

German *Abtoenungs partikel* in Teaching Guide Book for Studio D: Pragmatic Analysis

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ABSTRACT

The paper discusses the *Abtoenungs partikel* (phatic particles) available in the Studio D which is a compulsory book for students majoring in German and covers the A1, A2, B1 and B2 topics and in each topic the functions of particles, phrases, and phatic sentences should be described. The paper uses qualitative descriptive method. The results showed that there were 35 types of phatic particles in German with a variety of functions and the meanings of the particles cannot be separated from their functions. Their uses can be seen from their positions in utterances; the particles can appear in the initial, medial, and final positions of the sentences.

Keywords: *Phatic particles (Abtoenungs partikel), German teaching materials, studio D, pragmatic analysis.*

INTRODUCTION

Particles are often used in everyday conversation, and useful for emphasizing sentences and for the process of communication and of writings. they can be found in affirmative, interrogative, as well as command sentences. The existence of particles is not very influential in sentences, because, without particles, they are meaningful; however, particles are able to make conversational atmosphere more communicative and alive. In German, the role of particles is also very useful to give a sense to the sentence so that the speech in the sentence becomes more interesting.

Learning a foreign language is basically tied to the learning of spoken culture of the language. A misunderstanding in the learning activities might appear and can be caused by cultural factors which are not taken into account and can give a special meaning. In the intercultural analysis of speech in German from textbooks, university students experience the problem

of understanding a speech because of their lack of cultural competencies of the foreign language they study. Understanding cultural aspects is one of the requirements for communication between cultures.

In German the role of particles is also very useful to give sense. The meaning of phatic particles in German always depends on the features of context and meaning which are given by the interlocutor in a word or sentence. By such features, various difficulties are available when phatic particles are translated from German as the source language (SL) into Indonesian as the target language (TL). This is the reason why particles in Studio D A1, A2, B1 and B2 are brought into discussion. The term *phatic* is related to teaching facilities and research leads to the communication dimension of relationships among members or various cultural communities (Nuenning, 2009: 3).

The concept *phatic* emerged in the 1920s after Malinowski (1923) conveyed

the concept of *phatic communion* or phatic expression as the type of speech used to create harmonious social bonds by simply exchanging words. The social function of phatic expression is to establish personal bonds between participants in a communication because of the need for togetherness but not to communicate ideas. Jakobson (1980) expanded Malinowski's (1923) theory of phatic expressions as one of the functions of language, namely as a means of verbal communication. The phatic functions according to Jakobson (1980) refer to the functions of language oriented to the contact between the sender and the recipient who deliver message. The functions are primarily used to initiate, maintain, or disconnect communication, to ensure that communication functions well, to attract the attention of other communication partners, or to keep listeners focusing on the speaker.

The phatic expressions refer to the utterances in German containing implicit and explicit culture and the utterances can give effect of alienation (*Fremdheit*) when they are used by language learners having background from non-Germanic culture. Particles are often used in the process of communication and become the characteristics of oral language. Particles can be found in affirmative and interrogative sentences, and command. The existence of particles is not very influential in a sentence, because, even without particles, the sentence meaning does not change. But the existence of particles is able to build the conversational atmosphere to be more communicative and alive. To be able to communicate well, a language learner should understand culture. German native speakers are not difficult to use particles in their communication because they are not hindered by language comprehension, however, German non-native learners are.

There are fundamental differences between phatic category and interjection as well as their uses. In German, the function and role of phatic category are to find out the characteristics, the fundamental

differences between the phatic category and the interjections and their uses. Besides, the German language can develop convergently among its speech communities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research was carried out at the Study Program of German, UNIMED for one year and used descriptive and qualitative method. Data was obtained by selecting sentences containing phatic particles in Studio DA1, DA2, DB1 and DB2 from chapter one to ten having various themes. Phatic particles are chosen as the object of research because they appear more in the data corpus. Data was obtained in the several steps, such as to find sentences containing phatic particles from the Studio, to underline words and sentences containing phatic particles, to look for meanings that are in accordance with phatic particles, and to search for and collect expressions contained in the phatic particles. The techniques of data analysis included the steps, for instance, data condensation, data presentation, and conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We found 35 types of phatic particles from Studio D A1, Studio D A2, Studio D B1 and Studio D B2, for example *Aber, Aeh, Also, Bloss, Dennoch, Doch, Eben, Eigentlich, Einfach, Einmal, Endlich, Erst, Etwa, Etwas, Ganz, Gar, Allerdings, Immerhin, Eigentlich, Gleich, Immerhin, Ja, Leider, Mal, Man, Na, Nicht, Sowieso, Noch, Nun, Nur, Oder, Ruhig, and Schon*. There are five functions of phatic particles, for instance, as affirmative, (*Aussagesatz*), as question (*Fragesatz*), as command (*Aufforderungsatz*), as conditional (*Wunschsatz*), and as expression (*Ausrufesatz*). The *Aber* appears in 170 *Aussagesatz*, in 8 *Fragesatz*, in 4 *Fragesatz*, in 9 *Wunschsatz*, and in 27 *Ausrufesatz*; the total sentences are 218. The *Allerdings* is found in three *Fragesatz*; the *Ah* appears in seven *Aussagesatz*, 12 *Fragesatz*, and five *Ausrufesatz*.

The *Also* may be amounting to 39 in *Aussagesatz*, four in *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and four in *Ausrufesatz*. The total is 47. The *Auch* appears in 95 *Aussagesatz*, in 18 *Fragesatz*, in five *Fragesatz*, in six *Wunschsatz*, and in 40 *Ausrufesatz*; the total is 164. About the *Aus*, it is found in five *Ausrufesatz*. The phatic particle *Bitte* appears once in *Fragesatz* and the *bloß* is found in six *Aussagesatz*, two in *Fragesatz*, and three in *Fragesatz*; the total is 11. The particle *Denn* is used with various sentence, for instance, it is found in 15 *Aussagesatz*, 104 *Fragesatz*, one *Fragesatz*, and two *Wunschsatz* and *Ausrufesatz* respectively; the total is 124. There are 58 cases of the particle *Doch* appearing in sentences: 42 in *Aussagesatz*, five *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and 8 in *Ausrufesatz*.

The total appearance of the particle *Eben* is 36, comprising of 31 in *Aussagesatz*, two in *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and four in *Ausrufesatz*. About the particle *Eigentlich*, we found 37 cases: 22 *Aussagesatz*, four *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and ten in *Ausrufesatz*. We found 26 cases in which the particle *Einfach* appears, such as 23 in *Aussagesatz*, one in *Fragesatz*, and three in *Fragesatz*. The *Einmal* appears 14, for instance, 13 in *Aussagesatz* and one in *Wunschsatz*; the *Endlich* is found in eight positions, such as six in *Aussagesatz* and two in *Fragesatz*. Meanwhile, the *Erst* appears ten times, for example, eight in *Aussagesatz* and two in *Ausrufesatz*. The particle *Etwa* appears 31 times: 23 in *Aussagesatz*, five in *Fragesatz*, two in *Fragesatz*, in *Wunschsatz*, and in *Ausrufesatz* respectively.

The particle *Etwa* is found four times, such as one in *Aussagesatz* and three in *Fragesatz*, the particle *Ganz* appears once in *Aussagesatz*, and the particle *Gar* is found in eleven samples, for instance, seven in *Aussagesatz*, three in *Fragesatz*, and one in *Ausrufesatz*. The *Gleich* is found 36 times: 31 in *Aussagesatz*, five in *Fragesatz*, five in *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz* and in *Ausrufesatz* respectively. The particle

Immerhin is found three times in *Aussagesatz* and the particle *Ja* all appears 358 times comprising of 238 in *Aussagesatz*, 28 in *Fragesatz*, fifteen in *Fragesatz*, and five in *Wunschsatz*. The *Leider* appears three times in *Aussagesatz*; meanwhile, the *Mal* is found in 78 cases: 38 in *Aussagesatz*, fourteen in 14 *Fragesatz*, 17 in *Fragesatz* and in *Wunschsatz*, and nine in *Ausrufesatz*.

The phatic particle *Man* appears 20 times, for instance, seventeen in *Aussagesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and two in *Ausrufesatz*. The *Na* is noted to be available in *Aussagesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Wunschsatz*, and in *Ausrufesatz*. Meanwhile, the phatic particle *Nicht* has 246 appearances, comprising of 165 in *Aussagesatz*, eight in *Fragesatz*, nine in *Fragesatz*, three in *Wunschsatz*, and 61 in *Ausrufesatz*. The particle *Noch* is found 278 times, including 100 in *Aussagesatz*, 27 in *Fragesatz*, eight in *Fragesatz*, two in *Wunschsatz*, and 32 in *Ausrufesatz*. The particles *Nun* appears fourteen times, of which which twelve in *Aussagesatz* and two in *Ausrufesatz*. Moreover, the particle *Nur* is found 60 times, comprising of 49 in *Aussagesatz*, two in *Fragesatz*, one in *Fragesatz*, four in *Wunschsatz*, and seven in *Ausrufesatz*.

The particle *Oder* appears once in *Aussagesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Wunschsatz*, and in *Ausrufesatz* respectively. The *Ruhig* also appears once in *Aussagesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Wunschsatz*, and in *Ausrufesatz* respectively. The particle *Schon* is found in 97 times, comprising of 66 in *Aussagesatz*, 18 in *Fragesatz*, one in *Fragesatz*, three in *Wunschsatz*, and nine in *Ausrufesatz*. The *Sogar* appears only three times, all in *Aussagesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Fragesatz*, in *Wunschsatz* respectively but it is found three times in *Ausrufesatz*. The particle *So* is noted to appear once in *Ausrufesatz* and the *vielleicht* is found in 31 times: 23 in *Aussagesatz*, three in *Fragesatz*, one in *Fragesatz* in *Wunschsatz* respectively, and four in *Ausrufesatz*. The *Wohl* appears two

times: one in *Aussagesatz*, one in *Fragesatz*, one in *Fragesatz*, one in *Wunschsatz*, and one in *Ausrufesatz*.

CONCLUSIONS

It is concluded that 35 types of phatic particles, such as *Aber*, *Allerdings*, *Äh*, *Also*, *Auch*, *Aus*, *Bitte*, *Bloß*, *Denn*, *Doch*, *Eben*, *Eigentlich*, *Einfach*, *Einmal*, *Endlich*, *Erst*, *Etwa*, *Etwas*, *Ganz*, *Gar*, *Gleich*, *Immerhin*, *Ja*, *Leider*, *Mal*, *Man*, *Na*, *Nicht*, *Noch*, *Nun*, *Nur*, *Oder*, *Ruhig*, *Schon*, *Sogar*, *So*, *Vielleicht* and *Wohl* are found from Studios D A1, D A2, D B1, and D B2. There are two particles which are not found from the Studios, namely *Ubrigens* and *Ohnehin*. All the particles are attached in affirmative (*Aussagesatz*), in interrogative (*Fragesatz*), in command (*Aufforderungssatz*), in conditional (*Wunschsatz*), and in expressions (*Ausrufesatz*). Of all, the *Ja* is the most commonly used, while the *gunz* and the *bitte* are the most rarely used. The meanings of phatic particles are determined by the function of sentences, and the functions and the meanings are closely related each other and the meanings are translated through functions. In general, the functions of phatic particles are denotative and connotative.

However, the meanings of phatic particles cannot be translated only by words but by the whole contents of the sentence. The phatic particles are found in the initial, medial, and final positions in sentences; the more the particles appear, the more difficult the particles and the longer sentences are, the more difficult the sentences are.

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