dasot:5), 여섯(yosot:6), 일곱(ilkop:7), 여덟(yodol:8), 아홉(ahob:9) and 열(yeol:10). Yet, if we use the number from one to four, the sounds will shift. One person, not 하나 사람, but it becomes 한 사람 (han saram) . Two people is not 둘사람, but it becomes 두 사람 (du saram). Three people is not 셋사람 but it becomes 세 사람 (se saram). Four people is not 넷사람 but it becomes 네 사람(ne saram). To say “two pages *letter*” in Korean it is 편지 두 장 (pyeonji du jang). “Jang” is the quantifier to count pages, can be used for letter, paper, newspaper or books. Whereas “pyeonji” is the Korean word for “letter”.

### B. Javanese

Javanese is language which is included into Austronesian languages together with its siblings such as Malay and Tagalog (from Philippines). (Poedjosoedarmo, without year; 24) According to several researches, Javanese exist even before Mataram Kingdom existence, it's even predicted that Javanese is already found by the archeologist on the era of Majapahit and Singosari Kingdom. What so called Javanese in that ancient era is a bit different compare to the Javanese in the era of King Agung (Sultan Agung Hanyokrokusumo) from Islamic Mataram Kingdom, which recognizes the speech honorifics level which called Ngoko, Madya and Krama. That was King Agung's great creation, which is still preserved until today on.

Before 16<sup>th</sup> century, Javanese didn't have any speech level (unggah-ungguhing basa). Speech level is "defined as language variations which the differences between one and another is determined by the difference of the speaker's and the addressee's politeness. (Poedjosoedarmo,1979:3). The development was just started in the late 1600's. What is it behind the classification of speech level? It can be seen that Javanese is greatly influenced by the Hindu culture, including the language. Languages in Hindu holy book differs the language for the high level person to show respect and to state the addressee's social rank. The ancient Javanese is getting developed more and more. Until the era of King Agung comes, where

the revolution of using the language occurred (Yuliana, 2000;5). More facts about Javanese speech level is that the use of the Javanese speech level is affected by social factors such as age, setting where the conversations take place, the purpose of the conversations and the intimate level of social distance between the speaker and the addressee. The similarities and the differences of social factors used by the speaker and the addressee can affect the intimate or distant relationship between both of them. This is realized by the speech level used by the speaker and the addressee (Septiningtyas, 2014;16)

It can be said that Javanese almost do not have any original quantifier. Despite of that fact, there are two ways in which Javanese can obtain substitute words, functioned as quantifier. The first way is by obtaining another words from Malay language (Melayu), such as found in the words lembar, gerombol etc. Those immersed words, absorbed in order to give the noun proper means to be counted. The other ways, Javanese obtain their quantifier by using neutral words to substitute quantifier. This neutral word can be used for almost all objects in Javanese. That words is "siji or iji", for example: aku duwe bolu limang iji (I have five pieces of cakes). The word "iji" can be applied not only for cake, but also books, fruit, toys, bottle and many other objects. This kind of substitute words called "universal quantifier" (Kang, without year; 21)

Sounds shifting also occur in Javanese numbers. The difference is that the numbers which sound shifted are from one (siji) to nine (songo), except for six (nem). "Siji" shifted into "sak" as seen in "a pack of chalk"= kapur sak wadah. Two packs become rong wadah, not loro wadah, then telung wadah, patang wadah, limang wadah, (nem wadah is an exception) then pitung wadah, wolung wadah and at the end, sangang wadah. For ten packs, it uses another term which is "sejinah".

### C. Comparison between Korean and Javanese quantifier

In this part, Korean sentences with quantifier will be compared with Javanese sentences with quantifier or numerical phrase. It then will be analyzed in its forms and sentences structure. These are some sentences with quantifiers:

- 1) There are two birds in my house.
- 2) My little brother ate an orange.
- 3) There are five people walk at the park.

4) The newspaper boy delivers six pages newspaper for my father.

5) Those three cars are my neighbor's.

The first sentence is: "there are two birds in my house". In Korean it is "우리 집에서 두 마리의 새가있다"(Uri jib e seo du mari ui sae gaitta). Below are the translations of each word or phrase:

1. 우리 집에서/uri jibe seo= in my house (e seo= preposition of place\_in)
2. 두 마리의/du mari ui = two (mari= quantifier, ui= particle)
3. 새/ sae= birds
4. 가있다/gaitta= determiner/ there is

Whereas in Javanese it is: "Ono manuk loro ning omahku". It can be clearly seen that "마리" (mari) used as quantifier in Korean for the object "새" (sae=birds). Unlike Javanese which directly say the object (manuk=bird) then the number (loro=two).

The second sentence is "little brother ate an orange". In Korean it is 동생이 오렌지 한 개를 먹었다 (dongsaeng I orenji hang ae reul meogeodda).

1. 동생이 (dongsaeng= little brother)
2. 이(i= particle for subject)
3. 오렌지 (orenji=orange)
4. 한(han=one)
5. 개 (gae= quantifier for fruit)
6. 를 (reul=particle for object/noun)
7. 먹었다 (meogeodda. The verb II of the word 먹다= meogda= eat).

It is clear that for the object "orange" the Korean quantifier is "gae". The number "han" is the shifted sound from the original form "hana" means one. In the other side, the sentence "little brother ate an orange" in Javanese is "adekku mangan jeruk siji". Adekku (my little brother) mangan (ate) jeruk (orange) siji (one). Again, it is proven once more that in this sentence, Javanese do not apply any form of quantifier to count the object "orange".

Sentence number three is "there are five people walk at the park". In Korean it is "공원에서 다섯 명이 걷고있다". 공원 (gongwon=park) 에서 (e

seo= preposition of place), 다섯 (daseot= five), 명(myeong= quantifier to count people), 이(i= particle for subject), 걷고있다 (geotgu itta= walk). In Javanese version, that sentence become "ono wong limo, mlaku-mlaku ning taman". Ono= there are (showing determiner to point out an existence). Wong limo= five people. Mlaku-mlaku= walk. Ning= preposition of place, at. Taman= the park. Comparing the two sentences, it can be concluded that Korean has way more complicated sentence structure than Javanese. To convey one exactly same message, Korean used four words and three particles. Javanese, on the contrary only need five words and a single preposition.

The next sentence is "the newspaper boy delivers six pages newspaper for my father", in Korean it becomes 신문 소년은 나의 아버지를위해 여섯"장" 분량의 신문을 배달한다 (sin mun sunyeon neun nau abeoji reul wi hae yosot jang bun ryang ui sin mun eul baedal handa). The transcriptions and translations are as follow:

1. 신문 소년 (sin mun sunyeon= the newspaper boy).
2. 은 (eun= particle)
3. 나의아버지 (nau abeoji= my father)
4. 를 (reul= particle for object)
5. 위해 (wi hae= for)
6. 여섯"장" (yoseot jang= five pages)
7. 분량의 (bun ryang= amount. Ui= particle)
8. 신문을 (sin mun= newspaper, eul= particle)
9. 배달한다 (bae dal handa= deliver).

In the other side, for the very same sentence, Javanese simply say "bocah tukang koran ngeterake nem lembar koran kanggo bapakku". The word "lembar" is immersed from the Malay language, dedicated to count amount of paper. The similarities between the two languages in here, number six (Korean= yoseot, Javanese= nem) do not shift their sounds. The difference is clearly seen that particles take a very compulsory part in Korean. Total five particles are used in this sentence. Javanese style tends to be straight to the point. It does not depend on the particle to complete the sentence structure. It goes directly to the main subject, to the verb, then the object and

finally to the people as object who was affected by the verb.

The last sentence is “those three cars are my neighbor’s”. In Korean it is 그 세대 자동차가 나의 옆집의 (geu se dae jadongcha ga nau i yeob jib ui). The transcriptions of each words/phrase are:

그= geu (determiner, those)

세대= se dae (three unit)

자동차= jadongcha (cars)

가= ga (particle to point out subject)

나의= nau i (possessive, my)

옆집의= yeobjib ui (neighbor’s/ belongs to my neighbor).

In Javanese, the sentence is “mobil telu iku duweke tonggoku”. It is crystal clear that Javanese version is shorter, does not involve any particle, does not involve any quantifier, as well.

From all the five sentences already analyzed above, the differences between Korean and Javanese sentence with quantifier lastly figured out. Both Korean and Javanese has their own uniqueness in each sentence. Korean is truly count on the particle’s role, to clarify position in the sentence (whether a word plays a part as subject, verb or an object). In the quantifier matter, Korean collects numerous vocabularies as kinds of quantifier. It has richer terms for every different noun, as well. In the other hand, Javanese do not regard that quantifier existence is necessary. It is certainly 180° unlike Korean. By distinguishing each of the language uniqueness, we as language learner in general can develop better understanding towards the two languages.

For a clearer understanding, below are tables of quantifier’s application in sentences used in the two languages:

No.	Sentences	Korean	Javanese
1.	There are two birds in my house.	Uri jib e seo du mari ui sae gaitta	Ono manuk loro ning omahku
2.	My little brother ate an orange.	dongsaeng i orenji han gae reul meogeodda	adekku mangan jeruk siji
3.	There are five people walk at the park.	Geongwon e seo dasot myeong i	ono wong limo, mlaku-mlaku

		geotgu itta.	ning taman
4.	The newspaper boy delivers six pages newspaper for my father.	sin mun sunyeon neun nau i abeoji reul wi hae yosot jang bun ryang ui sin mun eul baedal handa	bocah tukang koran ngeterake nem lembar koran kanggo bapakku
5.	Those three cars are my neighbor’s.	geu se dae jadongcha ga nau i yeob jib ui	mobil telu iku duweke tonggoku

Table 1: quantifier comparison in Korean and Javanese

### III. CONCLUSION

Above all explanations, it is understandable that quantifier in Korean seems to be more varied, comparing to the quantifier in Javanese. However, Javanese quantifier said to be more distinctive since it sources is coming from another language, it also derived from another type of words which is not exactly the quantifier itself, but a word which substitute the quantifier, and take its duty as a mean to count a particular object.

Comparing two different languages doesn’t always mean that it is aimed to judge which one is better than the other one. It is purposed to enrich our knowledge as language learner towards many kinds of languages in the world. Showing that even if the two languages are coming from the same continent, still they have many different characteristic and focus.

Comparing then analyzing two languages through several sentences as samples, perhaps is insufficient yet. Thus, for the future research it is better to analyze it through more complete and complex methods. Those methods can be in various types, through literature works (short stories, play script, and novel) for instance. It is expected that the result of the analysis can be broader and more comprehensive.

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**(Periodical style)**

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