

POLITENESS IN USING SIMALUNGUNESE PERSONAL SUBJECT PRONOUNS

Evi Irawanti Saragih
Universitas Negeri Medan

Sri Minda Murni
Universitas Negeri Medan

Sumarsih
Universitas Negeri Medan

Abstract

This study aimed to reveal and explain politeness in using simalungunese personal subject pronouns by trying to find out the type mostly used, the way and the reason of people in Galang City using it. This study was qualitatively conducted that taken 35 people of Galang City as respondent/participant. The data was collected by using questionnaire paper. The findings of this study showed that Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns people in Galang City mostly used were First Personal Subject Pronouns *Ahu/au* with 130 times chosen (46%), Second Personal Subject Pronouns *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* with 159 times chosen (57%), Third Personal Subject Pronouns *Ia/Sidea* with 128 times chosen (46%). The ways of people in Galang City using Simalungunese Personal Subject determine by gender, Situation, Age, and Familiarity. The reason of people in Galang city using Simalungunese personal subject pronouns were making no distance/gap, adapting the situation, knowing the rule of communication, learning from family. The findings of this study revealed that four parameters of politeness influenced chosen of pronouns, and the use of Simalungunese Personal Subject pronouns itself influenced the level of politeness.

Keywords : *Politeness , Simalungunese , Personal Pronouns*

INTRODUCTION

Politeness, as well as social concept is very important to values the characteristic and someone personality. George Yule (2005:119) states that everyone can think politeness in general terms as having to do with ideas like being tactful, modest, and nice to other people. People who have good attitude are those who can accept and appreciate other cultures and languages without forgetting their origin. This can be good value in the presence of other people or countries when knowing the local language in Indonesia can't be extinct or lost because there are still many speakers who care to use.

One aspect to measure the politeness of language is using of pronouns. Local languages such as Simalungun language have pronouns. This serves to avoid misunderstanding due to mis-use of pronouns that are inconsistent with the etiquette and polite manners of the speakers. Pronouns in local language such as Simalungun language are more than the prescribed Indonesian standard; it depends on the area of usage and response received by the other person. The following types of personal pronouns here are

the most use in conversation and as the depiction of phenomena that occur in daily life of Simalungunese in Galang City:

Ho 'kamu' (You)

Ham 'kamu' (You)

Hanima 'kalian' (You)

Nassiam 'kalian' (You)

These pronouns have different functions, but sometimes have the same position. For example, pronouns *Ho* and *Ham* is use by a speaker when the other person is equal or younger than the speaker, but pronoun *Ham* also use for the person older than the speaker. Pronouns *Hanima* use by speaker when the group of people is younger, while *Nassiam* use for the group of people older than speaker.

1. *Ho domma makan siang (Have you eaten already)*

2. *Ham Kelas berapa sekarang? (What grade are you now?)*

3. *Hanima hu gerejanya? (Are you going to the church?)*

4. *Nassiam datang kepesta itu? (Do you come to that party?)*

The use of pronouns in the Simalungun language mixed with sentences in Bahasa Indonesia does not impact politeness level of a speaker if directed to the appropriate speaker, but instead a speaker is considered unaware of custom and ethics in social life if the use of pronouns is misdirected. This is what often found in the middle of conversations of people in Galang city from that phenomenon using Simalungunese personal subject pronouns in the society is very important. The researcher believes that not all people can use personal pronouns in right way when they don't know some parameters of speaker or interlocutor. To make sure pronouns directed to the appropriate interlocutor some parameters such as Gender, Age, Situation, and familiarity are very influential in this regard. Therefore, the researcher wants to know whether or not Simalungunese personal subject pronouns influenced level of politeness, she is interested in conducting a research which focuses on analyzing Politeness in using Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns in Galang City.

LITERATURE REVIEW

This part reviews some theoretical backgrounds related to the personal subject pronoun in Simalungunese. Furthermore, the politeness of the pronouns is also presented briefly.

1. *Politeness*

Referring to the work of Brown and Levinson, Wardhaugh (2006) wrote that: Positive politeness leads to moves to achieve solidarity through offers of friendship, the use of compliments, and informal language use: we treat others as friends and allies, do not impose on them, and never threaten their face. On the other hand, negative politeness leads to deference, apologizing, indirectness, and formality in language use: we adopt a variety of strategies so as to avoid any threats to the face others are presenting to us. Based on the definitions and the classifications, it can be defined that politeness is the way a particular expression used between speakers; it marks the relationship of the first person and the interlocutors in which the connection might bring positive or negative politeness.

Based on Leech's explanation (2014:21) politeness has two major functional, one is social and the other is essentially psychological. Brown and Levinson (1978:79) state there are three factors of politeness, they are: 1. Social distance between speaker and hearer determined by four parameters: gender, age, situation, and familiarity, 2.The speaker and hearer relative power based on their asymmetrical position, 3.The degree of imposition associated with required expenditure of goods and services. According to Leech (2014: 5) there are eight characteristics of politeness that influenced people in society being polite one of them is Sense of what is normal, recognized by members of society, as to how polite to be for a particular occasion.

2. *Personal Pronouns*

Personal Pronouns are the pronouns used to refer to people. The personal pronouns may refer to the self (first personal pronouns), referring to the person to be spoken to (the second personal pronouns) or referring to the person in question (third personal pronouns). Among the pronouns, some refer to the one or more than one.

3. *Personal Pronouns in Simalungunese*

There are different variants of the politeness level for pronouns, and this level determined by definition of each pronoun according to Kamus Simalungun-Indonesia, and it is showed below.

Table 1. Types of Personal Subject Pronouns in Simalungnese

Level of politeness	First PSP		Second PSP		Third PSP	
	SL (I)	PL (We)	SL (You)	PL (You)	SL (He, She, It)	PL (They)
I (Polite)	Ahu/Au	Hanami/ Hanai	Ham Handian	Nassiam	Ia	Sidea
II (Neutral)	Ahu/Au	Nami	Ambia Baya	Hanima/ Nima	Morah	Sidea
III (Rude)	Sebut nama persona	Hita	Ho <i>Dahkam</i>	Menyebut nama persona	Bana Salakan ai Si + Nama orang	Halak ai

From the table above, it can be seen that singular first person pronouns have two variants – *Ahu* (I) and sometimes mention the speaker’s name for example *Evi* (I). Mention speaker’s name in the middle of conversation to the hearer belongs to the third level that is rude or impolite because it’s considered to be arrogant. For the plural first person pronouns there are three variants, they are *hanami*, *nami* and *hita*. *Nami* belongs to the neutral, this pronoun seldom to use because people think it is shortened of *hanami*.

In terms of singular second personal pronouns, there are six variants that separated in to three parts, consider polite are *ham* and *handian*, Neutral there are *ambia* and *baya*, usually using when we talk with friends in the similar age, but sometimes old man used it to the young man to show closeness and their don’t have a limit. *Ho* and *Dahkam* considered to be rude because people use both of them when start to get angry and uncomfortable feeling, also to make sure something like what speaker think before. For the plural second pronouns, there are three variants *nassiam*, *hanima/nima* and mention one by one hearer/ interlocutor’s name for example *Andri*, *Andro* (You). This is considered rude or impolite because it impressed that the speaker had just found out who are the name of the other person and also show unfamiliarity.

In terms of singular third personal pronouns, there are five variants they are *Ia*, *morah*, *bana*, *salakan ai*, *si + hearer’s name*. *Bana* and *salakan ai* are considered rude and impolite because it indicates that the speaker do not know or forget who the other person name is or the speaker and the listener have bad relationship. For plural third personal pronouns, just two variants they are *sidea* and *halak ai*. *Sidea* is the only pronoun who are considered polite and usually used in everyday life, that refers to a group of people whereas *halak ai* like the meaning of 'that people' is considered rude because it seems like speaker do not know who a bunch of people there around her/him or maybe do not like them.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study was qualitatively conducted that taken 35 people of Galang City as respondent/participant. The data was collected by using questionnaire paper that consists of 24 questions it is about Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns respondent/participant choose the right answer among four choices a, b, c and d by circling it.

Data Analysis

From the answer of thirty five respondent analyzed, the following table here will show the use of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns that divided into three parts first, second and third Personal Subject Pronouns.

Table 2. The Answers of Question number 1- 8 by Participants

Ideas	Sub-ideas	PSP	Used by	Total
Gender	1.Different Gender	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 25 Person b. 6 Person c. 3 Person d. 1 Person	35 Person
	2.Similar Gender	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 22 Person b. 2 Person c. 9 Person d. 2 Person	35 Person
Situation	3.Official Situation	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 4 Person b. 20 Person c. 9 Person d. 2 Person	35 Person
	4.Unofficial Situation	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 16 Person b.10 Person c. 5 Person d. 4 Person	35 Person
Age	5.Someone Older	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 2 Person b. 28 Person c. 2 Person d. 3 Person	35 Person
	6.Someone Younger	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	a. 25 Person b. 1 Person c. 5 Person d. 4 Person	35 Person
	7.Someone Similar Age	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita	a. 14 Person b. 7 Person c. 9 Person	35 Person

		d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	<i>d. 5 Person</i>	
Familiarity	8. Siblings/ Parents	a. Ahu/Au b. Hanami/Nami/Hanai c. Hita d. Sebut Nama Sendiri.	<i>a. 22 Person b. 5 Person c. 5 Person d. 3 Person</i>	35 Person

Table 3. The Answers of Question number 9- 16 by Participants

Sub-ideas	Personal Subject Pronouns	Used by	Total
9. Different Gender	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 25 Person b. 6 Person c. 2 Person d. 2 Person</i>	35 Person
10. Similar Gender	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 16 Person b. 15 Person c. 4 Person d. - Person</i>	35 Person
11. Official Situation	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 28 Person b. 3 Person c. 1 Person d. 3 Person</i>	35 Person
12. Unofficial Situation	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 21 Person b. 6 Person c. 7 Person d. 1 Person</i>	35 Person
13. Someone Older	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 29 Person b. 4 Person c. - Person d. 2 Person</i>	35 Person
14. Someone Younger	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 5 Person b. 11 Person c. 18 Person d. 1 Person</i>	35 Person
15. Someone Similar Age	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 7 Person b. 10 Person c. 13 Person d. 5 Person</i>	35 Person
16. Siblings /Parents	a. Ham/Handian/Nassiam b. Ambia/Baya/Hanima/Nima c. Ho/Dahkam d. Menyebut nama orang lain	<i>a. 28 Person b. 4 Person c. 2 Person d. 1 Person</i>	35 Person

Table 4. The Answers of Question number 17- 24 by Participants

Sub-ideas	Personal Subject Pronouns	Used by	Total
17. Different Gender	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	<i>a. 20 Person b. - Person c. 5 Person d. 10 Person</i>	35 Person

18. Similar Gender	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 15 Person b. 5 Person c. 7 Person d. 8 Person	35 Person
19. Official Situation	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 20 Person b. 8 Person c. 5 Person d. 2 Person	35 Person
20. Unofficial Situation	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 12 Person b. 4 Person c. 14 Person d. 5 Person	35 Person
21. Someone Older	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 19 Person b. 9 Person c. 5 Person d. 2 Person	35 Person
22. Someone Younger	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 12 Person b. 3 Person c. 5 Person d. 15 Person	35 Person
23. Someone Similar Age	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 9 Person b. 2 Person c. 10 Person d. 14 Person	35 Person
24. Siblings/ Parents	a. Ia/Sidea b. Morah/Sidea c. Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang tsb	a. 21 Person b. 4 Person c. 8 Person d. 2 Person	35 erson

FINDINGS

Type of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns mostly Used

The findings of the research reveal three types of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns mostly used. Type of first Personal Subject Pronouns mostly used in the questions number one till number eight with ranges conversation namely gender, situation, age and familiarity was Pronouns *Ahu / au* with 130 times chosen or 46%. Type of Second Personal Subject Pronouns in the questions number nine till number sixteen with ranges conversation namely gender, situation, age and familiarity mostly used was Pronouns *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* with 159 times chosen or 57%. Type of Third Personal Subject Pronouns in the questions number seventeen till twenty four with ranges conversation namely gender, situation, age and familiarity mostly used was Pronouns *Ia/Sidea* with 128 times chosen or 46%.

The Way Using Personal Subject Pronouns

The findings also were explained how people in Galang City used Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns based on four parameters to show the level of politeness. In the first idea, Gender for the First Personal Subject Pronouns people preferred to use Pronouns *Ahu/Au*, for the Second Personal

Subject Pronouns they used *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* and for the Third Personal Subject Pronouns they use *Ia/Sidea*, all that choices was considered polite.

In the second idea, Situation First Personal Subject Pronouns for official Situation using *Hanami/Nami/Hanai*, for unofficial Situation using *Ahu/Au*, both of them considered polite. Second Personal Subject Pronouns for two situation using *Ham/Handian/Nassiam*, it is considered polite. Third Personal Subject Pronouns for official Situation Using *Ia/Sidea*, for unofficial Situation using *Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai*, those two also considered polite.

In the third idea, Age First Personal Subject Pronouns for older person participant preferred chose *Hanami/Nami/Hanai*, for younger and peer they used Pronoun *Ahu/Au*. Second Personal Subject Pronouns for older person they chose Pronoun *Ham/Handian/Nassiam*, for younger and peer used Pronoun *Ho/Dahkam*. Third Personal Subject Pronouns for older person they chose *Ia/Sidea*, for younger and peer using *Si+ Nama orang tersebut*, even though some of answer by participant was different it was still considered polite with what was applicable in simalungun community.

In the fourth idea, Familiarity First Personal Subject Pronouns participant chose pronoun *Ahu/Au*, for Second Personal Subject Pronouns they used pronoun *Ham/Handian/Nassiam*, and for the Third Personal Subject Pronouns they used pronoun *Ia/Sidea*, all of that also was considered polite.

The Reason People of Galang City Used Personal Subject Pronouns

The findings also revealed and explained the reason of Simalungunese in Galang City used Personal Subject Pronouns in daily life. First, making no distance or gap between male and female, people in Galang City do not want to be limited by gender so as to make them polite or impolite when speaking. Second, trying to adapting the situation, People in Galang consider official Situation are better to maintain an assessment of their attitudes and personality, while unofficial Situation are considered normal as they often face in daily activities. Third, Rules of communication The differences among older, younger, and similar age/peer do not make people in Galang city forget the Rules of communication which is respect for the older, nurturing and guiding the younger, and close to the similar age/peer. Fourth, learning from family, people in Galang city think all the good things such as attitude start from home that is communicating with family members.

DISCUSSION

In Pragmatics study, Politeness has been widely conducted by some researcher. Politeness is considered as important concept in society because it can controls people to do something through verbal it is language use or non-verbal it is the work/action. This study highlighted that Using Personal Subject Pronouns such as Simalungunese is really influenced the level of politeness, also help people in communicating to each other through the right way of using it.

It can be seen from the result of this study that each type of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns has one become mostly used, they are: first Personal Subject Pronouns is *Ahu/au* with 130 times chosen or 46%, Second Personal

Subject Pronouns is *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* with 159 times chosen or 57%, Third Personal Subject Pronouns is *Ia/Sidea* with 128 times chosen or 46%. The way of using Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns also determine by four parameters, they are: Gender, Age, Situation, and Familiarity. In Using Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns People in Galang city in also have reasons, they are: making no distance/gap, adapting the situation, knowing the rules of communication and learning from family.

The findings above give contributions on the study pragmatics because talk about the user of language that is People in Galang City, also to the sociolinguistic because related to the society and language itself. It can be proved that Politeness is helpful in communicating among society.

CONCLUSION

1. In the application of using Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns, people in Galang City mostly used: First Personal Subject Pronouns *Ahu / au* with 130 times chosen, Second Personal Subject Pronouns *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* with 159 times chosen, Third Personal Subject Pronouns *Ia/Sidea* with 128 times chosen.
2. The ways of people in Galang City using Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns distinguish and determine by Gender (Different and similar gender), Situation (official and unofficial forum), Age (Older, Younger, and Similar age), familiarity (Parent/siblings).
3. The reason of people used Simalungunese personal subject pronouns were making no distance/gap, adapting the situation, knowing the rules of communication, and learning from family.

REFERENCES

- Arapah, E. 2017. Politeness in Using Banjarese and American English Personal Subject Pronouns by English Department Students of Lambung Mangkurat University. *Journal of Language Teaching and Research* 8.2 (2017): 253-270. Print.
- BBSU. 2015. *Kamus Simalungun – Indonesia*. Edisi Kedua. Indonesia: Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa.
- Brown, Penelope. 2015. Politeness and Language. Second edition. *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*. Netherlands: Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics.
- Mahmud, M. 2013. The Roles of Social Status, Age, Gender, Familiarity, and Situation in Being Polite for Bugis Society. *Journal of Asian Social Science* 9.5 (2013). Canadian Center of Science and Education.
- Siahaan, E. 2013. *Pronomina Dalam Bahasa Simalungun Di Kecamatan Raya Kahean*. Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Sumatera Utara: Medan.

- b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
12. Kata ganti orang kedua manakah yang Anda gunakan ketika berbicara dengan seseorang atau lebih pada diskusi tidak resmi?
 a. *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* c. *Ho/Dahkam*
 b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
13. Kata ganti orang kedua manakah yang Anda gunakan ketika berbicara dengan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya lebih tua daripada usia Anda?
 a. *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* c. *Ho/Dahkam*
 b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
14. Kata ganti orang Kedua manakah yang Anda gunakan ketika berbicara dengan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya lebih muda daripada usia Anda?
 a. *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* c. *Ho/Dahkam*
 b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
15. Kata ganti orang Kedua manakah yang Anda gunakan ketika berbicara dengan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya sama dengan usia Anda?
 a. *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* c. *Ho/Dahkam*
 b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
16. Kata ganti orang Kedua manakah yang Anda gunakan ketika berbicara dengan orang tua ataupun saudara kandung Anda sendiri?
 a. *Ham/Handian/Nassiam* c. *Ho/Dahkam*
 b. *Ambia/Baya / Hanima/Nima* d. *Menyebut nama orang lain*
17. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih yang berbeda jenis kelamin dengan Anda?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
18. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih yang berjenis kelamin sama dengan Anda?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
19. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih di dalam diskusi resmi?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
20. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih di dalam diskusi tidak resmi?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
21. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya lebih tua daripada usia Anda?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
22. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya lebih muda daripada usia Anda?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
23. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan seseorang atau lebih yang usianya sama dengan usia Anda?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*
24. Kata ganti orang Ketiga mana yang Anda gunakan ketika membicarakan orang tua ataupun saudara kandung Anda sendiri?
 a. *Ia/sidea b.Morah/sidea c.Bana/Salakan ai/Halak ai d. Si + Nama orang*