

## VERB PHRASE IN ENGLISH AND MINANG LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** This study details about verb phrase in English and Minang Language. The objective of this research is to find the similarities and differences of verb phrase in English and Minang Language by using tree diagrams structures in Syntax. The research analyze about the formation and function of verb phrase in both languages. The data to support this study were collected by reading references books and the Minang's poem. The findings showed the similarities of verb phrase in English and Minang language based on forms and functions. The similarities of both languages could be formed by adding Verb + Noun, Verb + Adjective, Verb + Adverb, and Numeral Phrase. While, verb phrase in English could be formed by Prepositional Phrase.

**Abstrak:** Studi ini merinci tentang frasa kata kerja dalam Bahasa Inggris dan Bahasa Minang. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan persamaan dan perbedaan frase kata kerja dalam Bahasa Inggris dan Bahasa Minang dengan menggunakan struktur diagram pohon dalam Sintaksis. Penelitian ini menganalisis tentang pembentukan dan fungsi frase kata kerja dalam kedua bahasa. Data untuk mendukung penelitian ini dikumpulkan dengan membaca buku referensi dan puisi Minang. Temuan menunjukkan kesamaan frase kata kerja dalam bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Minang berdasarkan bentuk dan fungsi. Kesamaan kedua bahasa dapat dibentuk dengan menambahkan Verb + Noun, Verb + Adjective, Verb + Adverb, dan Numeral Phrase. Sementara, frasa kata kerja dalam bahasa Inggris dapat dibentuk oleh Frasa Preposisi.

### INTRODUCTION

Language consists of all sounds, words, phrases and possible sentences that built up with the application of the part of speech. When someone knows a language, he/she is not only knowing how to pronounce write it down, but also to combine the phrases in many ways to form sentences.

Language holds an important life of human being. It is through language which it can communicate with others, shared ideas or told people what it had experienced. In learning language, especially foreign language, of course the learners experience got dome difficulties. They will be influenced by their mother tongue. There are no two languages exactly the same and there are so many differences between them and make the errors of both languages.

Minang Language is one of the Vernaculars in Indonesia which are used as mother tongues of the first language in some speakers and can be used to communicate among member of their communities. One of them is Minang Language that is used by Minang society in North Sumatera to communicate within or outside Minang areas. Minang Language is used nowadays, especially the people who lived in town such as Medan.

The researcher realizes that every language has been different in one language to another. The way to study language is used Contrastive Analysis (CA). CA is an inductive investigative approach based on the distinctive element in a language ([http://www.sil.org/linguistics/glossaryoflinguisticterms/what is contrastive analysis.htm](http://www.sil.org/linguistics/glossaryoflinguisticterms/what%20is%20contrastive%20analysis.htm)). This was used to compare between two languages to find out the similarities. So, it is not merely to find the similarities and differences but also to support the process of both languages.

Based on the structure, there are four levels in a language, they are; phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantic (Yule, 1998). This research was focused on the similarities and differences verb phrase between English and Minang Language with using the analysis of syntax. One element of a sentence is phrase. Vespoor & Sauter (2000:118) state that phrase is a group of words which has no subject and predicate. Phrase consists of *Noun Phrase (NP)*, *Verb Phrase (VP)*, *Adjective Phrase (AdjP)* and *Prepositional Phrase (PP)*. According Frank (1972: 47) verb is the most complex part of speech. In varying arrangements with nouns determine the different kinds of sentences; statements, questions, commands and exclamations. Verb can have one of two major roles in a verb phrase: main verb and auxiliary verb.

Verb phrase (VP) is not only found in English, but also found in other languages such as Minang language. Verb phrase in Minang Language is more complex than English based on forms (*get the money, baraja duduak*) and functions (*kill the rat, mungkin pai*). In English, the function of VP is not form a head becomes verb phrase, but in Minang Language the function of VP is not only to form a head but also behind phrase becomes verb phrase. So, the researcher interesting to research it although the sources which support this research is limited. The researcher needs the more sources to support this research.

Thus, the research is to find out the similarities and differences of forms and function of VP in English and Minang Language. It is concerned with the contrast of forms and functions of VP in English and Minang Language.

The problem which researcher found was "what are the similarities and differences between English and Minang Language of Verb Phrase in terms of form and function?" and this study concerned with the contrast of forms and function of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language. This is attempted to show the similarities and differences in both Languages.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Contrastive Analysis

In general, understanding the sense contrastive analysis can be traced through the meaning of both words. According to Naibaho (2003: 1) Contrastive Analysis is a branch of Linguistics, which studies language change and language relationship. It means that a language can be compared with another language, and it is possible to show the change and certain relationship between both of them.

Contrastive analysis is also called comparative analysis; it is the study linguistics aims to describe the similarities and differences of two different languages. Description and equations will be useful for teaching a second language. One method of assessment

contrastive analysis shows similarities and differences between two languages with a view to discover the principle that can be applied on practical issues in language teaching or translation

Description and equations, it is useful for teaching a second language, foreign language. An assessment method of contrastive analysis shows the similarities and differences between the two languages in order to discover principles that can be applied to practical problems in language teaching or translation.

According to Fisiak (1981: 2) there are two types of contrastive studies, the theoretical and applied.

#### 1. Contrastive Theoretical

In the study provides an explanation of the differences and similarities between two or more languages, and provide adequate models for their comparison and determine how and elements that are comparable, thus defining terms such as congruence, equality, correspondence. It contrasts two objects of research could be analyzed in an aspect. For example, in this research, between English and Minang Language could be analyzed by seeing similarities and differences, in which it is oriented with synonym. Usually, this research is concentrated on observation and interview to support the research.

#### 2. Applied Contrastive

This is part of applied linguistics research. Contrastive linguistic as a branch of linguistic which compare two or more languages to show the similarities and difference. While drawing on their theoretical contrastive study findings provides a framework for the comparison of languages, choose and necessary information for specific purpose, such as teaching, bilingual analysis, translation, etc.

### **Syntactical Process**

The word syntax is derived from Greek word meaning arrangement. Words are as the object that covered the process words arrangement. It studies the way word are arranged together in order to larger units. In syntax, words are the smallest units which the relation to arrange more grammatical constituent that is phrases, clauses and sentences. Syntax tries to explain the form and the rules. Thus, syntax is the study rules for combining words into sentences, into phrases and clauses (Bollinger... et al, 1972: 10).

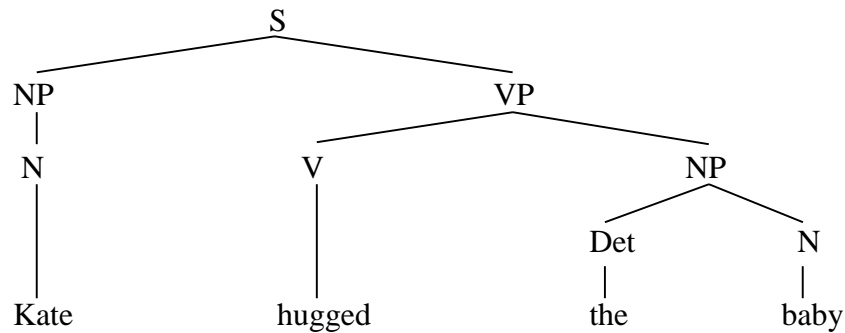
### **Tree diagrams**

There are many reasons for studying syntax, from general humanistic and behavioral motivations to much more specific goals such as those in the following

1. To help the students and the readers to illustrate the patterns of English more effectively and clearly.
2. To enable the students and the readers to analyze the structure of English sentences in a systematic and explicit way.

A complex sentence can be represented most clearly by a tree diagram. It called tree diagram because it is resembles the branches of a tree and the branches known as a phrase marker. In a tree diagram, the basic sentence stands in the top of branches.

Example: Kate hugged the baby



From the example from the above, syntax is combined with parts of speech in form of tree diagram.

### Rewrite rules

Rewrite rules is a way to grasp the information that has been written in the tree diagrams

e.g. Kate hugged the baby

S → NP + VP

NP → N

VP → V + NP

Det → the

Noun → Kate, Baby

Verb → hugged

### Verb

Verb is the most complex of part of speech because its varying arrangement with noun determines, the different kinds of sentence-statement, questions, commands and statements (Frank 1972: 47). From the explanation about the meaning of Verb, It can be divided into two classes (Frank 1972: 47):

#### 1. Verb by Complements

##### - Linking verb

Linking verb is the chief word in the predicate that says something about object

Ex. *He is handsome, she looked happy*

##### - Transitive verb

a transitive verb is a verb that needed objects, the objects can be direct or indirect object.

Ex. *He gave his wife a gift, she walks with her dog everyday*

##### - Intransitive verb

Intransitive verb is a verb that does not need an object

Ex. *The cat died two days ago, she cried along day*

##### - Reflexive verb

Reflexive verb is a verb requires one of the compounds with *-self* as its objects

Ex. *She killed herself, he cut himself*

#### 2. Verb by Form

##### - Auxiliary

The auxiliary verb acts as a helping verb to the lexical verb, some verbs is used as auxiliary verb are: *be, have/had, and do/did*

##### - Lexical verb

A lexical verb acts as a main verb, such as open, talk, went, etc. auxiliary and lexical verb may be joined together into a single verb phrase that fuction as the full verb

Ex. *The window is opening, she has been talked*

- Finite verb

A finite verb is a lexical verb with or without auxiliaries that acts as the full verb in the predicate

Ex. *They throw the rubbish, he arrives in Medan*

- Non-finite verb

Non finite verb are incomplete forms that function as other parts of speech then verbs. They consist of infinitive (to + simple form of verbs) and other participial *-ing* and *-ed* forms.

Ex. *He likes talking to the teacher, they need smoked the cigarettes*

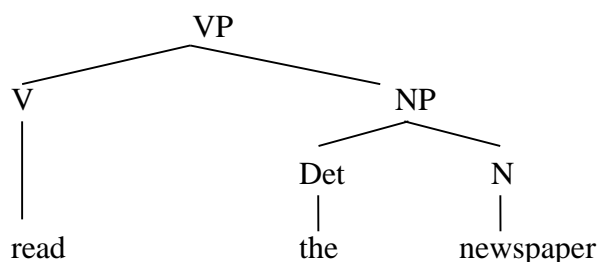
## Phrase

Hornby (1985: 629) states that a phrase is a group of words forming of a sentence. But it is not complete sentences. Example “in the house”, “bring a book”, “work hard”. A phrase is a word group held tightly together by meaning relationship (Rubba: 1999). The purpose of a phrase is to signal to our reader or listener which concepts we wish to combine. A phrase built around a headword (Noun, Verb, Adjective, Adverb and Preposition), and they can be modifier with Phrase (Noun Phrase, Verb Phrase, Adjective Phrase, Adverb Phrase and Prepositional Phrase).

## Verb Phrase

Verb Phrase is a verbal group with a verb as the headword. A verb has the relationship with the head of phrasal category and sub category. Verb Phrase contain a lexical verb or primary verb as a head or main verb, either alone or more auxiliary (Biber... et al, 1999: 99). The auxiliary specify the way in which the action, state or process denoted by the main verb is to be interpreted. The term of verb phrase is sometimes used in other grammars refers to the main verb plus accompanying elements, objects, predicates and other constituents apart from the subject.

Example: Read the newspaper



from the example above, verb phrase includes verb, determiner and noun.

## Verb Phrase in Minang Language

Verb Phrase in Minang Language has a verb as a basic word (Rasyad...et al, 1985: 8). Verb Phrase consist of a verb without object, it is called intransitive verb. And it consist of verb that has object, it is called transitive verb (Nio....et al, 1979).

Sutawijaya (et al: 1984: 91) said that Verb Phrase in Minang Language can be divided into two classes:

1. VP = Modifier + V
  - VP = Modal + V
  - VP = Aspect + V
  - VP = Adverb + V
2. VP = V + Complement

- VP = V + N
- VP = V + V
- VP = V + Adv.P
- VP = V + Adj
- VP = V + Num.P

The function of Verb Phrase in Minang Language is to form the head and behind phrase becomes Verb Phrases

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Research Design**

The design of the study was descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive qualitative is a method of research which makes the description of situation, event, or occurrence, thus, this method has intention to accumulate the basic data (Nazir, 1988: 34). Moreover, qualitative research typically uses observation, interviewing and document review to collect the data (<http://www.ojp.evaluation/htm>).

### **Technique of Collecting the Data**

The technique of collecting the data in this study was documentary technique. The technique was collected by conducting library research. This collecting of the data would be gathered by reading and studying some book's references, which are related to this study. Thus, the data was taken from grammar books of English and Minang Language, they were analyzed by using contrastive analysis.

Field research was also conducted by interviewing informants as native speakers of Minang Language, in Medan to complement the documentary instrument. The sample was five people and the range of age was about 20-50 years. They were to support information of Verb Phrase in Minang Language, and to complement the library instrument.

### **Technique of Analyzing the Data**

The collected data would be analyzed by using contrastive analysis. In this case the description of Verb Phrase in English was compared to the description of Verb Phrases in Minang Language. The aim was to find out the similarities and differences of both languages, as following:

1. Classifying the forms and functions of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language.
2. Comparing and Contrasting of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language.
3. Finding out the similarities and differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Data**

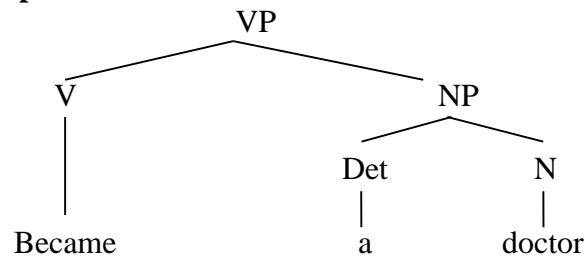
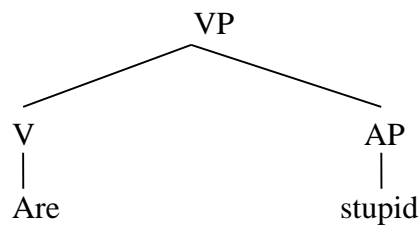
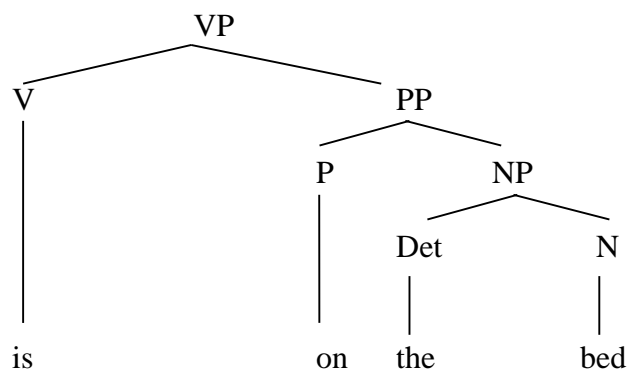
The data for this study are taken from books that are related to Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language.

### **Classifying of Verb Phrase**

The data are analyzed by comparing two languages to find out the similarities and differences in English and Minang Language that concern with forms and functions.

## a. Forms of Verb Phrase in English

## - Verb Phrase in English

**VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **Vcop + NP****Rewrite Rules:****VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **Vcop + NP**Vcop  $\longrightarrow$  becameNP  $\longrightarrow$  det + NDet  $\longrightarrow$  aN  $\longrightarrow$  doctor**VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **Vcop + AP****Rewrite Rules:****VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **Vcop + AP**Vcop  $\longrightarrow$  areAP  $\longrightarrow$  stupid**VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **V + PP****Rewrite Rules:****VP**  $\longrightarrow$  **Vcop + PP**Vcop  $\longrightarrow$  is

PP  $\longrightarrow$  P + NP  
 Det  $\longrightarrow$  a  
 NP  $\longrightarrow$  det + N  
 P  $\longrightarrow$  on  
 det  $\longrightarrow$  the  
 N  $\longrightarrow$  bed

**VP  $\longrightarrow$  VI**

VP  
 |  
 VI  
 |  
 cried

**Rewrite Rules:**

VP  $\longrightarrow$  VI  
 VI  $\longrightarrow$  V  
 V  $\longrightarrow$  cried

**VP  $\longrightarrow$  VI + Adv**

VP  
 /      \  
 V      Adv  
 |      |  
 Are    quickly

**Rewrite Rules:**

VP  $\longrightarrow$  VI + Adv  
 VI  $\longrightarrow$  V  
 V  $\longrightarrow$  run  
 Adv  $\longrightarrow$  quickly

**VP  $\longrightarrow$  VT + NP**

VP  
 /      \  
 VT      NP  
 |      /      \  
 get    Det    N  
      |      |  
      the    money

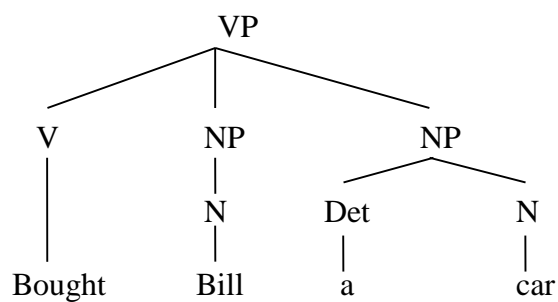
**Rewrite Rules:**

VP  $\longrightarrow$  VT + NP  
 VT  $\longrightarrow$  V



V → get  
 NP → det + N  
 Det → the  
 N → money

**VP → Vil + NP**



### Rewrite Rules:

**VP → Vdis + NP**

Vdis → V

V → boughtt

NP → N

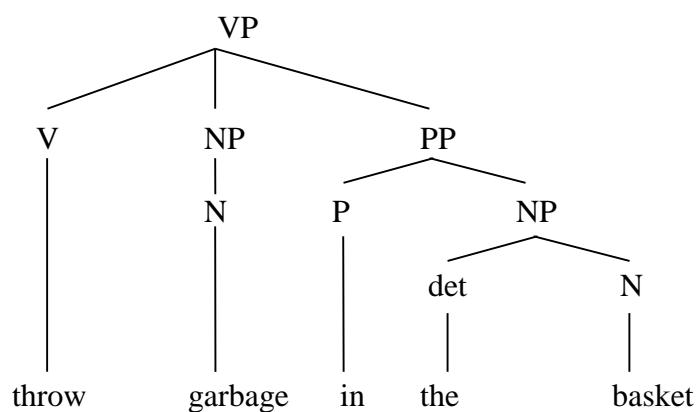
Det → Bill

NP → det + N

Det → a

N → car

**VP → Vtl + NP + PP**



### Rewrite Rules:

**VP → Vtl + NP + PP**

Vdis → V

V → boughtt

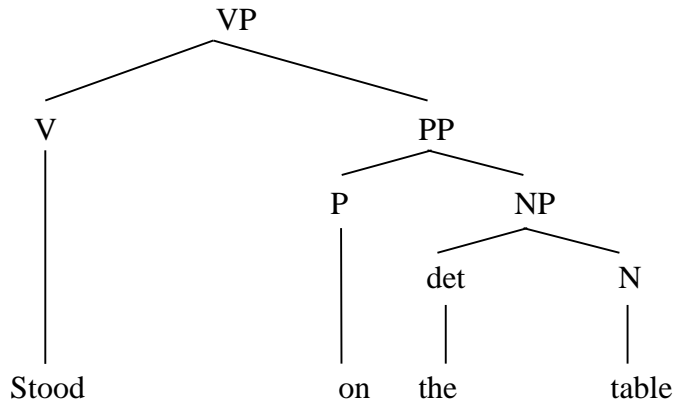
NP → N

Det → Bill

PP → P + NP

P → in  
 Det → a  
 N → car

**VP → Vtl + NP + PP**



**Rewrite Rules:**

**VP → Vil + PP**

Vil → stood

PP → P + NP

Det → in

NP → det + N

P → in

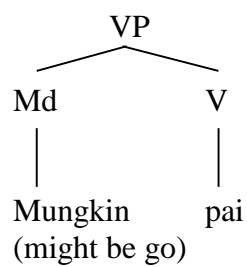
det → the

N → table

b. Forms of Verb Phrase in Minang Language

- **VP → M + V**

**VP → Md + V**



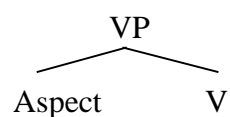
**Rewrite Rules:**

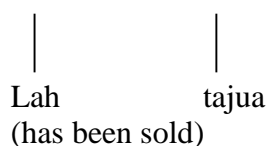
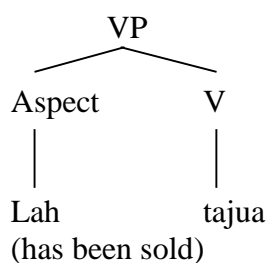
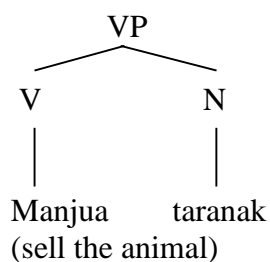
VP → Md + V

Md → mungkin

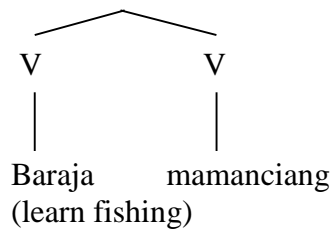
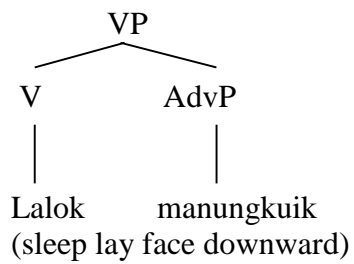
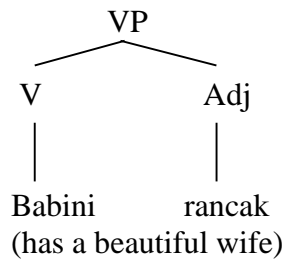
V → pai

**VP → Aspect + V**



**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  Aspect + Vaspect  $\longrightarrow$  lahV  $\longrightarrow$  tajuaVP  $\longrightarrow$  Aspect + V**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  Aspect + Vaspect  $\longrightarrow$  lahV  $\longrightarrow$  tajuac. VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + CVP  $\longrightarrow$  V + N**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + NV  $\longrightarrow$  manjuaN  $\longrightarrow$  taranakVP  $\longrightarrow$  V + V

VP

**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + VV  $\longrightarrow$  barajaV  $\longrightarrow$  mamancıangVP  $\longrightarrow$  V + Adverb**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + NV  $\longrightarrow$  lalokAdverb  $\longrightarrow$  manungkuikVP  $\longrightarrow$  V + Adj**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + AdjV  $\longrightarrow$  babiniAdj  $\longrightarrow$  rancakVP  $\longrightarrow$  V + Num.P

VP

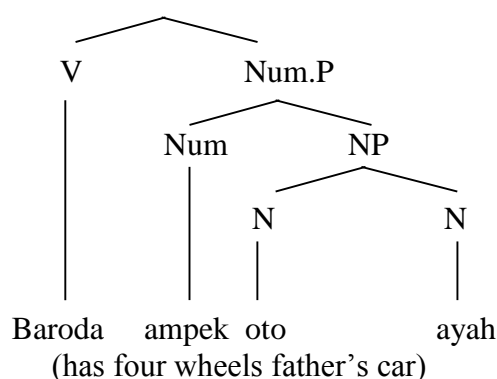
**Rewrite Rules:**VP  $\longrightarrow$  V + Num.PV  $\longrightarrow$  barodaNum.P  $\longrightarrow$  Num + NPNum  $\longrightarrow$  ampekNP  $\longrightarrow$  N + NN  $\longrightarrow$  otoN  $\longrightarrow$  ayah**Function Of Verb Phrase**

Table. 1. Function of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language

English	Minang Language
To form the head phrase into verb phrase	To form the head and behind phrase into Verb Phrase.
1. Vcop + NP $\longrightarrow$ VP Become a doctor Vcop + AP $\longrightarrow$ VP Are stupid Vcop + PP $\longrightarrow$ VP Is on the bed	1. V + C $\longrightarrow$ VP V + N $\longrightarrow$ VP Manjua taranak V + V $\longrightarrow$ VP Baraja mamancıang V + Adv.P $\longrightarrow$ VP Lalok manungkuik V + Adj $\longrightarrow$ VP Babibi rancak V + Num.P $\longrightarrow$ VP Baroda ampek
2. VI $\longrightarrow$ VP Cried VI + Adv $\longrightarrow$ VP Run quickly	2. M + V $\longrightarrow$ VP Md + V $\longrightarrow$ VP Mungkin pai Aspect + V $\longrightarrow$ VP Lah tajua Adv + V $\longrightarrow$ VP Jarang batamu
3. VT + NP $\longrightarrow$ VP Get the money	
4. Vdis + NP + NP $\longrightarrow$ VP Bought Bill a car	
5. Vtl + NP + PP $\longrightarrow$ VP Throw garbage in the basket	
6. Vil + PP $\longrightarrow$ VP	

Stood on the table	
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### The similarities and differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language

#### a. The Similarities of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language

The similarities of both languages can be found in Verb Phrase formation in English and Minang Language such as

1. Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language can be formed by Verb + Noun  
Example: English: Learned French  
Minang: manjua taranak
2. Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language can be formed by Verb + Adjective  
Example: English: are stupid  
Minang: babini rancak
3. Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language can be formed by Verb + Adverb  
Example: English: are stupid  
Minang: lalok manungkuik
4. The function of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language are similar, that is to form the head phrase into verb phrase  
Example:  
English: bought + Bill + a + car  
Minang: baroda + ampek + oto + ayah

#### b. The Differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language

The differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language are:

1. Verb Phrase in English can be formed by added Prepositional Phrase (PP), but Verb Phrase in Minang Language can be formed by added Modifier (Modal, Aspect, Adverb), Verb + Verb and Num.P  
Example:  
English: he is in the bed  
Minang: mungkin pai (modal)  
Lah tajua (aspect)  
Jarang batamu (adverb)  
V + V: baraja mamancıang  
V + Num.P: baroda ampek oto ayah
2. The function of Verb Phrase in Minang Language can be behind into Verb Phrase.  
Example:  
English: walk slowly  
Minang: paralu pai

## CONCLUSION

After analyzing and describing the similarities and differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language, some conclusions can be drawn as the following:

1. The formation of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language are:

Table. 2. The formation of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language

Verb Phrase in English	Verb Phrase in Minang Language
Vcop + NP	V + C
Vcop + AP	- V + N
Vcop + PP	- V + V <sub>v</sub>
	- V + Adv.P

	- V + Num.P
VI	V + M
- VI + Adv	- Modal + V
Vt + NP	- Aspect + V
Vdis + NP + NP	- Adv + V
Vtl + NP + PP	
Vil + PP	

2. The function of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language is to form the head phrase become the Verb Phrase.
  - a. The similarities of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language are:
    - Both English and Minang Language can be formed by:
 

VP → V + NP  
 VP → V + AP  
 VP → V + Adv
    - The function of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language is to form the head phrase becomes the verb phrase.
3. The differences of Verb Phrase in English and Minang Language are:
  - a. Verb Phrase in English can be formed by added Prepositional Phrase, but Verb Phrase in Minang Language can be formed by added Modifier (Modals, Aspect and Adverb), Verb + Verb and Num.P.
  - b. The function of Verb Phrase in Minang Language can be in behind Phrase becomes Verb Phrase.

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