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Interrogative Construction In Malay Batu Bara

Dedy Rahmad Sitinjak¹ & Mulyadi²

^{1,2} Program Studi Doktor Linguistik Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

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Abstract

Question sentences are indicators that form introductive constructions, so for the formation of interrogative sentences, question sentences need special attention because question sentences are a way for a person to get complete information. This research is entitled Interrogation Construction in Batu Bara Malay (BMBB). This study seeks to analyze the Integrative construction. The research method used in this study is qualitative because it can be used to research the natural condition of the object; the instruments used in this study are sound recording devices, video recording tools, and stationery. The data used in this study is speech data in BMBB. The data for this research is sourced from the BMBB user community. After obtaining data in the field, the data is analyzed and described in words. The results of this study are that BMBB has an open interrogatory construction with nine interrogative words found, namely *apo*, *siapo*, *kenapo*, *berapo*, *mano*, *dimano*, *darimano*, *kamano*, and *gimano*, a closed-in cogitative construction with interrogative words found in 2 rows, namely *Apo* and *Gekmano*, For rhetorical interrogatory constructs with interrogative words found in 3 rows, namely *siapo*, *mangapo*, and *gekmano*.

*E-mail:

¹dedyrahmadsitinjak@usu.ac.id

²mulyadi@usu.ac.id

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INTRODUCTION

Malay is one of the most widespread regional languages in Indonesia; Malay consists of several languages and dialects, including Riau, Deli, Batu Bara, Asahan, Palembang Malay, Bangka, and others (Arifuddin. & Geubrina. 2019).

The dialect variations in the Malay language make the Malay language something interesting to discuss. Sumatra is the second largest island in Indonesia, with several languages reaching hundreds, and the most interesting of the various languages in Sumatra is Malay (Purwanti, 2019). One of the Malay languages in Sumatra is Batu Bara Malay.

Batu Bara Malay Language (BMBB) is used in the daily lives of people in Batu Bara Regency, especially the Malay community. Language is the most effective communication tool in conveying messages, thoughts, feelings, and goals to others and makes it possible to create cooperation between humans (Mailani et al., 2022).

Apart from being a tool for conveying information, language can also be used to obtain information. A series of sentences in a language will be essential information, both in spoken and written language. The type of words or sentences can differ in written language depending on the punctuation attached. However, in spoken language, the emphasis in conveying information is intonation, pauses, and language styles (Budiman & Mulyadi., 2021).

Language has many roles and functions for the language user community, but the position of language as a means of communication is the highest position of other language functions. Language has a vital role in our daily lives, so with language, humans can communicate to get information.

Therefore, language is something significant for human life, so the development of science that studies language is constantly developing day by day; the development of science that studies language because of the encouragement of linguistic phenomena that grow in the language user community so that it is necessary to conduct in-depth research and study of language.

Language has various forms and characteristics, including BMBB, one of the introductory languages the Malay community uses when carrying out social interaction activities.

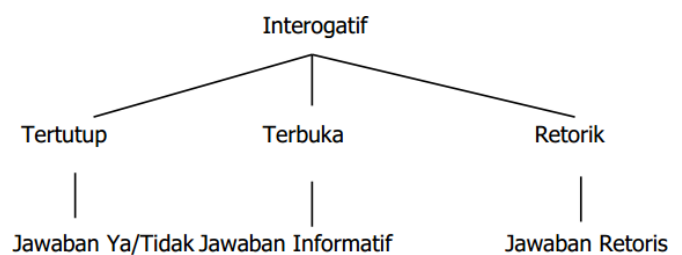
In daily life, humans always try to find information by asking questions or using introductive sentences; asking sentences generally functions to ask something (Ramlan, 1981). In addition to asking questions, one can use other sentences to get information because not all

questions, such as rhetorical introductive sentences, need answers.

Rhetorical sentences have the goal of not asking pragmatically (Ghufron & Sudaryanto, 2022). A rhetorical introspective is a question sentence that does not require an answer because the rhetorical question sentence is only in the form of a statement.

In linguistics, the form of the question is related to the interrogative construction (Tarmini, 2008). Question sentences are indicators that form introductive constructions, so for the formation of interrogative sentences, question sentences need special attention (Harahap & Mulyadi, 2018)

The construction of interrogative sentences can be divided into three, namely open *interrogative*, polar *interrogative*, and rhetoric (Quirk, 1985, Sadock and Zwicky, 2010, Siemund, 2022) . If it is depicted in a chart, then the form of the interrogative construction picture is as in the material below.



The chart above shows that the difference between closed, open, and rhetorical interrogative can also be identified from the answers to each interrogative sentence question. In the chart above, if the sentence is introductive, it tends to be yes or *no*. *Still*, if the sentence is interrogative, open, and rhetorical, the answer tends to be more informative and rhetorical.

To more easily understand how the forms of open introductive construction, closed interrogative construction, and rhetorical interrogative construction are considered, consider the following examples:

- What kind of cake is this?* (open interrogation)
- What kind of cake is this?* (open interrogation)
- What is this cake?* (closed interrogation)
- (1) *Is this a cake?* (closed interrogation)
- **What kind of cake is this?*
- (2) *Did he write?* (closed interrogation)
- (3) *Writing is he?* (open interrogation)
- **Did he write?*

If we observe the example sentences (1), (2), (3), what words are used, and whether they

have different behaviors? *What* words and *whether* they can be used as a closed or open interrogation tool? The use of *what* and *whether* words in open interrogatives can fill certain functions in the sentence, while closed interrogators do not fill in the functions in the sentence.

Generally, the type of rhetorical question is characterized by modalities related to the speaker's attitude. The answer to a rhetorical question also depends on the speaker's preconceptions and attitudes, which modalities can synthetically mark.

Consider the following example of rhetorical informal construction:

a. Harus dari mana kita mulai ?

Ket	S	P
(FAdv)	(N)	(V)

b. **Dari mana kita mulai harus* ?

c. Kita harus mulai dari mana ?

S	P	Ket
(N)	(FV)	(Adv)

d. Dari mana kita harus mulai ?

Ket	S	P
(Adv)	(N)	(FV)

The modality *must* be in the example sentence (a) located directly in front of the question word *where it comes from* so that it forms FAdv *from where*. The location of the modality *must be* as in the example sentence (b) above; it cannot be moved at the end of the sentence because the sentence becomes non-grammatical, but if it is moved at the same time as the verb predicate starting in examples (c) and (d) the sentence is still grammatical. Thus, the modality is tied to other constituents: category V begins, and the interjection *word from where*.

From the explanation of the introductive construct mentioned above, the researcher will be younger to find and identify the forms of introductive construction. Zeshan (2004) has conducted studies on interrogative construction titled *Interrogative Constructions in Signed Languages: Crosslinguistic Perspectives*. The researchers investigated interrogative and negative constructs in sign language worldwide and aimed to collect as much data as possible on sign language from various languages. The research conducted by Zeshan provides a different perspective because it examines sign language.

Meanwhile, previous research that examined interrogative constructs in a spoken language, such as research Gapur & Pujiono, (2018), Harahap & Mulyadi, (2018), AKÇAYOĞLU & DAĞGÖL, (2019), Ulfa & Mulyadi, (2020), (Mayasari & Mulyadi, 2020), (Rois et al., 2021) Budiman & Mulyadi., (2021) Paz & Vidal, (2022), Mukramah &

Mulyadi, (2022), Laia, (2023), and (Gumarpi Rahis Pasaribu & Mulyadi, 2023), providing an in-depth understanding of the form of interrogative construction studies.

However, research on interrogative construction in Batu Bara Malay still needs to exist from some of the studies mentioned above. Therefore, currently, this study focuses on the analysis of interrogative construction in BMBB; in addition to observing the form of interrogative construction, this study also seeks to analyze how open introductive construction, closed introductive construction, and rhetorical introductive construction exist in BMBB.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is qualitative. Qualitative research methods are research methods used to research on natural object conditions, where the researcher is the key instrument, data collection techniques are carried out in triangulation, data analysis is inductive, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization (Abdussamad, 2021)

The instruments used in this study are voice recording devices, video recording tools, and stationery. The data used in this study is data in the form of speech in the BMBB used by the Malay community in Batu Bara Regency, which is considered to have the characteristics of question sentences because to find out the interrogative construction in a language is seen from the variety of question sentences used by the speaking community. The data for this research is sourced from the BMBB user community.

Several stages are carried out in data analysis, starting with collecting data from the field using observation, interviews, and recordings. Then, the data obtained is classified based on the research object for further analysis according to the theory put forward by (Quirk, 1985, Sadock and Zwicky, 2010, Siemund, 2022) about interrogative construction. The analysis results will be presented in the form of word descriptions. After conducting the analysis, a conclusion is made from the analysis results.

ANALYSIS RESULTS

The next step is to analyze the data obtained in the field and classify it based on the data needed. From the analysis results, it can be stated that the question sentences formed in Batu Bara Malay as the formation of interrogative sentences have various patterns, among which question words can be used with multiple synthetic categories such as words, phrases, or clauses. The analysis results of introductive construction in

Batu Bara Malay are presented below.

Open Interrogative Construction

The interrogative word in the open-ended interrogative construction in Batu Bara Malay is *apo*, *siapo*, *kenapo*, *berapo*, *mano*, *dimano*, *darimano*, *kamano*, dan *gimano*. These interrogative words can be constituents of words and constituents of phrases.

As a constituent of the word, the word interrogative has an unbound sequence pattern in the sentence. Question words can be combined with synthetic categories in words, phrases, and clauses; they can fill in one of the syntax functions: subject, predicate, object, complementary, and description.

For more clarity, below the interrogative words in open interrogative constructions in Malay Batu Bara are *apo*, *siapo*, *mengapo kenapo*, *berapo*, *mano*, *dimano*, *gekmano*, *darimano*, dan *kamano*.

Question **Apo**/ what

- (1) **a. Apo nan kau liat tu ?**
Apa yang ekau lihat itu ?
 S (part) (P) (Ket)
 N FV
b. Nan kau liat itu apo ?
yang kau liat itu apa ?

- (2) **a. Orang tu ondak apo ?**
Mereka itu mau apa ?
 (S) (P) Pel
 (FN) FV
b. Apo ondak orang tu ?
Apa mau orang itu?

In sentence (1), the word *taya apo* as a constituent of the word fills the function S with the FN category so that the word interrogative *apo* must be present or cannot be completed. The word ask *apo*, a constituent of words, has an unbound sequence pattern.

In other words, the *apo* interrogative can be changed or moved in its order in a sentence without changing the information being asked and the type of interrogative construction. The information conveyed in sentences (1) and (2) is new information. In sentences (1) and (2), the latest information is explicitly marked by the constituents as FV *you see tu* and FN *Orang Tu*.

Next, we will explain several forms of interrogative words that have an open interrogative construction.

Kata tanya **siapo**/ siapa

- (3) **a. Siapo nama kau ?**
Siapa nama mu?

- b. Namo kau siapo?**
Nama mu siapa?

Kata **kenapo**/ Kenapa

- (4) **a. Kenapo rupo nyo kau ?**
Kenapa rupanya kau?
b. Ruponyo kau kenapo ?
Rupanya kau kenapa?

Kata **Berapo**/ Berapa

- (5) **a. Berapo kau ambil ?**
Berapa kau ambil?
b. Kau ambil berapo ?
Kau ambil berapa?

Kata tanya **mano**/ mana

- (6) **a. mano bukti nyata nyo ?**
mana bukti nyata nya ?
b. bukti nyata nyo mano
bukti nyatanya mana ?

Kata tanya **dimano**/ dimana

- (7) **a. dimano kau kau buat buku tu ?**
dimana kau buat buku itu ?
b. buku tu kau buat dimano ?
buku itu kau buat dimana ?
c. kau buat dimano buku tu ?
kau buat dimana buku itu ?

Kata tanya **gekmano**/ bagaimana

- (8) **a. Sukak kau yang gekmano ?**
sukak kau yang bagaimana ?
b. gekmano yang kau suka ?
bagaimana yang kau suka ?

Kata tanya **darimano**/ darimana

- (9) **A. darimano kau jalan-jalan ?**
darimana kau jalan-jalan ?
b. jalan- jalan darimano kau ?
jalan-jalan darimana kau ?
c. kau jalan-jalan darimano ?
kau jalan-jalan darimana ?

Kata tanya **kamano**/ kemana

- (10) **a. Ondak kamano kau pogi ?**
Mau kenama kau pergi ?
b. Kau pogi ondak kamano ?
Kamu pergi hendak kemana ?
c. Kemano ondak pogi kau ?
Kemana hendak pergi kau ?

On data, 3 – 10 question words *siapo*, *mengapo kenapo*, *berapo*, *mano*, *dimano*, *darimano*, dan *kamano* as a constituent word fill the function S. Question words in data 3-10 must be present or cannot be completed. The question words in data 3-10 as word constituents have an unbound sequence

pattern. In other words, the interrogative words in data 3-10 can be changed or moved in order in the sentence without changing the information asked and the type of interrogative construction.

However, if observed between data 1-8 and data 9 and 10, there is a slightly different pattern where the question words in data 3-8 can be placed at the beginning and the end of the sentence, while for data 9 and 10, it is not possible to put them at the beginning and the end of the sentence but the question words in data 9-10 can be placed in the middle of the sentence.

Closed Introductory Construction

In the closed interrogative construction of the Batu Bara Malay language, only two question words are found, namely the question words *apo* and *gekmano*. The behavior of interrogative words in closed interrogative constructions tends to be the beginning of a sentence within a sentence.

The interrogative word in a closed interrogative construction does not fill in or replace the syntactic function. Therefore, interrogative words with a particular intonation can be dissipated without changing the information. An example of a closed interrogative construction in Batu Bara Malay can be seen in the following explanation.

Kata tanya *apo*/ *apa*

(11) *Apo uda slose krojo nya ?*
Apa sudah selesai kerjanya ?

(S) (P) (Pel)

(12) *Apo aku salah ?*
Apa aku salah?
(S) (P)

In data 10 and 11, the interrogative *apo* functions as an interrogative that does not replace the syntactic function. Thus, using particular intonation in the *apo* question word cannot be eliminated because it will change the meaning. Check out the data analysis below.

(13) Dia salah, *Apo* ?
Dia salah, apa?
(Closed interrogation)

(14) Dia salah *apo*?
Dia salah apa?
(Open interrogative)

Data 12 and 13 show a difference in the type of interrogative construction. In contrast, in data 12, the question *apo* is preceded by the word *false*, followed by a comma as a marker of particular intonation. Meanwhile, in the data of 13 question words, *apo* has changed the position of the

order so that there is a change in the interrogative type to an open interrogative type.

Kata tanya *gekmano*/ *bagaimana*

(15) *Gekmano, cocok ?*
Bagaimana, cocok?

N

Gekmano interrogative words can be used in closed interrogative constructions with the position of the interrogative at the beginning of the sentence. Still, if the position of the interrogative is changed and placed at the end of the sentence, then the type of *gekmano* interrogative construction will change; pay attention to the introductory sentences below.

(16) *Cocok Gekmano !*
Cocok bagaimana!
(Rhetorical Interrogative Construction)

In the data (16) above, the question word as a constituent word has a binding position order so that the position order at the end cannot be moved because if it is moved, the type of construction will change.

Rhetorical Introductory Construction

The interrogative construction of rhetoric in Batu Bara Malay, if observed, can be concluded that there are similarities in the form of open interrogative construction and closed interrogative construction.

In some respects, synthetically, the interrogative construction of rhetoric also has the same structure as the open and closed interrogative constructions. However, the interrogative construction of rhetoric tends to aim at something other than asking questions.

The word question as one of the indicators that formally form interrogative also marks the interrogative construction of rhetoric.

Statistically, the types of interrogative rhetoric in Batu Bara Malay have various meanings, including imperative, declarative, and excitative meanings.

Question markers in the interrogative type are not used to ask questions. The information conveyed in its entirety contains old information. The content of the question is pragmatic, so the meaning differs depending on the context of the sentence.

However, the type of interrogative rhetoric usually does not require an answer even though it is structured in a question sentence syntactically. The following examples of sentences are rhetorical interrogative constructions formally marked by the interrogative word *apo*.

Kata tanya **apo/** apa

(17) ***Apo lai sala nyo.***

Apa lagi salah nya
FN

(18) ***Kurang nyo apo lai.***

Salah nya apa lagi
FN

Using *the word apo* in data 17 and 18 as a constituent word joins the FN word *wrong nyo* and *less nyo*. Semantically, the meaning of sentences 17 and 18 is absolute.

In addition to the question *apo*, the type of rhetorical interrogative construction can also be formed by the question of *who*, *mangapo*, and *gekmano*, to more clearly pay attention to the analysis in this.

Kata tanya **siapo/** siapa

(19) ***Siapolah nan bisa bantu yo.***

Siapalah yang bisa bantu ya.

* *Nan bisa banyu yo siapolah*

Kata tanya **mangapo/** mengapa

(20) ***Mangapo lagi masalah nyo!***

Mengapa lagi masalahnya!

* *masalah nyo Mangapo lagi*

Kata tanya **gekmano/** bagaimana

(21) ***Gekmano lagi dibuat.***

Bagaimana lagi dibuat.

* *lagi dibuat Gekmano*

Data 19-21 above shows that rhetorical construction-type interrogative words can only be placed at the beginning of a sentence. In contrast, if they are placed at the end of the sentence, they are not semantically or syntactically acceptable.

If observed, rhetorical interrogative construction syntactically has the same structure as closed and open interrogative constructions. Still, semantically, there are imperative, declarative, and excitative meanings in the type of rhetorical interrogative.

The question markers in the interrogative construction of rhetoric emphasize the meaning that the communicator wants to convey to the listener or to himself.

Thus, the information conveyed in its entirety contains old information; the content of the rhetorical construction is based on an event that has occurred or an event that has passed.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

After conducting the analysis, it can be concluded that the interrogative construction in

Batu Bara Malay has an open interrogative construction, a closed interrogative construction, and a rhetorical interrogative construction. The constituents of the question word in each construction have their behavior.

In the open-ended interrogative type, the interrogative words in the open-ended interrogative construction of the BMBB are *apo*, *siapo*, *kenapo*, *berapo*, *mano*, *dimano*, *darimano*, *kamano*, and *gimano*. In the closed interrogative construction of the BMBB, only two question words were found, namely, the question words *apo* and *gekmano*. Meanwhile, the construction of interrogative rhetoric is always part of the sentence and is very close to the other constituents, so the order of interrogative words in the sentence can be changed or moved. Statistically, the type of interrogative rhetoric in Batu Bara Malay has various meanings because the marker of the question in the interrogative type of rhetoric is not used to ask questions. In the rhetorical interrogative construction of the Batu Bara Malay language, the word question was found: *siapo*, *mangapo*, and *gekmano*.

Research on BMBB certainly still needs to be carried out, considering that there are still many linguistic phenomena that can be found in BMBB; of course, further research is vital to enrich the treasures of science, especially the calm study of BMBB.

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