

# Sentence Pattern Contrastive Analysis of English and Sigulai Language

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**Abstract.** This study focuses on analyzing and contrasting sentence pattern differences in both English and Sigulai languages. The study intends to find out the differences in sentence pattern between English and Sigulai language and how the sentence pattern of two languages are different. This current study was conducted by employing the qualitative method by using the contrastive analysis approach. Purposive sampling was used to select samples comprising two native-Simeulue students studying in Banda who speaks Sigulai. The findings show that there were contrast differences in verbal and nominal sentence patterns between English and Sigulai. Moreover, it can be concluded that Sigulai language has a non-configurational sentence pattern as many other Austronesian languages in Aceh and Indonesia in general.

**Keywords:** *Sentence Pattern, Contrastive Analysis, English, Sigulai, Simeulue-Aceh*

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## INTRODUCTION

Language is the main mechanism of humans to communicate. Conveying feelings, responding to the phenomena, sharing ideas, and protesting or criticizing are reasons why language is inseparable to human communication. Armstrong et al. (2011) stated that “by language one can talk with others, express his desires, his feeling, and his ideas”. Language is also a collective miracle, and an interactive phenomenon, since it serves as a means of communication between persons, and it creates a relationship between them (Irvine et al., 1992; Patra & Behera, 2012). Turnbull and Anertt (2002) classify language into three categories, namely: first language, second language, and foreign language. First language is also termed mother tongue, or native language or L1. In addition, first language is the language that someone has learned from birth or children or just afterward, or that someone speaks the best, and very frequently so that it becomes their identity (Unsworth, 2013); (Bowerman, 2011). The second language is not the native language, but it is formally practiced, recognized and obligated for public communication, or it is a lately generated language with little disclosure to it (Gass, 2013). It also means that second language is the second language learnt by someone and it is not spoken in the county of the speaker.

Therefore, language and society are always together and it has become a very important part of social sciences and humanities (Akmajian et al., 2017; Blommaert, 2015). A group of people inhabiting a particular area is largely distinguishable into minor clusters. They are shaped by the cultural, line of work, faith, belief, socio-economic, education, and some other similarities and differences. Olan and Bello (2016) believe that language is a fundamental social capital for human beings. In communication, both in a spoken or written form, language is used as a medium to transmit information and to exchange ideas in a meaningful way (Richards & Schmidt, 2014). Linguistically speaking, the study about the sentence of languages is called syntax (Tallerman, 2014; Denison, 2014). In the word of Batanovic and Bojic (2014), syntax is the establishment of procedures, codes, and methods that administer sentence structure and word order in a particular language. Syntax is also utilized to denote the study of such principles and procedures. Moreover, Miller (2002) describes syntax is “the study that focuses on how words are put together to create phrases and how phrases are put together to build clauses or bigger phrases, and how clauses are put together to build sentence”.

Having said that, we are now moving on to provide a quick overview of the focus language of this study, namely Sigulai language. Sigulai language is included in Austronesian language family or sub-languages because Simeulue is one island of the Indonesian enormous archipelago situated in Aceh (Marschall, 2010). The province of Aceh with Acehnese as the main language is accompanied and complemented with other local languages, such as Gayo, Alas, Aneuk Jamee, Tamiang, Kluet, etc., which are included in Austronesian of Aceh-Chamic language family and origin (Durie, 1996; Daud, 1997; Sidwell, 2005; Eades, 2015; Abdussalam & Mahmud, 2014; Selian & Nasution, 2017; Pratiwy, 2018; Agustina, 2019).

The people inhabiting the Simeuleu Island, located near to the sea and land border to the North Sumatra province, speak at least three main languages, namely Sigulai, Leukon and Devayan (*Pemerintah Kabupaten Simeulue*, 2017). Although some other variant of dialects and languages also used, such as Leukon, Aneuk Jame, Simolus, and Haloban, the two most popularly used are Sigulai and Devayan. According to the local people, Sigulai language is claimed to be one of the oldest local languages in Indonesia, located in Simeulue, Aceh province. Sigulai is the name of a small empire in the Simeulue Barat, Bano Sigulai. Sigulai is also the name of a village in the district of Simeulue Barat. Some people call it Lamamek, which is the name of a village in Simeulue Barat district, which also has the same language. The language is used mainly in three sub-districts of Simeulue (Island) Regency, namely Salang, Alafan, and Simeulue Barat. Sigulai language ISO 639-3 is coded as “smr” in [glotolog.org](http://glotolog.org).

Sigulai language is used as the language of instruction in non-formal education and teaching, especially by the community members of the three sub-districts mentioned earlier. Widayati (2016) argues that even in formal education institutions, the language is regularly used to help low-achieving students from remote areas in elementary schools, who have not mastered Indonesian well. Sigulai language also used in folk literature and performing arts, such as proverb, puzzles, rhymes, and songs. However, Sigulai language which is grouped into Austronesian language, particularly the sub-group of Malayo-polynesian branch, does not have a formal syntactical rules or grammar like other local languages in Aceh, and therefore only known as a spoken language with strong oral culture (Adelaar, 2005). Some other prior studies on Sigulai Language have confirmed Adelaar examination, most notably from Nothofer (1986) who focuses on Sigulai language vowel and phonemes, and from Amery and Aziz (2019) on enumeration and classifiers in the languages used in Simeuleu. Nothofer (1994) furthermore refers Sigulai language as “Simalur” following Kähler and adds it into Barrier Island-Batak sub group language.

In this light, studies on the language of Simeulue did exist, sanctioning their current growth of economic and popular new tourist destination following the earthquake and tsunami calamity in 2004. Sariakin (2016) for instance, provided a detailed account of the dialect comparison in Simeulue, whereas Candrasari (2014, 2017) focused more on the generic account of preserving the native language amongst students from Simeulue, and the vitality of Simeulue’s Devayan language. Therefore, realizing the fact that most of those studies in the context of Aceh are understudied and overlooked the sentence pattern analysis, unless the study conducted by Ramli and Erwandi (2019) which offered an overall comparative analysis between Aneuk Jame language in Aceh and Minangkabau language in the province of West Sumatera. As Sigulai Language is part of Indonesian, and Indonesian- Austronesian language, direct and specific sentence pattern contrastive analysis between Indonesian and English language are available (see Utami, 2009; Uktolseja et al., 2019). However, thorough examination on sentence patterns between Sigulai language and English is relatively rare. Another reason why contrastive analysis on Sigulai and English language is deemed essential is the fact

that the number of Sigulai students studying at Department of English Language Education, Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry is steadily increasing. Thus, the need to provide an actual account on this scarce topic and language is worth researching, as full references on this topic is also very limited. This study, hence, would like to address this gap and to contribute to the body knowledge of sentence pattern contrastive linguistics analysis between Sigulai Language and English.

Despite Sigulai language and English language belong to two different language families (Austronesian and Indo-European), it is believed that they have similarities and differences. At least, they both have their own patterns and nature in their respective language community. This can be analysed by means of contrastive analysis whereby error analysis in sentence patterns in those languages can be comparatively examined through interlanguage and multicultural contexts for foreign language teaching purposes, particularly for linguistics and sociolinguistic courses (Rustipa, 2011). This study adopted the structural linguistic approach to provide a closer look on sentence pattern differences in those languages. Therefore, the similarities aspect will not be the main focus of this present study.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Declerck (2015) states that tense is utilized to demonstrate the relation between the actions or state defined by the verb and the time, which is replicated in the form of the verb, and employed to detect an occurrence or state to a point of time. Alzuhairy (2016) mentions that there are twelve tenses in English, namely: present simple, present progressive, present perfect, present perfect progressive, past simple, past progressive, past perfect, past perfect progressive, future simple, future progressive, future perfect, and future perfect progressive. Each type of sentence has different patterns to each other. There are four kinds of sentences in English, namely simple sentences, complex sentences, compound sentences, and compound-complex sentences. Oshima and Hogue (2007) argued that each type of sentence has one or more key ideas and details.

In English grammar, the term nominal is a grouping that designates the usage of parts of speech in a sentence. In detail, the nominal meaning is a noun, noun phrase, or any word or word group that purposes as a noun. It is also known as a substantive. Nominal can be the subject of a sentence, the object of a sentence, or the predicate nominative, which tails a linking verb and clarifies what the subject is. Nominal issued to offer more facts than a simple noun. As a grammatical type, nominal defines words or groups of words that function together as a noun. The words in a nominal combination provide more elements about the noun, making it specific. Nominal phrases and clauses can comprise other parts of speech such as articles and adjectives.

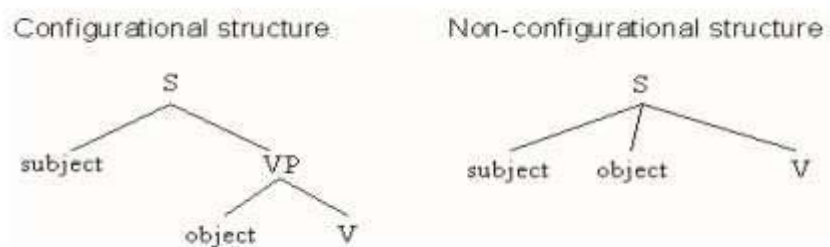
According to Christianto (2018), understanding the sentence pattern is very necessary to know the structure of each type of sentence. The basic sentence patterns are sentences that consist of a subject and a verb or predicate. A subject means to whom or what something happens, a predicate is what happens. A sentence is incomplete when it consists of only a subject or verb. Therefore, a complete sentence must have both, a subject and a verb, while the more complete

sentences consist of a subject, a verb and complement or modifiers of the subject and the predicate. A subject of a sentence is usually a noun identifying the person or object the sentence is about. A predicate of a sentence is usually a verb, it refers to what the person or object is doing or has done. A sentence usually contains additional information about the subject and the predicate.

Sentence pattern is just another way to talk about the way a sentence is put together. Sentence patterns are like maps of sentences. Patterns show the different parts of basic sentences. The patterns also show how these parts go together so that the sentence makes sense. The most essential parts of written sentences are the subject and the predicate. The subject and the predicate are the parts that allow written sentences to make sense when they stand alone. Some basic sentences also have objects and complements. These parts may be needed to make the meaning of the sentence complete (Fitri, 2017). Fitri (2017), states that sentence patterns are formulas used by grammarians to illustrate the design of basics English sentences. It is necessary to understand sentence patterns by understanding some important parts of speech and sentence parts. The parts of speech are the grammatical classes to which words belong.

Typically, based on word order assets, some languages have been known as “configurational” and others as “non-configurational”. Ohara (2001), specifies that in a configurational language, the grammatical functions of subject and object acts in a specific mechanical connection to each other. English is the standard example of a configurational language, where the syntactic purposes of subject and object can be inferred from their location in the sentence. For the “configurational” languages, the most important factor is the syntactic meanings and argument associations. In configurational languages, in contrast, the subject of a sentence is separated into the fixed verb phrase (VP) (straight under S below) but the object is inside it. Since there is no VP constituent in non-configurational languages, there is no structural variance between subject and object.

Meanwhile, non-configurational language is when it explicates the variable word order without mentioning to structure. According to Morris (2018), there are three core characteristics of non-configurational language: free word order, discontinuous expressions, and null anaphora. In generative grammar, non-configurational languages are languages described by a non-rigid phrase construction, which permits irregular expressions, and fairly free word order. However, since all sentences in all languages have a firm configuration, the term “non-configurational” does not seem applicable to refer to languages. There are salient dissimilarities between languages in terms of word order and structures. Legate (2001) states that the discrepancy between configurational and non-configurational can exist solitarily in phrase structure grammars. In a dependency-based grammar, the dissimilarity is futile because dependency-based structures do not recognize a fixed verb phrase (VP) constituent.



**Figure 1.** Configurational and non-configurational structure (Legate, 2001, p.66)

The presence of the VP constituent in the configurational tree on the left allows one to describe the syntactic relationships (subject vs. object) in terms of the formation. The subject is the argument that places outside of the verb phrase (VP), but the object locates inside it. The compliment structure on the right, where there is no verb phrase (VP), tolerates one to see features of syntax differently.

## RESEARCH METHOD

### Study Design

This research employs a qualitative method. Referring to Allwood (2011), qualitative research is empirical research used to develop an understanding of the underlying reasons, opinions, and motivations of a phenomenon. Qualitative research aims to apprehend the social existence of personalities, communities, and cultures. Thus, people and groups are dissected in their natural background. In this study, we applied a theoretical linguistics approach (Lyons, 1968; Dijk, 2015; Barlow, 2011), with contrastive analysis (Setyowati, 2013; Tandiana, 2015; Umami, 2015; Puspitasari, 2010), between English and a local language of Sigulai in Aceh, Indonesia. Miller (2015), maintains that four areas that are commonly measured as the center of theoretical linguistics, namely: phonetics and phonology, syntax and semantics, morphology and language acquisition. This study focuses on the second area, the sentence pattern which belongs to syntax.

### Research Participants

The population of this study is students from Simeuleu who speak Sigulai language and study at universities in the capital city of Banda Aceh as the first city they lived and visited outside their hometown. The technique of purposive sampling, also called judgmental sampling was applied for this present study. Etikan et al. (2016), contend that purposive sampling is a non-random sampling technique that requires the researcher to specify the participants of the research based on the certain characteristic needed in the research. Participants who met the characteristic set in this study is then recruited to be the subjects of research. Hence, the participants are Simeulue students aged between 18 and 20 years old, in their first year study at the university, and admitted Sigulai language as their native language.

### Data Collection Technique

As identified by Johnson and Christensen (2016), data analysis is a technique to examine and organize the interview records, field notes, and other materials to make people understand about the phenomenon. Accordingly, analyzing the data can help us to clarify or provide what have been revealed in the study. Therefore, in this study we used several steps to collect the data:

1. We wrote three sentences in English
2. We formed the three sentences into 12 English tenses.
3. We translated the sentence into Indonesian.
4. We asked the participants to translate the Indonesian translation into Sigulai Language.
5. We wrote the sentence pattern under each sentence.
6. We analyzed the sentence pattern in each sentence.
7. We found the differences sentence pattern between English language and Sigulai language.
8. We categorized the differences to draw conclusion

In analysing and presenting the data, the gloss or the brief notation of every single word is provided to clearly present the differences between the two language's sentence patterns (Ko, 2012; Chen, 2014). A gloss is a brief outline or summary of a word, appropriate for use in the interlinear text, typescripts, writing and transcript displays.

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The findings cover two aspects as attempts to answer the research questions that were mentioned earlier. The first inquiry is about the differences in sentence patterns of English and Sigulai languages, whereas the second one is about how the sentence patterns of the two languages are different. The data analysis used for the study was verbal and nominal sentences in 12 tenses in English, which were translated into Indonesian and then translated into Sigulai language

Having analyzed the data based on English tenses, we found that the differences in sentence patterns between English and Sigulai exist in three tenses: simper present, simple future, and simple past tense. In verbal sentences, the different sentence pattern is found in the simple present tense and simple future tense. In the simple present tense, the English sentence pattern is SVOC, while in Sigulai the sentence pattern is VOSC. In the simple future tense, the English sentence pattern is SVOC, while in Sigulai the sentence pattern is Modal SVOC.

In nominal sentences, the different sentence pattern is found in the simple past tense and future simple tense. In simple past tense, the English sentence pattern is SVC, while in Sigulai the sentence pattern is VSC. As in verbal sentences, the sentence patterns of the simple future tense of English and Sigulai languages are also different in which the English sentence pattern is SVOC, while in Sigulai the sentence pattern is Modal SVOC. These findings are presented and discussed in the following sections.

## Sentence Patterns Differences in English and Sigulai Language

Table 1. Tenses and sentence pattern in two languages (Verbal sentence)

Tenses	English Sentence	English Sentence Pattern	Sigulai Sentence	Sigulai Sentence Pattern
Present Simple	I play basketball every week	SVOC	1. <i>Udu maen basket tiok minggu</i> Gloss: Pre- I play basketball every week 2. <i>Maen basket du tiok minggu</i> Gloss: Pre- Play basketball I every week	1. SVOC 2. VOSC
Present Progressive	I am playing basketball now	SVOC	<i>Udu maen basket lale'e</i> Gloss: Pre- I play basketball now	SVOC
Present Perfect	I have just played basketball	SVO	<i>Udunga ana maen basket nak</i> Gloss: Pre- I have just played basketball	SVOC
Present Perfect Progressive	I have been playing basketball for 4 hours	SVOC	<i>Udula maen basket salamo 4 jam</i> Gloss: Pre- I have been playing basketball for 4 hours	SVOC
Past Simple	I played basketball yesterday	SVOC	<i>Modu mae basket menefi</i> Gloss: Pre- I played basketball yesterday	SVOC
Past Progressive	I was playing basketball the whole day	SVOC	<i>Modula mae basket mekhe-mekhe</i> Gloss: Pre- I was playing basketball the whole day	SVOC
Past Perfect	I had played basketball before Rivan came	SVOC	<i>Modula maen basket sebelum di lentuk Rivan e</i> Gloss: Pre- I had played basketball before came Rivan	SVOC
Past Perfect Progressive	I had been playing basketball when Rivan came	SVOC	<i>Modula maen basket pas dilentuk Rivan e</i> Gloss: Pre- I had been playing basketball when came Rivan	SVOC
Future Simple	I will play basketball next week	SVOC	<i>Fakha du maen basket minggu haifena</i> Gloss: Will I play basketball week next	Modal SVOC
Future Progressive	I will be playing basketball tomorrow	SVOC	<i>Fakha du maen basket fongi</i> Gloss: Will I be playing basketball tomorrow	Modal SVOC
Future Perfect	I will have played basketball when you get home	SVOC	<i>Fakha du maen basket pas ge lentuk khafoe</i> Gloss: Will I played basketball when you get home	Modal SVOC
Future Perfect Progressive	I will have been playing basketball for 2 hours by the time you get home	SVOC	<i>Fakha du maen basket salamo 2 jam atua ge lentuk khafoe</i> Gloss: Will I have been playing basketball for 2 hours by the time you get home	Modal SVOC



## Verbal Sentence

In the following part, verbal sentence is defined as the word containing verbs (“play”), usually as predicate, whereas gloss is here understood as the brief note on the word by word translation of the Sigulai language into English language. As stated earlier, two different sentence patterns are found in verbal sentences. We only spotted these on two examples. The first one is found in the simple present tense and the second one is found in the simple future tense.

### 1. Present simple (VOSC)

English: I play basketball every week

S V O C

Sigulai : *Maen basket du tiok minggu*

Gloss : Play basketball I every week

Both language have the same elements, however the sentence pattern of each are different. In English the sentence pattern is Subject (S), Verb (V), Object (O), and Complement (C), while in Sigulai the Verb (V) comes first, then followed by Object (O), Subject (S), and Complement (C). While in present progressive, present perfect, present perfect progressive, simple past, past progressive, past perfect, and pas perfect progressive tenses has similar sentence patterns with English.

### 2. Future simple (Modal SVOC)

English : I will play basketball next week

S Modal V O C

Sigulai : *Fakha du maen basket minggu ifena*

Gloss : Will I play basketball week next

In this case both languages also have the same element, however the sentence pattern of each are different. In English the word “will” comes after the Subject(S), while in Sigulai the word “will” comes in the beginning of the sentence.

**Table 2.** Tenses and sentence pattern in two languages (Nominal Sentence)

Tenses	English Sentence	English Sentence Pattern	Sigulai Sentence	Sigulai Sentence Pattern
Present Simple	He is in the classroom every Monday	SVC	<i>Udi khaibakha kelas satiok Senin</i> Gloss: Pre-He is in the classroom every Monday	SVC
Present Perfect	He has been in the classroom since morning	SVC	<i>Udila khaibakha kelas fuli subuh</i> Gloss: Pre-He has been in the classroom since morning	SVC
Past Simple	He was in the classroom yesterday	SVC	<i>Mo di khaibakha kelas menefi</i> Gloss: Was He in the classroom yesterday	VSC

Past Perfect	He had had in the classroom before Jenni came	SVC	<i>Udila khaibakha kelas sebelum dilentuk Jenni</i> Gloss: Pre-He had had in the classroom before came Jenni	VSC
Future Simple	He will be in the classroom next Monday	SVC	<i>Fakha di khaibakha kelas Senin ifena</i> Gloss: Will he in the classroom Monday next	Will SVC
Future Perfect	He will have been in the classroom before	SVC	<i>Fakha di khaibakha kelas Senin ifena</i> Gloss: Will he in the classroom Monday next	Will SVC

In English, the nominal sentences do not come in progressive form. Thus, of all 12 tenses in English, nominal sentences can only be formed in six tenses which are simple present tense, present perfect tense, simple past tense, past perfect tense, simple future tense, and future perfect tense. Meanwhile, the remaining six tenses are present progressive tense, present perfect progressive tense, past progressive tense, past perfect progressive tense, future progressive tense, and past perfect progressive tense do not have nominal forms. As in this study analysis, it follows the English rules in which the nominal sentences translated to Sigulai were only in those six tenses.

### Nominal Sentence

The nominal sentence meant in this context is the use of “to-be” in non-verbal sentence. As stated in the analysis before, two different sentence patterns are found in nominal sentences. The first one is found in the simple past tense and the second one is found in the simple future tense.

#### 1. Past Simple (VSC)

English	: <u>He was in the classroom yesterday</u>
	S V C
Sigulai	: <i>Mo di khaibakha kelas menefi</i>
Gloss	: Was He in the classroom yesterday

From the example above, the difference sentence pattern is in the Verb (V). In English, the Verb (V) always comes after the Subject (S), while in Sigulai the Verb comes at the beginning of sentence then followed by the Subject (S). While in the simple present, present perfect, past simple, and past perfect, tenses have similar sentence patterns with English.

#### 2. Future Simple (Modal SVC)

English	: <u>He will be in the classroom next Monday</u>
	S Modal V C
Sigulai	: <i>Fakha di khaibakha kelas Senin ifena</i>
Gloss	: Will He in the classroom Monday next

In this case, both languages also have the same elements, however, the sentence pattern of each are different. In English, the word “will” comes after the Subject(S), while in Sigulai the word “will” comes at the beginning of the sentence.

### How the sentence patterns of the two languages are different?

As presented earlier, the differences in sentence patterns occurred in both verbal and nominal sentences. In verbal sentences, there are two differences in sentence patterns between English and Sigulai language: are present simple tenses and future tenses. In simple present, the differences in sentence patterns occur because the sentence is influenced by one of the morphological processes, namely affixes. The following example will illustrate the difference:

English	: I <u>play</u> <u>basketball</u> <u>every week</u>
	S V O C
Sigulai	: 1. <u>Udu maen basket tiok minggu</u>
	S V O C
	2. <u>Maen du basket tiok minggu</u>
	V S O C

The example shows that the process of changing sentence patterns between English and Sigulai language is influenced by affixes to the subject of the sentence. In the first sentence, the word "udu" has a prefix on the subject, which is "u", while in the second sentence, the word "du" does not use any affix. In Sigulai language, if there is a prefix on the subject of the sentence, the subject must be at the beginning of the sentence with SVOC sentence pattern. Meanwhile, if the subject has no affixes, the subject is coming after the verb, with VSOC sentence pattern. Both of the forms, either SVOC or VSOC are grammatical in Sigulai.

In future tenses, to indicate the future time, Sigulai language does not need to always use the word “Fakha”, which means “will”, it requires adverb of time at the end of the sentences such as “fongi” meaning “tomorrow”, “minggu ifena” meaning “next week”, “bulan ifena” meaning “next month”, “taun ifena” meaning “next year”, etc.

English	: I <u>will</u> <u>play</u> <u>basketball</u> <u>next week</u>
	S Modal V O C
Sigulai	: 1. <u>Fakha du maen basket minggu ifena</u>
Gloss	: Will I play basketball week next
	2. <u>Maen du basket minggu ifena</u>
	Play I basketball next week

Both examples listed above, (1) and (2), are grammatical. In (1), it completely follows the sentence pattern of the English language and it has the same sentence pattern with English. However, in (2), the word “fakha” meaning “will”, is omitted and the word “I” which is translated as “du” in Sigulai is put after the verb. Thus, when the word “fakha” is omitted, the sentence pattern is changed from SVOC to VSOC. Furthermore, even after the word “fakha” is omitted, the sentence is still well understood as long as there is an adverb of time indicating future situation.

Next, in nominal sentences, there are also two differences in sentence patterns between English and Sigulai language, which are in simple past tenses and

future tenses. Similar to sentence pattern of present tense in verbal sentences, the differences of sentence pattern in past simple in nominal sentences also happen because the sentence is influenced by prefix attached to the subject. However, the affixes on the subject in nominal sentences are different from the affixes that exist on the subject in the verbal sentence described earlier. The following example will show the process of changing the sentence pattern:

English	:	<u>He</u>	<u>was</u>	<u>in the classroom</u>	<u>yesterday</u>
		S	V		C
Sigulai	:	<u>Modi</u>	<u>khaibakha</u>	<u>kelas</u>	<u>menefi</u>
		V	S		C

In verbal sentences, if the prefix suffix is on the subject, then the subject must be at the beginning of the sentence, while in the nominal sentence, the prefix on the subject is coming at the beginning of the sentence. It happens because in nominal sentences there is no main verb, but the verb is replaced by to be. It affects the differences in sentence patterns between English with SVC sentence pattern and Sigulai language with VSC sentence pattern in past simple tense in nominal sentences. Similarly, in nominal sentences, the differences are also found in sentence patterns between English and Sigulai language in future simple tense. As stated before, to indicate the future time in Sigulai language does not need to always use the word “Fakha”, they only need to use adverb of time at the end of the sentences.

### Discussion

The first difference in sentence pattern between Sigulai language and English language is in term of the order of sentence. Sigulai language is more flexible, in a way that it allows the possibility to alter the order of the basic sentence pattern without having to redefine the meaning of the sentence, whereas the English language this case is often unacceptable. The finding of this present study is almost similar to the findings from Yano (2012), who investigated the five basic sentence patterns in English language, as follows SV, SVO, SVIODO, SVC, and SVOC. Similarly, in Sigulai language, almost in all tenses commonly the sentence pattern used is SVO, SVC, and SVOC. The finding is too related to sentence patterns in Spanish, which is much more flexible than English (Dussias, 2003). This is, in the same way, occurred in Sigulai language sentence pattern. Someone can change that order without altering the meaning of the sentences or making it completely ungrammatical. We correspondingly found that in Sigulai language, it is possible to change the order of sentence without altering the meaning of the sentence or making it completely grammatical. The following example illustrates the differences:

English	:	I play basketball every week
Sigulai	:	<i>Udu maen basket tiok minggu</i>

However, the only grammatically correct sentence in English is “I play basketball every week”, while in Sigulai these following sentences are also acceptable:

*Maen basket du sabe tiok minggu* (Verb+ Object+ Subject+ Complement)

*Tiok minggu udu sabe maen basket* (Complement+ Subject+ Verb+ Object).

The example above demonstrated that the Sigulai language is one of the non-configurational languages because the Sigulai language does not have a fixed grammar arrangement. The example shows, the Subject position (S) can be at the beginning of the sentence or can also be in the middle of the sentence, and as the position of the verb (V) and the complementary position (C). It is related to research that has been done by Morris (2018) who argued that there are three core features of non-configurational language: free word order, discontinuous expressions, and null anaphora.

The second notable contrast difference between the two languages is regarding the function of the word “will”. The future tense form of English sentences is different from the function “*fakha*” in Sigulai language. In English future tense, the function “will” is as an auxiliary verb. According to Lalekhjosteh and Mukundan (2011), an auxiliary verb is a verb that adds practical or grammatical meaning to the clause in which it performs, such as to signify tense, aspect, modality, voice, stress, etc. Auxiliary verbs usually pair with a main verb. The main verb offers the central semantic content of the clause. However in Sigulai language, to express the future time, they do not need to always use the word “*fakha*”. By using the adverb of time at the end of the sentence such as “*fongi*” meaning “tomorrow”, “*minggu ifena*” meaning “next week” and others adverb of time, the future time can also be clearly expressed and understood.

## CONCLUSION

The finding shows that there are at least two differences between sentence patterns in English and Sigulai language in verbal sentences. The first sentence pattern is “VSOC” in present simple tense, and the second sentence pattern is “Modal VSC” in the future tense. Similarly, in nominal sentences there are also two differences sentence patterns were found. The first sentence pattern is “VSC” in the simple past tense, and the second sentence pattern is “Will VSC” in the future tense. While how the sentence patterns of the two languages are different is the morphology process of Sigulai language, and then Sigulai language is one of the non-configurational and Austronesian languages, unlike English which is categorized into configurational language with fixed grammar system, and structural relationship between the systems (Ohara, 2001).

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