

Contrastive Analysis of Final Particle *Ne* and *Yo* in Japanese with *Ya* and *Loh* in Indonesian

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to compare and contrast the use of final particles *Yo* and *Ne* in Japanese with the particles *Ya* and *Loh* in Indonesian. It was motivated by Japanese language learners who often have difficulty in understanding or distinguishing between the functions and meanings of final particle *Yo* and *Ne*. Also, this research attempted to discover similarities and differences with particle's *Ya* and *Loh* so that no translation errors occur which may result in changes in the context and nuance of a sentence. This research used a descriptive qualitative method and the data were in the form of 220 final particles *Yo* and *Ne* from 3 episodes of Japanese drama. By employing theory by Masuoka (1991), the results reveal that 30 out of 150 data of final particle *Yo* can be interpreted as *Loh*. Most of the particle *Yo* which have functions to indicate what the opponent needs to know can be translated as *Loh*. Whereas *Yo* which shows nuance of debater or critic is mostly translated as *Kok*. Then, 46 data from 75 final particle *Ne* can be translated as *Ya*. The main function of *Ne* which is used to confirm, to show awareness, and to ask approval can be translated as *Ya*. Yet, *Ne* which has a function to confirm and to ask for approval can also be translated as *Kan*.

Keywords: Contrastive analysis, final particle, ne, particle, yo

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a means of expressing thoughts and feelings. Through language, a person can express what he thinks or express what he feels. Language is used as a tool to convey ideas, thoughts, desires and wish to others (Sutedi, 2004). Therefore, now more and more people are learning languages including foreign languages in order to facilitate communication. One of them is Japanese, which is a source of attention throughout the world, with various goals every year. More and more people are interested in learning this language. Based on Japan Foundation's data for 2012, the number of Japanese language learners in Indonesia reached 872,406 people (Anjaiah, 2013).

As one of the most widely studied foreign languages in Indonesia today, Japanese has various characteristics, one of which is related to vocabulary. Regarding vocabulary, grammatically Japanese vocabulary can be classified into ten groups of word classes, one of which is particle. Particle acts as a framework in forming a sentence. There are several opinions about the meanings and functions of a particle. One of them is coming from Sugihartono (2001) states that a particle is a type of word that does not change, and cannot stand alone that serves

to help and determine meaning, relationships, emphasis, questions, doubt, and others in a Japanese sentence both in oral and written variety.

Both Indonesian and Japanese which located in Asia have a historical relationship. However, it does not mean that both countries share the same language perception. There is a case in which both countries always add a particle on their sentences. In fact, there are several Japanese particles that can also be translated to Indonesian particles. The reason as to why the two types of particles are selected to be examined because *Ne* and *Yo* are very often used in the classroom or in textbooks. Both of those particles are also often used in Japanese drama, *manga*, and *anime*. Uniquely, both particles are often translated to *Ya* and *Loh*. Therefore, those particles need to be compared and contrasted so that it can be examined in terms of its differences and its similarities between the two. Cross-linguistic research has been conducted previously by Ratna (2020) who discusses particles *Ka(h)* of Indonesian and Japanese. The research results indicated that the similarities of *Ka(h)* particles show that there are similarities in the usage of particles in Indonesian and Japanese, especially due to both are countries that located in Asia. Yet, both particles also

have differences, because they both have different styles of linguistics.

1.1. Final Particle *Ne* and *Yo*

According to Saigo (2006), *Ne* occurs when the speaker proposes that the figure emerging in the talk should be treated as a ground for the next proposition without further ado. Typically, it is expected that the figure is either already known to the addressee or readily acceptable (pragmatic property) and thus directs the addressee's acceptance (sequential function). While Hayano (2017) explains that *Ne* is used to claim independent access, but not to the ongoing conversation (epistemic independence) (Hayano, 2017).

There are three function of *Ne* compiled according to Masuoka (1991): 1) To ask for certainty / affirmation; 2) to request approval; and 3) give comments on matters included in the listener's area. These functions are used when the information and considerations possessed by the speaker are the same as those of the listener. According to Saigo (2006), *Yo* occurs when the speaker intends the figure emerging in the talk to be grounded, typically in the expectation that the figure is either new to the addressee or even controversial (pragmatic property) and thus directs an appropriate response by the addressee (sequential function). Morita (2012) adds that *Yo* primary function is to create an interactional opportunity space where the recipient of the ongoing action is specifically designated as the party responsible for registering the *Yo* marked turn's action. The Japanese interactional particle *Yo* is small but effective device to secure the appropriate registration of current talk by the participants (Morita, 2012). Regarding the functions of *Yo*, Masuoka (1991) explains it has three functions: 1) Denying the judgment and consideration of listeners who considered to be different from him; 2) Remind things that the listener might forget; and 3) Conveying things that are not realized and not known by the listener.

Based on above descriptions, *Yo* can be used when the information and considerations possessed by the speaker are different from the listener. According to Masuoka (1991), the concepts of *Ne* and *Yo* is closely related to the consideration of speakers of the information owned by the listener. Moreover, when the speaker delivers information to the listener, h/she will consider whether the listener also possess the same information. When the speaker considers that they have the same information, the final particle *Ne* is used. However, if it is considered that the information only possessed by the listener, the final particle *Yo* is used.

1.2. Particle *Ya* and *Loh*

Particles in Indonesian described as those which serve the function to start, maintain, or strengthen communication between the speaker(s) and the

interlocutor(s) (Kridalaksana, 2008). This word class is usually in the context of the welcoming interview dialogue, the sentences spoken by the speaker and the interlocutor. Most of the particle's categories belong to the characteristics of oral variety. This oral variety is generally a non-standard variety, so most of the particle's categories are found in non-standard sentences which contain many regional elements or regional dialects.

Kridalaksana (1989) states that *Ya* serves the function to request confirmation or to express a mild order. While Wouk (2001) explains the function of *Ya* is to make statements, commands or questions less blunt or more polite. Further, he adds that the use of *Ya* can be divided into three major parts: responsive, continuer, and initiatory. The word *Ya* in another form is *Iya*. *Iya* is more often used in continuer, while *Ya* is used for responsive types and initiatory. Haristiani (2012) also explains that *Ya* is one of the final particles in Indonesian sentences used in most sentences that have various functions. Derived from *Iya*, it has the function of answering questions positively. The *Ya* that appears at the end of a sentence is often attached to the question sentence and has a function to soften the question by pressing the question and softening it.

Further, Kridalaksana (1989) points out that the function *Loh* is to conform a proposition, while Haristiani (2012) asserts that the function *Loh* is to remind so that the actual situation is not as he/she might have expected or believed. She also adds that *Loh* has the meaning of notification to the speaker who does not know. This is the final particle used to convey the unconscious or information. Since *Loh* are used to convey that the other person doesn't know, it might sound arrogant depending on how it is delivered.

Although research and discussion on the final particles *Ne* and *Yo*, and particles *Ya* and *Loh* have been conducted, less attention is given to a research which examine how *Ne* can be compared and contrasted to *Ya* or *Yo* to *Loh*. Therefore, to fill the gap, this study aims to compare and contrast the similarities and differences in the use of *Yo* and *Ne* particles in Japanese and *Ya* and *Loh* particles in Indonesia, in terms of intonation and meaning.

2. METHODS

The data source of this study was a Japanese drama titled "*Mr. Hiragi's Homeroom*" episode 1, with a duration of 71 minutes. And the Japanese drama titled "*A Story to Read When You First Fall in Love*" episodes 1 & 2 with a total duration of 114 minutes.

There were 220 sentences that contained the final particle *Yo* and *Ne* collected from 3 episodes of two Japanese dramas. There were 150 data of final particle *Yo* and 75 data of final particle *Ne*. Then, the final particle *Ne* and *Yo* were classified according to their functions as

can be seen in Table 1 and Table 2. After classifying all data, the data were analyzed based on theory of Masuoka (1991). Next, the final particle *Yo* and *Ne* were calculated so that they can be compared and contrasted with the particles *Ya* and *Loh*.

Table 1. Classification of *Yo* functions

Final particle	Functions	Previous Analysis
<i>Yo</i>	Deliver things that are not realized and unknown to interlocutor	Masuoka (1991, p. 95) and Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 242).
	Remind things that are forgotten by interlocutor	Masuoka (1991, p. 95) and Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 242).
	Denying or refute things that are considered different from interlocutor	Masuoka (1991, p. 95) and Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 242).
	Showing scolding, anger, or insults	Chino (1992, p. 122)
	Fill in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence	Masuoka (1991, p. 97)
	Estimating that the thing requested is contradictory in prohibition sentence	Masuoka (1991, p. 99) and Chino (1992, p. 122).
	Give nuance that the speaker forcefully invites the opponent in the invitation sentence	Masuoka (1991, p. 101) and Chino (1992, p. 122)
	Give nuances that seem firm, deep or serious in the request sentence	Masuoka (1991, p. 100) and Chino (1992, p. 122)

Table 2. Classification of *Ne* functions

Final Particle	Function	Previous Analysis
<i>Ne</i>	Confirming what the speaker is aware of with the interlocutor	Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 258).
	Show the speaker awareness to the interlocutor	Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 256).
	Make the interlocutor pay attention	Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, (2003, p. 261)
	Ask for certainty or affirmation to the interlocutor	Masuoka (1991, p. 95)
	Ask for approval to the interlocutor	Masuoka (1991, p. 95)
	Give comments about things that belong to the interlocutor's area	Masuoka (1991, p. 95)
	Fill in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence	Masuoka (1991, p. 97)

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Function of *Yo* and The Equivalent in Indonesia

After collecting 150 sentences that contain final particle *Yo*, they were put into the following Table 3 and were analyzed. The X sign is interpreted as final particle which cannot be interpreted.

Table 3. Function of *Yo* and the equivalent in Indonesia

No	Final particle <i>Yo</i> Functions	<i>Loh</i>	<i>Kok</i>	<i>Kan</i>	<i>Sih</i>	<i>Lah</i>	<i>Tau</i>	<i>Yuk</i>	<i>Dong</i>	<i>Ya</i>	X
1.	Deliver things that are not realized and unknown to interlocutor	18	3				6			2	17
2.	Remind things that are forgotten by interlocutor	11		1		1					
3.	Denying or refute things that are considered different from interlocutor	1	12			6					5
4.	Showing scolding, anger, or insults					1					4
5.	Fill in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence			1	11					2	13
6.	Estimating that the thing requested is contradictory in prohibition sentence					3	1		1	2	8
7.	Give nuance that the speaker forcefully invites the opponent in the invitation sentence							6			6
8.	Give nuances that seem firm, deep or serious in the request sentence		1						7		1
Total		30	16	2	11	11	7	6	8	6	54

In Table 3, there are only 30 out of 150 data that can be interpreted as *Loh*. The data for final particle *Yo* that are not translated are 54 data. Of the 30 data that are

translated as *Loh*, most of them have functions to indicate what the opponent must know. Whereas *Yo* which serves to show debater or criticism is more often translated as

Kok. 150 sentences about final particle *Yo* regarding the situation, conversation, and situation analysis are explained in detail in the next section. Below are some examples of sentences that are evidenced in the data.

3.1.1. *Delivering things that are not realized and unknown to the interlocutor(s)*

Data (1)

“*Sono mado wa kyōka garasudakara, warena yo*”
 (“*Kaca jendela itu tebal, jadi tidak akan pecah loh*”)
 (“Mr. Hiiragi’s Homeroom”, Ep. 1, 00:16:51)

The situation of this utterance is that Mr. Hiiragi locked up students of class A and made the students noisy, one of the students named Kai was mad with the drama Mr. Hiiragi’s made. He tried to break the window by throwing a chair into the window hoping the glass would break. Kai did not know if the glass had been replaced by Mr. Hiiragi using a very thick glass that would not be able to break easily. That was told by Mr. Hiiragi after Kai tried to break it. This is in accordance with the statement by Masuoka, that final particle *Yo* serves to convey things that are not realized and not known by the listener (Masuoka, 1991).

3.1.2. *Denying or refuting things that are considered different from the interlocutor(s)*

Data (2)

“*An’na yatsu shinde tōzendatta nda yo*”
 (“*Wajar saja orang sepertinya mati kok*”)
 (“Mr. Hiiragi’s Homeroom”, Ep. 1, 00:50:32)

The situation of this utterance is that after capturing students, Mr. Hiiragi also asked the question, why did their classmate Reina commit suicide. The students had discussed and agreed on one answer, but Kayano answered differently, even telling how Reina had been bullied.

Hearing that all the children expressed their opinions to refute Kayano’s story. They tried to defend those who feel that they have no right to be blamed for Reina’s

death. Including Kai, who revealed his rebuttal if someone like Reina deserved to be hated and died. This is in accordance with the expression final particle *Yo* which has a function to tell the interlocutor that we are able to do things right, is a sentence of protest or rebuttal (Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai, 2003).

3.1.3. *Filling in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence*

Data (3)

“*Junko wa sa nani ka yaritai koto nai no ka yo*”
 (“*Junko memang ga ada yang mau kamu lakuin?*”)
 (“A Story to Read When You Fall in Love” Ep. 1, 00:40:46)

The situation of this utterance is that Junko told Masashi about the dismissal from the tutoring place. It was said that if Junko was very frustrated in this story, nothing good happened in her life. In this sentence Masashi asks Junko a question. Because Junko doesn’t have the dream or the job he wants. Masashi was not sure, so he asked even though he knew the answer to be given. Masashi hopes for another answer from Junko even though he knows it didn’t happen. Final particle *Yo* functions as a ‘distrust’ feel so Masashi tries to be sure.

Masuoka (1991) explains that the final particle *Ne* and *Yo* are rarely used in question sentences. However, there are exceptions to *Ne* which can be used in a question sentence in the form of question and question words to fill the uncertainty of information. Therefore, it is safe to say that the final particle *Yo* in this sentence has the same function with the particle *Ne*.

3.2. *Function of Ne and The Equivalent in Indonesia*

After collecting 75 sentences that contain the final particle *Ne*, the researchers tried to analyze and interpret the final particle *Ne* as can be seen in Table 4. The X sign is interpreted as final particle which cannot be interpreted.

Table 4. Function of *Ne* and the equivalent in Indonesian

No.	Final Particle <i>Ne</i> Functions	<i>Ya</i>	<i>Kan</i>	<i>Kah</i>	<i>Kok</i>	X
1.	Confirming what the speaker is aware of with the interlocutor	5	3			
2.	Show the speaker awareness to the interlocutor	8			1	6
3.	Make the interlocutor pay attention	9				2
4.	Ask for certainty or affirmation to the interlocutor	5	7			1
5.	Ask for approval to the interlocutor	11	5			1
6.	Give comments about things that belong to the interlocutor’s area	6				1
7.	Fill in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence	2	1	1		
Total		46	16	1	1	11

In Table 4, 46 of the 75 data of final particle *Ne* data can be translated as *Ya*. In the 7 types of final particle '*Ne*' serve the functions as to what the researchers have described. They all have a high possibility of being translated as *Ya*. Meanwhile, there are 11 data that cannot be translated to Indonesian particles, and 16 data that can be translated as *Kan*. 75 sentences about final particle *Ne* regarding the situation, conversation, and situation analysis are explained in detail in the following section.

3.2.1. Confirming what the speaker is aware of with the interlocutor

Data (4)

“*Mada tassei kingaku ni wa hodotōidesu ne*”
 “*Masih jauh dari jumlah yang akan dicapai ya*”
 ("Mr. Hiiragi's Homeroom" Ep.1, 00:04:52)

The situation of this utterance is Mr. Hiiragi called Gunji officer. They started discussing ransom money. Mr. Hiiragi did not ask for money, but he wanted the social media site that he used to give live report on the arrest to be followed by 50 million people. However, to access it, it required payment. The fee will earn 50 million. Registrants were still far from the target. Even though he could see for himself, still in his sentence in the conversation above, Mr. Hiiragi's again confirmed the number so that they both had the same ideas. This is in accordance with the statement saying that the final particle *Ne* has the function to confirm the interlocutor of what the speaker is aware of (*Nihongo Kijutsu Bunpo Kenkyukai*, 2003).

3.2.2. Asking for certainty or affirmation to the interlocutor(s)

Data (5)

“*Tōdai-sotsu no bokudete o uttoku katte kanji ni omoete ne*”
 “*Karena aku lulusan Todai, jadi merasa itu baik kan*”
 ("A Story to Read When You Fall in Love" Ep. 1, 00:01:07)

The situation of this utterance is Junko and Yasuda are lovers who are spending time at the playground. Unexpectedly, Yasuda feels that they must end their relationship

Junko did not give affection like a lover to him and assumed that Junko only made him a lover because he was a 'good' guy to be a husband. However, Junko did not love him. After various complaints, he asked for certainty to Junko if all his opinions were true. This finding is in accordance with Masuoka's (1991) statement that the final particle *Ne* serves the function to ask for certainty or affirmation.

3.2.3. Filling in the uncertainty of information in the question sentence

Data (6)

“*Hontōni koroshita ndesu ka ne?*”
 (“*Dia benar-benar membunuhnya kah?*”)
 ("Mr. Hiiragi's Homeroom" Ep.2, 00:03:15)

The situation of this utterance is Mr. Hiiragi killed one of the students. When the incident happened, the speakers at the school broadcasted the sound of the incident in class A. This made the police begin to assume that Mr. Hiiragi killed a student that the police could not see but could hear from the students' screams and anger. Even so Officer Gunji still shows his doubts. In the sentence, he said he asked for the truth of the information he got. Masuoka (1991) explains that the final particle *Ne* and *Yo* are rarely used in question sentences. However, there are exceptions to *Ne* which can be used in a question sentence in the form of question and question words to fill the uncertainty of information.

3.3. Discussion

The functions of the final particles as stated by the theory are in line with the results of data collected by the writers. 30 out of 150 sentences of final particle *Yo* which is interpreted as *Loh* has the functions: 1) to convey what the other person is not aware of and not aware of; 2) to remind the other person that he is forgetting. So *Yo* and *Loh* both indicate if the speaker believes that the thing being said is only known by him. Meanwhile, *Yo* also have function to deny or refute a thing, 12 of 24 sentences the writers collected for this function is interpreted as *Kok*.

The data that have been collected by the researchers show that *Ya* can be a translation for 7 types of functions *Ne*. The main function of *Ne* is to show awareness, to confirm, and to ask for approval. 46 of 75 sentences of particle *Ne* can be interpreted as *Ya*. Then, 16 of 29 sentences that cannot be translated to *Ya*, can be interpreted as *Kan* which has the functions to confirm and to ask for approval.

There are 67 sentences of *Yo* which can be interpreted to many different particles beside *Loh* and there are 18 sentences of *Ne* which can be interpreted to different particles in Indonesia. However, *Ne* and *Ya* with *Yo* and *Loh* have the same meanings or functions. The other particles adjust the sentence to create the same sensation in the same context, but without the same meaning. 54 sentences of *Yo* and 11 sentences of *Ne* cannot be or does not have to be interpreted into Indonesian particles. *Yo* and *Ne* are not translated when the text is translated according to the meaning and nuance (Ariestafuri, 2012).

From the function's perspective, *Yo* shares the same functions with *Loh* which are to deliver information and to remind things. But does not share the same function

for denying. *Ne* also shares the same function as showing awareness, confirming and asking for an approval. However, the used of *Ya* in the sentence is arbitrary. It is because the linguistic of the Japanese and Indonesian have a different style in the usage of a choice marker and indefinite pronoun. The similarities and differences of *Yo* and *Loh* and *Ne* and *Ya* can be seen in the Table 5 and Table 6 below.

Table 5. Similarities and differences of *Yo* and *Loh*

Point of View		Yo Particle	Loh Particle
Characteristic	Enclitic	√	√
	Arbitrary	-	√
	Free Distribution	-	√
Function	To Deliver Info	√	√
	To Remind	√	√
	To Denying	√	-
	To Fill in the Uncertainly	√	-

Table 6. Similarities and differences of *Ne* and *Ya*

Point of View		Ne Particle	Ya Particle
Characteristic	Enclitic	√	√
	Arbitrary	-	√
	Free Distribution	-	√
Function	To Show Awareness	√	√
	To Confirm	√	√
	To Ask for Approval	√	√
	To Fill in the Uncertainly	√	√

4. CONCLUSION

There is a minimum limit for the translation of *Yo* and *Ne* which is irregular or incorrectly translated into the final particles in Indonesian. There are some particles that are equivalent to *Yo* and *Ne* in the analyzed data. However, *Ne* and *Ya* with *Yo* and *Loh* have the same meanings or functions. The other particles adjust the sentence to create the same sensation in the same context, but without the same meaning.

Thus, it can be concluded that the final particles *Ne* and *Yo* with *Ya* and *Loh* are different entities. The functions of final particle *Ne* and *Yo* which show confirmation and inference are the language processes that are centered on the speaker. That is the efforts of the speaker to call attention. Meanwhile, *Ya* and *Loh* in essence speech which is used to create a harmonious social bond by simply exchanging words is a language process that is centered on the interlocutor. It is the effort

of the speaker to consider the feelings of the other person. Therefore, in reality *Ne* is not always translated *Ya* and *Yo* is not always translated *Loh*.

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