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A REVIEW OF INFLUENCE FROM FIRST AND SECOND LANGUAGE AS SYNTAX INTERFERENCE IN THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

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Abstract:

The syntax is the field of studies in constructing sentences which is the knowledge in a language that studies the form, structure, and sentence construction. In general, syntax is involving the system that studies the rule and categories in the foundation of constructing sentences for a language. The syntax is not only research on the process of constructing sentences but also including the laws that determine how the words arranged in the sentences. Thus, the objective of this article is to study the literature review on constructing sentences in the German language that influenced by the first and second languages. Some of the researchers find that the first and second language is named by syntax interference. Based on the qualitative methodology, this article recorded seven articles from the years 2015 until 2020. The research on syntax which focusing on the German language is needed because this language is one of the subjects learned in selected schools and universities in Malaysia. Hence, it is hoped that this paper can enlighten other researchers on the German language syntax.

Keywords:

Constructing Sentences, Primitives, Searched, Keywords

Introduction

The syntax is about the law or grammatical formula based on the methods of combination and arrangement of words or words cluster to form the sentences in certain languages. This study

is look up to the forms, structures and sentences construction with the law or grammatical formula on how to combine the sentences. Other than that, the study on syntax is also involving the aspect of difference in constructing the sentences through the types and variations of sentences. According to Kaiser, Peyer dan Berthele (2014), a syntax is related to the word of sentence construction which comprises an object, subject, and predicate (SVO). However, as for the researchers in Malay language studies, the syntax is referred to as the field that studies the systematic rule in classifying each category as the basic in constructing the sentences for certain languages (Maslida, 2006). From the past literature review, it is found that sentence construction is the biggest challenge for language students. As for the German language, the constructed sentences must contain the conjugation law and mostly the students are making mistakes for that.

(Robe'ah, 2010; Aida Husni, 2012). According to Rowinah (2012), usually, the students are having difficulty in constructing the sentences in the German language because the grammatical law is in as many details which the students will choose various learning patterns to master the German language. Most of past researchers found that the first and second language are influencing the construction of sentences in German language (Haslina, 2016). Some researchers found that the evidence on the construction of the sentences which is influenced by the first and second language which namely as syntax interferences (Agus&Muhammad Zaki, 2018). The first and second languages have already existed in language students cognitively which is the German language. Thus, the construction of sentences in the German language will be influence by the dominant language. The acquired language or learned earlier will become the primary reference in students' minds (Obodoeze & Ugagu-Dominic, 2018). The researchers find that this issue is important to be researched however the past research on this area is least implemented in Malaysia.

Research Methodology

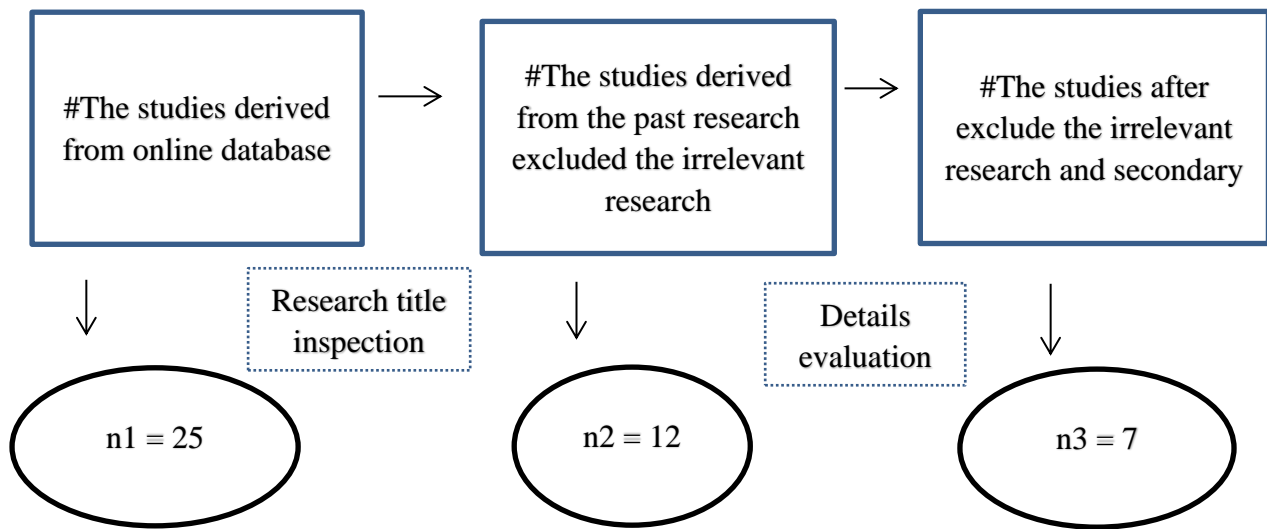
This research is utilizing the method of a review of literature in which the purpose is to handle this issue by identifying, critical evaluation and integrating the research discovery. (Baumeister & Leary, 1997; Bem, 1995; Cooper, 2003). The justification of this methodology is because it is suitable and relevant to evaluate systematically as a whole to the research that related to the German language from many years and filling the void or gap on the research. This method will apply the step by step searches to identify the German language syntax, influences of the first and second language and interferences. The research methodology is the documented analysis of the books, journals, and thesis written by scholars. The reference is ranging from the year 1998 to 2020. This is because, the German language only offers as a degree (Bachelor's Degree) in Malaysia during the year 1998 at the University of Malaya (Robe'ah, 2010). However, the researcher lists the topic and research works from 2015 onwards until 2020 because the discussion about the German language syntax is only discussed and researched around that year which refers to the finding of the studies in Table 1. which is the review on this topic. The latest literature review and relevant are from the recent five years as suggested by many Higher Education Institutions in Malaysia. The research objectives are :

- i) To identify the scholar's intellectual opinion regarding the syntax's issues in the German language.
- ii) To analyse the need to study foreign languages specifically German language based on the gap in past researches.

The past researches collected through the phrases or keywords which are related to "German language syntax" and "interferences". The purpose is the researches excluding the topic of

German language studies such as morphology and semantics will elicit from the system of literature review. The researcher also will elicit any researches related to the translation of the German language through the keywords of “German language syntax” and “interferences”. The researcher also will search for the English and German language translation from both of the keywords. The earlier search is named as primitive search (Cooper, 2003). As following are the sums of the articles found in this research. Diagram 1. Explains how the process of researching the titles, abstract and table of contents from past researches.

Diagram 1: The Primitive Phrases And Keywords Search



Adapted from Cooper, H. M. (2003). Editorial. Psychological Bulletin.

Diagram 1. shows that this research is using the analytical literature review that includes the research’s year, the background of the research, issue, methodology, and findings of studies that refers to the literature review. This method is implementing the procedure searches to identify the research on “German language syntax”. The matrix principle of the literature review has also been implemented by many other researchers recently as an opening to the phenomenon of research keywords (Michie & Williams, 2003; Dewey & Drahota, 2019). In this research, the keywords of “German language syntax” and “Interference” has been used to obtain the research data. This research also assists with the access of databases from *Google*, *Researchgate* and *Academia*. From the 25 searches of the documents of articles journals that related to this research, there are only seven articles that are accepted to be analysed, and the search scope is from the year 2015 until 2020 with the research title that is similar to the researcher studies.

Findings of Studies and Discussion

The first findings of the studies are obtained through the keywords of “interferences” which indirectly refers to the involvement of foreign language issue and the influence of first and second language. Thus, it will make it easier for the researchers to filter the literature review on the foreign language issue such as in French, Spanish and Japanese language. To analyse systematically, seven literature review has been identified as the essential indicator in producing the space and gap on the research of “German language syntax” and “interferences” for the German language.

Table 1: The Literature Review On The Topic Of German Language Syntax And Interferences

Numbers /Researchers	Research titles	Background of the research	Issues/Gap	Methodology	Findings of studies
1.Haslina Daud, 2016	The construction of sentences in the German language among Malay's students in UiTM Shah Alam.	This research is meant to identify the German language pattern of sentences by the Malay respondents and identify which of the sentence structure in German that causing difficulty to the respondents. Respondents are the students from UiTM Shah Alam, Malay's and can speak first and second language fairly.	This research is trying to identify the L1 or L2 that cause the difficulty or influencing the respondents however there are no lists of interference by the respondents .	Using the qualitative methods by pointing out a set of questions that are used to tests the skills of the respondents in the German language.	The researcher found that the L1 is less influence by the construction of sentences in German language but L2 which is the English language is influencing the respondents greatly in constructing the sentences in the German language. This is because the German language is in the cluster or Germanic which is together with the English language. Hence, the mother tongue language is less influence by the construction sentences of the German language.
2.Agus Syahid&	Syntax interference	This research or about the	This research	The methodology	The findings of the studies

Muhammad Zaki Pahrul Hadi, 2018	of Indonesian language among German language students from STIBA Bumigora Mataram Angkatan 2015	interferences or the symptoms of error in language. The interference can happen to someone that is studying the foreign language which happens to the students of STIBA Bumigora the cluster of students in the year 2015. These students are learning the German language as the second language and the researchers took their composition to see their construction of sentences.	finds that the interference s which include phonology interference s, lexical morphologi sts, and syntax interference s. The focus on syntax interference s is including two types of interference which inter-language interference and intra-language interference and focused on the analysis of errors and involving the Indonesian language as the L1.	used in this research is a descriptive analysis.	indicate that there is the influence of the Indonesian language as the interlanguage interference in the structures of the sentence in the German language. Among them are the mistakes in words placement and removal of auxiliary verbs. Next, the mistakes caused by intra-language interference are the mistakes that happen due to the lack of understandin g of respondents towards the German language method.
3.Obodoeze Nkechi Juliette & Ugagu-Dominic Nneka Rachael, 2018	Interference in Foreign Language Learning: The Example of Nigerian German Learners	The research on the German language students in Nigeria and the influence of L1 and L2 towards the German language. The researchers are looking at the	The researchers are explaining the influence of the English language which is considered as lingua	The researchers are not explaining in detail the methodology and the data collection method from the students however the	The findings of the studies indicate that the multicultural and variety of languages known by the students can be a distraction in

		mistakes of sentences construction by the students in Nigeria.	franca in Nigeria and influencing the dialects in Nigerian language which will influence the student's development.	researchers explain that the sentences constructed by the students contain the syntax error in the German language.	learning the German language.
4.Wan Lin Tsai, 2015	English Interferences in German Sentences	This research is about the university students in Taiwan that learning German language and find that the Chinese language distracting them in constructing the sentences in the German language.	The researchers explain the German language which is the third language in Taiwan. The second language which is the Chinese language is distracting the construction of sentences in the German language. Therefore, the Chinese and English language are causing the students to tend to make mistakes in constructing the sentences.	The researchers are using the qualitative method and forming the research hypothesis which is namely as "Contrastive Analysis Hypothesis (CAH)".	The researches are not producing statistics on the number of language distractions however find that there are two important elements in the research. The distraction of English and Chinese language and divided it into five types of error in constructing sentences which are gender article sentence arrangement, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, articles, and tenses.
5.Wan Ting Tan & Nicole Ogasa, 2015	Mandarin Chinese and English Transfer during	The research about the Mandarin language speaker among	The researchers are looking up to how the research	The researchers are using the qualitative method as an	The findings of the studies show that the noun that contains the

	German Language Acquisition Examples of Structural Properties Transfer	the students in Malaysian Universities.	participants shift the Mandarin language to the English language and constructing the sentences in the German language.	approach for this case study which involves 17 German language students that came from the Chinese race and known to the Mandarin language.	specifics of German articles such as “the” and “a” in the English language. The researchers found that the participants are confused because the German language needs to be explained with gender.
6. Anne Baker, 2017	Error Analysis and Language Comparison as Teaching Strategies for German as a Foreign Language in a South African Context.	The research is about the school students in South Africa that learned the German language as targeted language. The school students are the research participants and spoke the African language, Bantu and Zulu (Multilingual).	The main focus of the research is on the school student’s sentence construction and the students that learning the German language that shows their mistakes in sentences due to using the language that they mastered as the strategy to construct the German language sentence.	This research has been done analysed on the content of the sentences in the student’s composition. The results are depicted in the form of a percentage.	The findings of studies indicate that the strategy of adapting the known language by the research participants causes them to make mistakes in constructing the sentences in the German language.
7. Robe’ah Yusuf, Khairul Bahri Abdul Samad,	Instrument Construction for Analyzing Errors of German	Discussion about the research instrument for	The research is limited because there is no	This research is meant to explain the methodology and types of	The discussion is explaining the types of questions and

Norjietta@Ju lita Taisin & Zarima Mohd Zakaria, 2019	Language Writing by The Students of Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris	syntax research at UPSI.	finding of the studies and only discussing the developmen t of items and questions to the research participants.	questionnaire s constructed and to be processed and delivered to the experts for validation.	items that involve the construction of sentences in the German language which are the interrogative, sentence arrangement and constructing sentences through the words given.
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Referred to Table 1. on the literature review that has been done, there are only seven latest researches and studies that are related to the “German language syntax” and “Interferences”. Three articles mentioned clearly that the English language is the reference to the construction of sentences in the German language due to the similarity of typology. (Haslina, 2016). Based on the literature review, it clearly shows that there is still lacking studies about constructing sentences in the German language. Almost all of the researchers found and suggest that the first language will influence the construction of sentences in the German language. However, Obodoeze and Ugagu-Dominic (2018), suggest that the English language is simpler to be referred by the research participant because they have mastered the language. English and German language are quite similar because they are in the same group in Germanic. Having vast knowledge in languages as a native in Africa also causing the research participants to make their first language as interference (Baker, 2017). It is found that the German language researcher in various fields of linguistics is from Indonesia. The researcher from Malaysia mostly tends to study German grammar. While the researcher from Africa mostly discussed the difficulty of the participants in learning the German language because Africans are multilingual (Baker, 2017). The researcher about Mandarin speakers as the first language found that the structure of sentences by the participants is referring to the Chinese or Mandarin language sentence structure. (Wan Lin, 2015; Wan Ting & Ogasa, 2015). The difficulty of obtaining the articles about German language syntax that specifically on language interference is showing the gaps in this area of study.

Conclusion

The utilization of methodology in surveying the literature review explains some issues in German language syntax. The issues are the influence of first and second language in constructing sentences and sentence construction structures. It is found that most of all the researchers are studies on syntax error to find the mistakes that happen during constructing a sentence in to correct. Some researchers make a comparison of the sentence structure with the mother tongue language. However, this study is certainly not enough to explain “German language syntax” with the pattern of sentence construction. Other than that, there is still the least of researchers that making classification of referred language “interferences” from the study participants. Most of the researchers are making classification on the German language grammatical error. Thus, this study is important to be implemented because it will fill the void

and helping the people involve in teaching and learning of German language whether in school or universities. The least of references can result in the difficulty for other researchers to gain better insights into the German language.

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