



## The role of Indonesian as a communication tool in learning

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### Article History

Received: 08 May 2024  
Revised: 03 June 2024  
Accepted: 11 June 2024  
Published: 11 June 2024

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DOI: [10.62568/ella.v2i2.128](https://doi.org/10.62568/ella.v2i2.128)

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**Abstract:** Language is the most important component in human life. Humans would not be able to continue their lives properly and regularly without language. They cannot interact easily and well if they do not master each other's language and in the absence of continuity they are also unable to capture the mental expressions or desires expressed by their communication partners. This also causes separation and a lack of emotional connection with each other. Language is the most effective communication tool in conveying messages, thoughts, feelings, goals to other people and makes it possible to create cooperation between people. So that the role of language becomes very dominant in various daily human activities. The aim of this research is to describe things related to Indonesian as a communication tool in learning. The method used in this research is the literature review method, data is collected from relevant library data. The results of this research and discussion are to explain language as a communication tool which includes discussing the function of language as a tool of human communication. Humans are social creatures who interact, cooperate and establish social contacts in society. Language allows humans to form social groups to fulfill their need to live together.

**Keywords:** communication, learning; language

### Introduction

Language is important in learning because in principle this activity focuses on how to move people/learners to carry out learning activities. Language becomes the delivery tool so that learning reaches a certain point as a predetermined competency. As the owner of language in communication, some elements in learning place humans as the main element, while other elements are complementary to be able to express language in learning communication. Elements other than humans include learning messages or content, learning methods, learning media, and learning hardware (Aini, 2019: 1).

The function of language as a human communication tool includes five basic functions, namely the function of expression, information function, exploration function, persuasion function and entertainment

function. (a). The expression function embodies the concept that language is a human medium for producing inner expressions that speakers want to convey to others. (b). Information function is a function to convey messages or messages to others. (c). Exploration function is the use of language to explain a matter, case and situation. (d). Persuasion function is the use of language that is inviting or influencing. (e). Entertainment function is the use of language to entertain, please and satisfy the mind. These five functions greatly support the process of developing science, especially the information function and the exploration function (Annisa, 2020). The position and function of Indonesian as the state language has placed Indonesian as the language of science, technology and art (ipteks).

Humans are social creatures who interact, cooperate, and establish social contacts in

society. Humans need a means of communication, namely language. Language allows humans to form social groups as a fulfillment of their need to live together. When in these social groups, humans are individually bound. The attachment of individuals in the group as self-identity in the group. Each individual is a member of a particular social group who is subject to a set of rules agreed upon in the group. One of the rules contained in it is a set of language rules.

Language is not only used as a means of communication, but also as a means of learning and developing thinking skills. Language allows humans to think abstractly where factual objects are transformed into abstract language symbols. The existence of these abstract language symbols allows humans to think about something continuously. Language communicates three things, namely: thoughts, feelings, and attitudes (Purwanti, 2020).

Conveying information, both orally and in writing, cannot be separated from difficulties. This shows that language still has to be learned, more precisely practiced, because language is a form of skill. As the most perfect creature of God, the use of language can distinguish between humans and other creatures of God. Humans can think and talk about objects that are not in front of their eyes. The complex life of the world is discussed in simple and understandable statements (Suleman, 2018). Language also allows us to communicate knowledge to others. Language does play an important role in human life.

## Method

The research method used in this study emphasizes qualitative methods. The qualitative method is applied because the process of using language by observation, besides that the method used in this research also uses the literature review method or literature review. Literature review is a list of references from all types of references such as books and journals. The activity of preparing a literature review aims to collect scientific data and information, in the form of theories, methods, or approaches that have developed

and have been documented in the form of books and journals.

While the literature study is an important step, after a researcher determines the research topic, the next step is to conduct a theoretical study and references related to the research being conducted. In the study of language as a means of communication in learning, it seeks to describe matters relating to language as a means of communication in learning which explains the function of language as a means of communication and learning. The use of language in learning cannot be ignored. Because language is very important to facilitate communication in learning.

## Result

### *Definition of language*

Language in a broad sense, is a means of communication that is not limited to words alone as well as gestures, mimics, and panto mimics. Thus language in a broad sense can be in the form of words or sentences both spoken and written, gestures and panto mimics, silence, and manners or actions.

Language is an arbitrary system of sound symbols, which is used by a group of people to cooperate, interact, and identify themselves. Language is a tool or cultural manifestation used by humans to communicate with each other or relate, either through writing, speaking or willingness to their interlocutors or other people (Alburrahim, 2019).

Based on the above definition, it can be concluded that language is a tool to communicate through oral (primary language) and written (secondary language). Communicating through oral (produced by human speech), namely in the form of sound symbols, where each sound symbol has its own characteristics. A symbol can sound the same to our ears but have a very different meaning. Writing is an arrangement of symbols (letters) that are assembled into meaningful words and written down.

Spoken language is more expressive where mimicry, intonation, and body movements can be mixed together to support the

communication. The tongue is as sharp as a knife / razor, therefore it is better not to say words carelessly and appreciate and respect the interlocutor or the target of communication. Humans can through language adjust to the customs, behavior, manners of society, and at the same time easily blend themselves with all forms of society. To be able to realize all of that, speakers must be good at using language, so they must always learn the language and think well about what will be conveyed. Thus there will be no misunderstanding in communication (Setyawati, Rukni: 300-302).

### *Functions and elements of language*

Language essentially has two main functions, namely as a means of communication between humans and as a cultural tool that unites human groups who use the language. The first function we can call the communication function and the second function as a cohesive or integrative function. The development of language functions must pay attention to these two functions so that there is a balance that supports each other in its growth. Like humans who use it, language must continue to grow and develop along with the changing times. This makes motivation for language users to continue to learn and think to face the growing era of globalization.

Indonesian in its position as the state language functions as follows. First, as the official language of the state. With the use of Indonesian in the 1945 Indonesian independence proclamation script. From then on, Indonesian was used in all ceremonies, events, and state activities both in oral and written form. Second, as an official language of instruction in educational institutions, Indonesian is used as the language of instruction in educational institutions ranging from kindergartens to universities (Sujinah et al., 2018). This proves that language supports the learning process. Third, as an official language in transportation at the national level for the purposes of planning and implementing development, Indonesian is used in relations between government agencies and disseminating information to the public. Fourth, as an official language in the development of culture and the utilization of

modern science and technology. As a function of the development of national culture, science, and technology, Indonesian feels very useful.

The diverse national culture, which comes from a diverse Indonesian society, is unlikely to be disseminated to and enjoyed by the Indonesian people with a language other than Indonesian. In order to reach a wider audience, the dissemination of science and technology, whether through textbooks, popular books, or Indonesian magazines. This implementation has a reciprocal relationship with its function as the language of science pioneered through educational institutions, especially in universities. In addition, the Indonesian language in the cultural structure has a dual position, function and role. The dual role is as a cultural root and product which also functions as a means of thinking and a means of supporting the growth and development of science and technology. Without such a role of language, science and technology would not be able to develop. The implication is in the development of reasoning power, making language an infrastructure for modern thinking. Therefore, if we are careful in using language, we will also be careful in thinking because language is a mirror of reasoning power (mind) (Setyawati, Rukni: 303-306).

### *Language as a communication tool*

Language as a Communication Tool, Language as a communication tool is the most effective way to convey thoughts, intentions and goals to the people we communicate with. When using language to communicate, it has a purpose in order to attract the attention of listeners or readers. Humans have two ways of communicating, namely verbal and non-verbal. Communicating verbally is usually done using tools or media in the form of both oral and written, while communicating non-verbally is usually done using media in the form of symbols, for example, such as traffic signs and then translated into human language (Susanti, 2023).

The human ability to speak, which distinguishes it from other social creatures, is a result of the enlargement and development of the human brain. One view states that people living in different parts of the world feel the

need to be able to organize solutions to the problems they face. In this case, they created different ways of living and along with that, language became one of the ways to fulfill their needs. The most basic function of language is to name people, objects or events. Everyone has a name for social identification. People can also name anything, such as different objects, including certain emotions they experience or feel.

Language as a means of communication has the main function of language is that communication is the delivery of messages or meanings by one person to another. The attachment and association of language with humans causes language to be impermanent and always changing along with changes in human activities in their lives in society. According to Chaer (in Diah & Wulandari, 2018), the function of language as a means of human communication includes five basic functions, namely the function of expression, information function, exploration function, persuasion function and entertainment function. (a). The expression function embodies the concept that language is a human medium for producing inner expressions that speakers want to convey to others. (b). Information function is a function to convey messages or messages to others. (c). Exploration function is the use of language to explain a matter, case and situation. (d). Persuasion function is the use of language that is inviting or influencing. (e). Entertainment function is the use of language to entertain, please and satisfy the mind. These five functions greatly support the process of developing science, especially the information function and the exploration function.

Therefore, every human being has an obligation to understand and use language in their daily lives such as these three functions. For this reason, language does not exist to mock, offend, or cuss each other. However, language is given by God to humans to recognize each other, praise each other, invite and provide advice and criticism among fellow humans. Which has the aim that this human life will continue to take place well, orderly, organized and full of peace (Kurniawan, 2023).

Communication in Daily Life, Communication in daily life is very important. Humans cannot avoid various forms of communication because with communication humans can build the relationships they need as social beings. Communication is a process of exchanging or delivering messages between individuals, whether it is done with language, symbols, signals or with behavior or actions directed from one person to another. The process of delivering messages using effective means will be easily understood by the recipient of the message. The delivery of this message can be in the form of gestures, oral, or written. It can be said that communication requires good communication skills so that the objectives to be conveyed can be received and understood properly by the recipient of the message. In the Indonesian Dictionary, communication is defined as sending and receiving messages or news between two or more people so that the intended message can be understood (Wulansari, 2021).

In a communication through language, there are usually various propositions or various expressions that can be studied in more depth in a language research. The pattern of relations between words and the surrounding environment, including space, time, and the right conditions, allows language to display its figure (Sitorus, 2018). In this section, both spoken and written language can display the use of language metaphors in a communication. In this section, language (in the literary sense) can already be classified as high-level in the level of language use in communication.

In communication, there are two things that are important in responding to something, namely the right language and in accordance with the right conditions. In that response, what needs to be the main demand is the use of appropriate language; words, sentences that are built according to the situation and conditions of the speaker or speaker. This was stated by Jalaludin Rahmat, on how to properly understand a response in language (Mailani, et al, 2022: 5-8).

*The role of Indonesian language and communication in learning*

The use of language in learning cannot be ignored. Language is very important to facilitate learning communication. The influential factors in learning can function well if they use language as a means of communication in learning. Broadly speaking, the use of language in learning communication can be described in figure 1 as follows:

Based on the chart in figure 1, it explains that language is used in communication for all factors in learning. Language consists of verbal and non-verbal language.

a) Human

Language is used by humans, both by teachers and students (learners) in communicating to convey messages in learning activities. Teachers as communicators convey messages/materials/teaching materials using verbal language, and/or non-verbal language. The use of verbal language should be done through word choices that are adjusted to the field of study, specifications or peculiarities of the message/material/teaching material, depth based on the level of the education unit, availability/concreteness, the ability of learners to digest, and socio-cultural conditions.

Non-verbal language in the form of object, kinetic, sound, and touch communication can

foster meaning, perception, attitude, and motivate learners in conducting learning activities. By adhering to the understanding that learning is a teacher's effort so that students do learning activities, non-verbal language occupies a position that is no less important than verbal language.

b) Message/Material/Teaching Material

Language in verbal and nonverbal forms is used in learning communication to convey messages/materials/teaching materials. Oral or verbal words can be used to convey learning messages/materials/teaching materials in the form of software. While language in the form of non-verbal for a certain depth, for example at the elementary school level, to convey material about animals, the teacher can make a sound according to the animal in question.

c) Methods

Language is used as a method in learning communication. Ways refer to how learners can do learning activities well, with its components including learning resources, media, and methods. Learning resources consist of teachers, students and the environment. Under certain conditions, teachers and students/learners, besides being learning resources, can also be learning media. Language (both verbal and non-verbal), has an important role in learning communication between teachers and students (Wicaksono, 2018: 17-17).

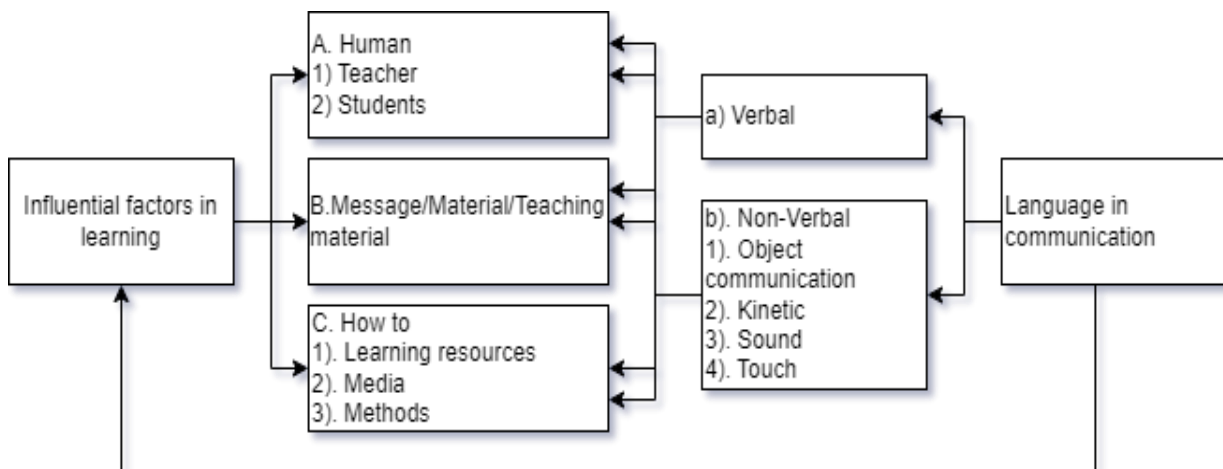


Figure 1. Scheme of language use in learning communication

## Discussion

Instruction, which means learning in the context of school education, is a process of interaction between students and educators and learning resources in a learning environment. This process is in the form of assistance provided by educators / teachers so that the process of acquiring knowledge and knowledge, mastering skills and habits, and forming attitudes and beliefs in students can occur, by utilizing learning resources. In other words, learning is a process to help students/learners to learn well.

Learning can be interpreted as an activity designed to help individuals/students/learners learn a new ability and/or value. The learning process is initially carried out to find out the basic abilities possessed by the learners which include their basic abilities, motivation, academic background, socio-economic background, and so on. The introduction of learner characteristics is the main capital for delivering teaching materials and an indicator of successful learning implementation (Susanti, 2023).

The modern paradigm of learning that prevails today is a systematic effort to create the best possible learning environment and interaction, in order to achieve optimal results. The learning environment can be in the form of living things, and non-living things. Living things can be plants, animals, humans, including teachers and instructors in education/schools. Meanwhile, interaction is intended as a link or communication between individual learners and their learning environment (Khuzamamah, 2022).

Learning does not happen immediately, but has gone through the stages of learning design. The learning process needs to be planned, implemented, assessed, and monitored so that it is carried out effectively and efficiently. Learning as a learning process is built to develop thinking creativity that can improve the thinking ability of learners, and can improve the ability to construct new knowledge as an effort to improve good mastery of the subject matter. Therefore, before a learning design is made, there must be preparatory steps in the form of knowledge about the basic abilities of learners,

the theme or message to be conveyed, the way the message is conveyed which includes methods and media, as well as facilities and infrastructure. When it has been organized, it is assessed to find out whether everything is in accordance with the plan (Wicaksono, 2018: 10-11).

## Conclusion

Language as a means of communication is the most effective way to convey thoughts, intentions and goals to the people we communicate with. Language as a means of communication has a main function, language is that communication is the delivery of messages or meanings by one person to another. Humans need language as a means of communication. Language as a means of communication, plays a very important role in human life because with language humans can interact and talk about anything.

Based on the way of presentation, language can be divided into two means, namely means with written and spoken language, whether spoken language or written language, one of its functions is to communicate so that it affects social interactions in society can be established as well as in learning. Learning has a goal that is formulated as the willingness of the learner to change behavior, and the achievement of behavior change in accordance with the formulation of learning objectives or competencies. Learning has several factors that are its components, namely: human, message, and method.

## Disclosure statement

The authors declare no conflict of interest

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