

COMPARATIVE FORM OF ADJECTIVES BY PREFIX *UM-* IN TOBA BATAK

By:

Esron Ambarita

Lecturer of Faculty of Letters

Universitas Methodist Indonesia

E-mail: esronambarita@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study are to investigate comparative form of adjectives by prefix *um-* in Toba Batak. The results show that comparative form of adjectives by prefix *um-* in Toba Batak result in various morphological and phonological processes as follows: (1) if prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives preceded by vowels, the last phoneme of the prefix is doubled ([um-] → [umm-]). (2) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b], prefix [um-] is pronounced [ub-] as its allomorph. (3) if the initial phoneme is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g], prefix [um-] → [uŋ-]. (4) if the initial phoneme is a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling but [uj-] in pronunciation. (5) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m], prefix [um-] does not change. (6) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n], prefix [um-] → [un-] both in spelling and in pronunciation. (7) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p], prefix [um-] → [um-] in spelling but pronounced [up-]. (8) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r], prefix [um-] → [ur-] both in spelling and in pronunciation. (9) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling but [us-] in pronunciation. (10) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling but it is pronounced [ut-].

Keywords: comparative forms, morphological and phonological processes, adjectives

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays there are thousands of languages in the world. According to *Ethnologue: Language of the World* (2005) there are around 6.912 languages in the world. From the huge number, there are around 742 regional languages spread in Indonesian archipelago, which place Indonesia as the second country that possess the most languages after Papua New Guinea. All of the regional languages in Indonesia are protected by constitutions because they are considered as the richness of Indonesian culture.

The regional languages have functions not only as identities of regional cultures but also as communication tools among the ethnic members. Besides, they have a role as introductory language in elementary schools in particular areas in

the archipelago. Furthermore, regional languages function as stimulus towards the development of Indonesian language as a national language in Indonesia because there are a lot of borrowing words in Indonesian language adopted from vernaculars. Vice versa, Indonesian language also has contributions to regional languages because there are abundant of words derive from Indonesian language adopted by regional language. In other words the interrelationship between these languages complete one and other.

One of the regional languages in Indonesia is Toba Batak. It belongs to Austronesian. The original homeland of the speakers of Toba Batak is located around Lake Toba. In the heart of the Batak territory lies Samosir island and on the northwest bank of Lake Toba, stands

Mount Pusuk Buhit which the Toba Batak believe marks the point of origin of all the Batak people. The speakers of Toba Batak are mostly settle in North Sumatra exactly in *Tano Batak* 'Batak Land', they are, Samosir Regency, Toba Samosir Regency, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, and North Tapanuli Regency. Nowadays, Toba Batak speakers have spread to various places in Indonesia even to other countries. According to *Summer Institute of Linguistics* (2001) there are 5.150.000 Toba Batak speakers.

Toba Batak as a regional language becomes the topic under discussion in this study. The central issue in this study is comparative forms by prefix [*um-*]. In Toba Batak, comparative forms is formed by modifying adjectives. Adjective is distinguished from nouns and verbs by differeny types. Nouns have plural markers, verbs have tenses while adjectives do not have such certain markers even if they function as attributive or predicative (Nababan, 1981: 35). In other words, adjective is a word that modifies a pronoun or noun following it (Houghton, 1984: 18). To modify means to change; an adjective modifies a pronoun or noun by describing or limiting or making it more spesific.

In Toba Batak, adjectives can be preceded by the words *mansai* [massai] 'very' *tung* [tuŋ] 'very', and *lam* [lam] 'get like as indicated by the adjectives' (Sitorus, 1986: 94). According to Ambarita (2018: 81) there are seven affixes that can be attached to adjectives in Toba Batak, *i.e.* prefix [*um-*], infix [*-um-*], suffix [*-an*], four affix combinations, they are, [*marsii*], [*ha-assa*], [*ma-hu*], and [*sa-full adjective reduplication-na*]. The results of attaching affixes to adjectives in Toba Batak are inflectional because the presence of the affixes do not change the word class of the base (Ambarita, 2016: 18). The attachments of affixes to adjectives in Toba Batak result in morphological and phonological processes. According to Nida (1949: 102) the analysis of any language,

phonological and distributional data are relevant in establishing the limits of morphological unit.

Adjectives also provide the means for creating a mood or a lasting impression of a person, a place, or a thing such as *white*, *black*, *frigid*, etc. Adjectives, however, can also refer to emotional states and abstract qualities. *Innocent*, *angry*, *confusing* are some examples of such adjectives in English. Ambarita (2017: 132) found that adjectives in Toba Batak can be reduplicated in various forms, they are, full reduplication, partial reduplication using prefix, partial reduplication using infix, partial reduplication using suffix, and partial reduplication using affix combinations. According to Quirk *et al* (1985: 402) there are four criteria for adjectives to be considered, they are:

1. They can freely occur in attributive function, that is, they can premodify a noun, especially between the determiner and the head of a noun phrase. For instance, a *pretty* lady, a *round* table, etc.
2. They can freely occur in predicative function, that is, they can function as a subject complement and object complement.
For example, *The painting is very expensive.*
3. They can be premodified by the intensifier adverbs like *extremely*, *very*, and *so*. For example, *The fruit is very sour.*
4. They can take comparative and superlative forms. The comparison can be formulated by means of the inflections (*-er* and *-est*) or by the addition of the premodifier *more* and *most*.
For axample: (a) The children are *happier* now.
(b) It is the *most* expensive car I know.

Houghton (1984: 134) states to make comparison in English correctly, there some rules to be considered as in the followings:

1. Add the suffix *-er* to form the comparative and the suffix *-est* to form the superlative of modifiers with one or two syllables. In some cases, to form the comparative form correctly, you must change a final *y* to *i*.
Example: -big → bigger → biggest -funny → funnier → funniest
2. Use *more* to show the comparative forms and *most* to show the superlative forms with three-syllable words.
Example: -beautiful → more beautiful → most beautiful -attractive → more attractive → most attractive
3. Use *less* and *least* to form the comparative and superlative forms of comparison showing less.
Example: -humorous → less humorous → least humorous -hopeful → less hopeful → least hopeful
4. Avoid double comparisons. Use either the word *more* and *most* or else the appropriate suffix. Do not combine the two.
Incorrect comparison: Sarah is *more cleverer* than Alice.
Correct comparison : Sarah is *cleverer* than Alice.
5. Avoid incomplete comparisons by clearly indicating the things being compared.
Example: Incomplete : Joice is *dilligent* than Alice.
Complete : Joice is *more dilligent* than Alice.
6. Use the word *as...as* to complete a compund comparison.
Example: (a). Gorge is *as old as* Willy.
(b). Chatrine is *as tall as* Caroline.
7. Avoid making comparisons that are illogical because of missing or faulty elements or because no comparison can be made.
Illogical: Winny is writing a *thesis* that is as difficult as *Vunky*.

(Winny can write a thesis; She cannot write Vunky).

Logical: Winny is writinga *thesis* that is as difficult as *Vunky*'s.

(Winny's thesis is as difficult as Vunky's thesis).

2.FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Comparative formsby prefix [*um-*]in Toba Batak can be formulated by attaching prefix [*um-*] to the base forms of adjectives. Prefix [*um-*]undergoes morphologicaland phonological processes if it is attached to the base forms of adjectives as explained below.

1. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives are vowels, such as, [a], [e], [i], [o], and vowel [u]

Some adjectives in Toba Batak are preceded by vowels like vowels [a], [e], [i], [o], and [u]. Such adjectives can be combined with prefix [*um-*] to form comparative forms on condition that morphological process occurs in the combination.

The word *arga* [arga] `expensive', for example, if combined with prefix [*um-*]will be [*um-*] + *arga* [arga] `expensive'→*ummarga* [ummarga] `more expensive'. Other example is [*um-*] + *oto* [oto] `stupid'→*ummoto* [ummoto] 'more stupid'.Some other adjectives, of which the initial phonemes are vowels, can be seen in the followings together with their comparative forms, pronunciations, and meanings.

Table 1: comparative form of adjectives with initial phonemes are vowels

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	asi	pity	ummasi	[ummasi]	pitier
2	asom	sour	ummasom	[ummasom]	sourer
3	uli	beautiful	ummuli	[ummuli]	more beautiful

Speaking of morpheme, the word *ummuli* [ummuli] 'more beautiful' consists of two morphemes, namely, [um-] as a bound morpheme and *uli* [uli] 'beautiful' as a free morpheme. Prefix [um-] functions as inflectional morpheme because it does not change the word class to which it is attached.

If prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives preceded by vowels, the last phoneme of the prefix is doubled. In the sentence above, [um-] + *uli* → *ummuli* not **umuli*. The word *ummuli* as the integration of prefix [um-] and base form *uli* is acceptable in Toba Batak. On the contrary **umuli* is unacceptable. Other example is:

Alai ummarga dope hahipasonian hamoraon.

[alai ummarga dope hahipasonian hamoraon]

'But health is more valuable than wealth'.

According to the sentence above, there are two things compared, namely, *hahipason* [hahipason] 'health' and *hamoraon* [hamoraon] 'wealth'. Based on the sentence both *hahipason* and *hamoraon* are valuable. As a matter of fact, however, *hahipason* and *hamoraon* do not have the same value in Toba Batak culture. If the sentence is cut into two sentences, without losing its base meaning, it will be:

a. *Arga do hahipason* [arga do hahipason]. 'Health is valuable'.

b. *Arga do hamoraon* [arga do hamoraon]. 'Wealth is valuable'.

One important thing to be considered in this case is that by the word *arga* [arga] 'valuable' both in *arga do hahipason* [arga do hahipason] 'health is

valuable' and in *arga do hamoraon* [arga do hamoraon] 'health is valuable', one may not relate the value of *hahipason* and *hamoraon* with money. Speaking of morpheme within the word *ummarga* [ummarga] 'more valuable', the word *ummarga* derives from morpheme [um-] as a bound morpheme and *arga* [arga] 'valuable' as a free morpheme. Prefix [um-] gets an addition of bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] after the prefix because the base form of *arga* [arga] is preceded by a vowel, in this case vowel [a].

As the result of affixation, that is, by attaching prefix to the base form of adjective *arga* above, morphological process occurs to the base adjective. In other words, the base form change according to the neighboring phoneme. The attachment of the prefix to the base forms brings about combination or addition to the two elements. In example above, phoneme [m] which is added after prefix [um-] and before the base form of adjective *arga* is called nasalization, that is, a process by adding or placing a nasal to the base form.

In the example above, prefix [um-] is ended with phoneme [m], and the additional phoneme after the last phoneme of the prefix is also phoneme [m]. In short, it can be said that if prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives preceded by vowels, the last phoneme of the prefix is doubled. Thus, prefix [um-] → [umm-] instead of [um-].

2. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b]

Besides being preceded by vowels, adjectives in Toba Batak are also preceded by a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b].

Adjectives of this group can be constructed to form comparative forms by attaching prefix [um-] to the base adjectives without neglecting morphological change occurred as shown in the following examples. The word *bagas* [bagas] `deep', for instance, can be combined with prefix [um-] to form comparative forms. Thus, [um-] + *bagas* [bagas] `deep' → *umbagas* [ubbagas] `deeper'. Some words in Toba Batak are pronounced differently from their spellings. The word *umbagas* belongs to this criteria. In [um-] + *bagas* [bagas] `deep' → *umbagas* [ubbagas] `deeper', the word *umbagas* is not pronounced as it is spelled. It is pronounced [ubbagas] instead.

Phoneme [m] of prefix [um-] is assimilated and substituted by a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b]. Phoneme [m] of prefix [um-] is pronounced as [b] because of the influence of the consonant following it, that is, a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b] in *bagas* [bagas] `deep'.

Therefore, if prefix [um-] is attached to base adjectives of which the initial sound is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b], it is no longer pronounced [um-], but it is pronounced [ub-]. The same morphological process also occurs to other adjectives of this kind as in the following data.

Table 2: comparative form of adjectives with initial phonemes is bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b]

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	balga	big	umbalga	[ubbalga]	bigger
2	bidang	wide	umbidang	[ubbidaŋ]	wider
3	birong	black	umbirong	[ubbironŋ]	blacker
4	bongak	roud	umbongak	[ubboŋak]	prouder

From the data above, it can be seen that the attachment of prefix [um-] to base adjectives results in change to the two combination. Prefix [um-] is no longer pronounced [um-], but it is pronounced [ub-]. As the result of affixation process, the morphological process results in morphophonemic forms in which phoneme [m] of prefix [um-] change due to the phonemes following it.

The addition of prefix [um-] to the base forms, based on the data above, creates combination that changes the form of the prefix [um-] phonologically. In the data above, phoneme [m] of prefix [um-] is changed to phoneme [b]. Thus, the prefix [um-] undergoes morphological process called allomorph, that is, a variant of a morpheme according to its environment. Phoneme [m] as a nasal is changed to phoneme [b] as a plosive because they belong to the same consonant, that is, bilabial voiced consonants. In short, if

prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives preceded by a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b], prefix [um-] is pronounced [ub-] as its allomorph.

3. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g]

The adjectives of which the initial sound is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g] can be combined with prefix [um-] to form comparative forms. The base form of the adjective *gogo* [gogo] `strong', for instance, can be combined with prefix [um-] to form comparative forms. The process will be [um-] + *gogo* [gogo] `strong' → *unggogo* [uggogo] `stronger'.

Word formation of base form of adjective *gogo* [gogo] `strong' becomes comparative forms *unggogo* [uggogo] `stronger' brings about phonological change. The [m] is pronounced [g], therefore, [um-] → [ug-].

The following is a sentence which includes adjective with prefix [um-].
 Unggogo do hamatean sian hangoluan di hasiangan on.
 [uggogo do hamatean sian haŋoluan di hasiangan on]
 `Death is stronger than life in this universe'.

In the sentence above there are two things compared, they are, *hamatean* [hamatean] `death' and *hangoluan* [haŋoluan] `life'. It is said that *Unggogo do hamatean sian hangoluan di hasiangan on* because it is easy to die but it is difficult to survive to live.

4. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j]

Adjectives of this criteriacaan also be combined with prefix [um-] in Toba Batak. The base form of adjective *jebu* [jebu] `passionate', for instance, if added with prefix [um-] will be: *um- + jebu* [jebu] `passionate' → *unjebu* [ujjebu] `more passionate'. Other example is prefix [um-] + *jempek* [jeppek] `small' → *unjempek* [ujjeppek] `smaller'.

In *um- + jebu* [jebu] `passionate' → *unjebu* [ujjebu] `more passionate' and in *um- + jempek* [jeppek] `small' → *unjempek* [ujjeppek] `smaller', the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of the prefix [um-] has been changed to alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n] in spelling; it is no longer [m].

The first change occurs in this construction is morphological change, that is, the change of phoneme [m] from a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] into an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]. The second change is that the modified [n] is

not pronounced [n], but it is pronounced as a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j]. This latter change can be considered as phonological change.

5. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m]

The base forms of the adjective initiated by a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] can be integrated with prefix [um-] to form comparative forms. For instance, prefix [um-] + *manat* [manat] `careful' → *ummanat* [ummanat] `more careful'. The word *mura* [mura] `cheap' which is combined with prefix [um-], as an other example, will be: *um- + mura* [mura] → *ummura* [ummura] `cheaper'. There is not any change in the construction of the word to be comparative forms. Prefix [um-] remains [um] both in spelling and in pronunciation and so do the word *manat* [manat] `careful' and the word *mura* [mura] `cheap'.

Other example is *ummahal*. Speaking of morpheme within the word *ummahal* [ummahal] `more expensive', the word *ummahal* derives from morpheme [um-] as a bound morpheme and *mahal* [mahal] `expensive' as a free morpheme. Prefix [um-] does not undergo any changes either morphologically nor phonologically. It is because the initial phoneme of the base form of the adjective is homogenous nasal with that of the final phoneme of prefix [um-], that is, the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m].

The same construction also occurs to other adjectives of which initiated by the same initial phoneme [m]. Other adjectives of the same kind are listed below.

Table 3: comparative form of adjectives with initial phonemes is bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m].

No	Positive Forms	Gloss	Comparative Forms	Pronunciation	Gloss
1	mahal	expensive	ummahal	[ummahal]	more expensive
2	metmet	small	ummetmet	[ummeʔmet]	smaller

3	momos	strict	ummomos	[ummomos]	stricter
4	male	hungry	ummale	[ummale]	hungrier

6. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]

One example of adjective preceded by an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n] in Toba Batak is *nipis* [nipis] 'thin'. The construction of this word to form comparative forms by attaching prefix [um-] will be: *um-* + *nipis* [nipis] 'thin' → *unnipis* [unnipis] 'thinner'. The other example is *um-* + *nunut* [nunut] 'diligent' → *unnunut* [unnunut] 'more diligent'.

The only change occurs in forming either the word *unnipis* [unnipis] 'thinner' or the word *unnunut* [unnunut] 'more diligent' is morphological change, in which prefix [um-] becomes [un-]. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-] is no longer [m], but it changes to an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n] as the cause of the integration between prefix [um-] and the base forms *nipis* [nipis] 'light' and *nunut* [nunut] 'diligent'.

7. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p]

Adjectives of this kind can be constructed to form comparative forms by attaching prefix [um-]. The word *padot* [padot] 'diligent', as an example, if modified to be comparative forms by attaching prefix [um-] will be: *um-* + *padot* [padot] 'diligent' → *umpadot* [uppadot] 'more diligent'. Other example is *um-* + *pistar* [pistar] 'clever' → *umpistar* [uppistar] 'cleverer', *um-* + *poso* [poso] → *umposo* [upposo] 'younger'.

There is morphological change in forming the word *padot* [padot] 'diligent' and *poso* [poso] 'young' becomes comparative forms. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-] is phonologically pronounced as a bilabial

plosive voiceless consonant [p]. Thus, the modified word *umpadot* [uppadot] 'diligent' is pronounced [uppadot] not [umpadot] and *umposo* is pronounced [upposo] not [umposo]. If *umpadot* is pronounced [umpadot] and *umposo* is pronounced [umposo] it is phonologically unacceptable in standard Toba Batak.

From the data above, it can be stated that, if prefix [um-] is combined with adjectives preceded by a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p], it does not change in spelling. It remains [um-]; it, however, changes in pronunciation. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-] is pronounced as a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p]. It is exactly the same with consonant following it. Therefore, [um-] → [up-]. This change is regarded as a phonological change.

8. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r]

In Toba Batak, the adjectives preceded by an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r] can be combined with prefix [um-] to form comparative forms. The word *roa* [roa] 'ugly', for instance, if attached by prefix [um-] will become: *um-* + *roa* [roa] 'ugly' → *urroa* [urroa] 'uglier'. Other example is prefix *um-* + *ringgas* → [riŋgas] 'diligent' → *urringgas* [urriŋgas] 'more diligent'. The bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-], both in *um-* + *roa* [roa] and in *um-* + *ringgas* [riŋgas] 'diligent', is changed to an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r]. The change that occurs in this construction is a morphological change.

Hence, from the data above it can be stated that if prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives of which preceded by an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r], prefix [um-] changes to [ur-] both in spelling and in pronunciation.

9. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s]

One example of the base form of adjective preceded by an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s] is *sompit* [soppit] 'narrow'. Prefix [um-] + *sompit* [soppit] 'narrow' → *unsompit* [ussoppit] 'narrower'. The other example is prefix [um-] + *sangap* [saŋap] 'respectful' → *unsangap* [ussaŋap] 'more respectful'.

Both morphological and phonological change occur in the construction of the two modified words. The morphological change occurs is that the bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-] is changed to a nasal alveolar voiced consonant [n] in spelling. Phoneme [n] is pronounced [s] both in the words *unsompit* [ussoppit] and *unsangap* [ussaŋap].

Based on the data above, it can be concluded that if prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives initiated by an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s], phoneme [m] of prefix [um-] will be changed to phoneme [n] in spelling and [s] in pronunciation.

10. The initial phoneme of the base forms of the adjectives is an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t]

Adjectives in Toba Batak preceded by an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t] can be formed to be comparative forms by attaching prefix [um-] to the base forms of the adjectives. The base form *tibu* [tibu] 'early', for instance, if attached with prefix [um-] will be: *um-* + *tibu* [tibu] 'early' → *untibu* [uttibu] 'earlier'. Other example is *um-* + *timbo* [tibbo] 'tall' → *untimbo* [uttibbo] 'taller'.

There are two changes occurred in the construction of both *untibu* [uttibu] 'earlier' and *untimbo* [uttibbo] 'taller'. The first change is morphological change in which bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] of prefix [um-] becomes an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n]. Next, the phonological change occurred is that phoneme [n] in the modified words either in *untibu* or in *untimbo* is pronounced as an

alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t]. Thus, *untibu* is pronounced [uttibu] and *untimbo* is pronounced [uttibbo].

From the data above, it can be stated that if prefix [um-] is attached to adjectives preceded by an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t], prefix [um-] will be changed to [un-] in spelling. Finally, the modified [un-] is no longer pronounced as it is spelled but it is pronounced [ut-] instead.

From the discussion about prefix [um-] above, it can be concluded that the meaning of prefix [um-] denotes comparative forms. It signifies more meaning than what is indicated in the base forms of the adjectives to which the prefix is attached. The stress of adjective combined with prefix [um-] is put in the second syllable from the end of adjectives.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings and discussions above, it can be concluded that comparative form of adjectives by prefix [um-] in Toba Batak is constructed without considering the number of syllables of the base forms of adjectives as those in English. The attachments of prefix [um-] to adjectives require the following rules:

- (1) if the initial phoneme of the base adjectives are vowels, the last phoneme of prefix [um-] is doubled, therefore [um-] → [umm-].
- (2) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial plosive voiced consonant [b], prefix [um-] is pronounced as [ub-] as its allomorph.
- (3) if the initial phoneme is a velar plosive voiced consonant [g], prefix [um-] is pronounced [uŋ];
- (4) if the initial phoneme is a palato alveolar affricate voiced consonant [j], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling and [uj-] in pronunciation.
- (5) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial nasal voiced consonant [m] prefix [um-] does not change.
- (6) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar nasal voiced consonant [n], prefix [um-]

- becomes [un-] both in spelling and in pronunciation.
- (7) if the initial phoneme is a bilabial plosive voiceless consonant [p], prefix [um-] does not change in spelling, but it is pronounced [up-].
 - (8) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar rolled voiced consonant [r], prefix [um-] → [ur-] both in spelling and in pronunciation.
 - (9) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar fricative voiceless consonant [s], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling and [us-] in pronunciation.
 - (10) if the initial phoneme is an alveolar plosive voiceless consonant [t], prefix [um-] → [un-] in spelling and pronounced [ut-].

REFERENCES

Books:

Houghton, M. 1984. *Grammar and Composition*, First Course, Boston: University of Texas.

Nababan, P.W.J. 1981. *A Grammar of Toba-Batak*. Pasific Linguistics, Series D – No. 37, Department of Linguistics Research School of Pasific Studies, The Australian National University.

Nida, Eugene. 1949. *Morphology: The Descriptive Analysis of Words*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.

Quirk, Randolph *et al.* 1985. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. New York: The University of Michigan Press.

Sitorus, Matias *et al.* 1986. *Sistem Kata Benda dan Kata Sifat Bahasa Batak Toba*. Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa, Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan.

Journals:

Ambarita, Esron. 2018. *Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language: A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives*. https://uhn.ac.id/files/akademik_files/1806060434_2018_The%20Episteme%20Journal%20of%20Linguistics%20and%20Literature%20Vol%204%20No%203_1.%20ADJECTIVAL%20AFFIXATIONS%20IN%20TOBA%20BATAK%20LANGUAGE%20-%20esron.pdf. Accessed on 15 August 2019.

Ambarita, Esron. 2017. *Morphological Analysis of Adjective Reduplication in Toba Batak Language*. <http://www.umnaw.ac.id/jurnal/index.php/cccccc/article/view/157>. Accessed on 22 May 2019.

Ambarita, Esron. 2016. *Morphological Analysis of Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language*. <http://ojs.lppmmethodistmedan.net/index.php/METHOLANGUE/article/view/162>. Accessed on 13 July 2019.

Ethnologue. 2005. *Language of the World*. www.ethnologue.com/nearly_extinct.asp. Accessed on 11 July 2019.

AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Esron Ambarita, S.S., M.Hum. is currently the Vice Dean II in charge of finance and administration at the Faculty of Letters, Universitas Methodist Indonesia, Medan. Besides, he is also an Editorial Board Member (Reviewer) of International Journal of *English Language Teaching and Linguistics Studies*. Born on August 28, 1972 in Jorlanghuluan, a small village in Simalungun Regency, North Sumatra Province, Indonesia, he received his Bachelor Degree, *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.) in English from Faculty of Letters, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (1998). He attended the program under fellowship from *Beasiswa Konferensi Waligereja Indonesia* (KWI) Jakarta. He was awarded an Honorary Certificate as the best alumnae. He received his Master's degree, *Magister Humaniora* (M.Hum.) in English from English Applied Linguistics Study Program, Universitas Negeri Medan (2010) under fellowship from *Beasiswa Pendidikan Pascasarjana* (BPPs)

Kementerian Riset, Teknologi, dan Pendidikan Tinggi (RISTEKDIKTI). He received his Doctorate degree, *Doktor* (Dr.) in Linguistics from Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sumatera Utara (2018) also under fellowship from *Beasiswa Pendidikan Pascasarjana* (BPPs) *Kementerian Riset, Teknologi, dan Pendidikan Tinggi* (RISTEKDIKTI). He taught English at Logo Education Centre Medan (1997-2002); He taught English and *Bahasa Indonesia* (for foreigners) at Australia Centre Medan (1998-2013); Besides, he also taught English at Faculty of Letters, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (1998-2011), Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Paulus Medan (2007-2011), Faculty of Letters, Universitas Darma Agung Medan (throughout 2011), and Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Katolik St. Thomas Sumatera Utara (2013-2015). His skills and expertise cover Pure and Applied Linguistics, Morphology, Phonetics, Phonology, Syntax, Semantics, English Language, and Language Learning. He has also been a speaker in dozens of national and international seminars, conferences, and workshops to disseminate his prominent works. His scholarly research-related works have been published in national and international-indexed journals and proceedings. Some of his published articles are *Deverbal Nominals in Toba Batak Language: A Generative Transformational Study* (2018), *Adverbial Derivation in Toba Batak Language: A Generative Transformational Study* (2018), *Nominal Word Formations in Toba Batak Language: A Study of Generative Morphology* (2018), *Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language. A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives* (2018), *Sociolinguistics Routines in Social Interactions in Toba Batak Language* (2017), *Denominal Verbs in Toba Batak Language* (2017), *Morphological Analysis of Adjective Reduplications in Toba Batak Language* (2017), *The Urgency of Linguistic Communication and Culture in Social Interactions* (2017), *Daftar Morfem dalam Sistem Morfologi Generatif Bahasa Batak Toba* (2017), *Morphological Analysis of Adjectival Affixations in Toba Batak Language* (2016), *Toba Batak Language Morphological System: A Generative Transformational Study* (2016), *Postcolonial Identity in Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe* (2015) won the Indonesian government-DIKTI research fund, *Peran Aplikasi Android Google Translate terhadap Pemahaman Teks Berbahasa Inggris dan Berbahasa Indonesia* (2015), and *Degrees of Adjective Comparisons in Toba Batak Language: A Descriptive Analysis of Adjectives* (2003).