

Adjective + yi dian in Mandarin Chinese and its equivalent in Indonesian language: A contrastive analysis

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ABSTRACT

In the last decade, Mandarin Chinese has been standing as the most studied language as a foreign language. The structure of Mandarin Chinese is not necessarily similar to the grammatical structure of Mandarin Chinese learners. In daily life, structure of different ideas produces different pragmatic functions in the grammar. This article aims to describe the difference between the discourse of "adjective + a little bit" and Indonesia. The data source comes from the Modern Chinese Corpus of Academia Sinica, Taiwan. The stages of data analysis are data sorting, data classifying into four groups, and data analysis. From the corpus, there are 697 sentences with 一點/ yi dian/ adverbs in "adjective + 【一點】 / yi dian/" including 【比較+形容詞+一點】 or comparison+adjective+ 【一點】 / yi dian/] and 56 sentence-word adverbs in "[adjective+particle 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 / yi dian/]" which contains "【太+adjective"+了+一點】". The first group of "adjective + 【一點】" category has (83.95%) sentences; there are 66 adjective categories with only one word such as: 【好】/hao/ good, 【多】/duo/many, 【小】/xiao/small, 【大】/da/big, etc. and 554 have two words such as: 【大方】/dafang/ generous, 【隨便】/fangbian/ comfortable, 【舒服】/shufu/ comfortable, etc. and a sentence pattern using "Adjective+Adjective's form + 【一點】", such 【小小】/xiao xiao/ "small". The category of the second group of "comparative + adjective + 【一點】 'a little' " has 65 (8.6%) sentences. There are 42 (5.58%) sentences in the third group of "Adjective + 【了】 /le/ + a little " category. The fourth group of "【太】 /tai/+ Adjective + a little bit" structure has only 14 sentences (1.87%).

Keywords: adjective, a little, Mandarin Chinese, Indonesian language, comparison

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INTRODUCTION

When learners study a foreign language, they usually compare the language being studied or target language or (L2) and the language they already mastered or source language or (L1). When they find that between L1 and L2 there are many similarities, they will think this L2 is easy to learn. On the other hand, when learners find there is a big difference between L1 and L2, they will think that the L2 is difficult for them to be mastered. These differences include phonetics, morphology, structure, vocabulary, semantics and pragmatics. One of the differences can be seen at the level of sentence structure 【形容詞+一點】 or adjective +yi dian and 【一點+形容詞】 yi dian +adjective as follows.

- (1) 「辣一點」, 意思是要更辣,
所以再加更多辣椒醬。
/'là yīdiǎn', yìsī shì yào gèng là,
suǒyǐ zài jiā gèng duō làjiāo
jiàng/

(1a) "Spicy a little" means that the speaker wish to add some more chili souce.

(2) 「一點辣」，意思是有點辣就

夠了，不需要加辣椒醬。

/yīdiǎn là', yìsi shì yǒudiǎn là jiù gòu le, bù xūyào jiā làjiāo jiàng/

(2a) "A little spicy" means that the speaker think it is enough so that no need to add more chili souce.

After hearing (1) and (2) and that your interlocutor does not respond correctly, this must be because he or she fail to distinguish the meaning of (1) and (2). He or she did not think that the two different constructions would result in completely different pragmatic acts.

The structure of Chinese Mandarin does not always similar to the grammatical structure of non-Chinese speakers, for example whose L1 is Indonesian language. Different concept of dialogue will definately produce different pragmatic functions. There are some constructions with 【一點】 /yi dian/, namely 1) verb+ 【一點】 , 2) 【有 (一) 點】 /you (yi) dian+Adjective, and Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/ et cetera. Zou (2006) states that in term of grammar, 【一點】 /yi dian/ can be used with different part of speech such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns and prepositional phrase, and word combination with 【的】 /de/. And in term of syntax this combination can also be formed independently and act as the subject, predicate, object, attributive, adverbial, complement and other syntactic elements in the sentence, and can enter various types of single-compound sentences. This article particularly describes the different construction of 【形容詞+一點】 /adjective+yi dian/ and its equivalent in Indonesian language. All the Hanzi character in this manuscript is written in traditional Chinese used in Taiwan.

As an adverb 【一點】 /yi dian/ has a special function and role. It is generally used in front of a verb or an adjective to express time, degree, scope, repetition, negation, possibility, or tone of speech, etc is called adverb (Hu, 2018; Li & Cheng, 2008). Moreover, adverb has some grammatical features as follow: 1) they cannot be reduplicated, 2) most of them cannot be used alone to answer a question, 3) they cannot be used as a modifier of a noun, 4) most of them cannot proceeded subjects, and 5) some adverbs function as link words (Li&Cheng, 2008; Ross & Sheng Ma, 2006; Qi, 2006).

According to the Taiwan Minister of Education or MOE's Mandarin Dictionary Revised 【一點】 /yi dian/ means very small or a little or a slight degree often placed after adjectives. 【一點】 /yi dian/ stands for a quantitative determinative meaning indeterminate small quantity, or very little. This is parallel to Lu (1991) in describing the meaning of 【一點】 /yi dian/ as "small amount". Moreover 【一點】 /yi dian/ also stands for a post-verbal adverb of degree. 【一點】 /yi dian/ placed after a state verb as its modifier. It indicates comparisons (Deng, 2019). Further, Deng adds that 【一點】 /yi dian/ belongs to "Vs-Pred" or stated verb, a verb whose a function as predicate. However, since 【一點】 /yi dian/ does not a typical state verb therefore it cannot be combined with "Vs-Pred" 【很】 /hen/ means "very"simultaneously (Deng, 2015; Zheng, 2007).

In the great dictionary of the Indonesian language, *sedikit* or a little means not many *tidak banyak* or not much *tidak seberapa*. *Sedikit* stands as adjective and adverb.

Collecting data by searching with the formula of " Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/" and " 【比較】 /bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】 /yi dian/"there are 697 data found in Academia Sinica linguistics corpus. Consecutively, there 56 data found by applying the formula of "Adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 yi dian/" and " 【太】 /tai/+adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 /yi dian/". This article aimed at exploring the structure of " Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/", " 【比較】 /bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】 /yi dian/", "Adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 yi dian/" and " 【太】 /tai/+adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 /yi dian/". Hong (2013) states that the common construction people use is "Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/". Please look at the example of (3a) and (4a) below.

(3) 我們這個算是條件好一點。

/wǒmen zhège suànshì xiū jiàn hǎo yīdiǎn/

(3a) This is a little better reparation.

(4) 我們就能有了多一點的殷實感。

/wǒmen jiù néng yǒule duō yīdiǎn de yīnshí gǎn/

(4a) We can have a little more of solidity.

Kridalaksana (2007) and Moeliono, Alwi, Dardjowodjojo, Lipoliwa Moeliono et als (2017) explaine that 【一點】 /yi dian/, a little or a bit is equal to *sedikit* in Indonesian language. *Sedikit* belongs to numeral adverbs. This adverb can be attached to nouns and adjectives. It can be placed in front of an adjective or behind an adjective as follows.

(5b1) *Setelah jalan-jalan pagi hari, badan jadi sedikit segar.*

(5b2) *Setelah jalan-jalan pagi hari, badan jadi segar sedikit.*

(5a) After having a morning walk, (our) body became fresh a little.

Both the sentences (5b1) and (5b2) has the same meaning and that there is no difference in illocutionary act. The adverb *sedikit* or “a little” explains the adjective of “fresh”, “a little fresh which means not much”.

Zou (1999) and Chen (2011) agree that the structure of “ Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/” does show strong pragmatic function, beacuse the adjectives are more pronounced in the construction of pragmatic functions (as spoken language). In addition, Zou (1999) says that when speaking the word 【一點】 /yi dian/ or a little can degrade the adjective, comment and command. Please look at these examples below.

(6) 對女人是好事，就會有多一點的選擇！我樂觀其成。

/duì nǚrén shì hǎoshì, jiù huì yǒu duō yīdiǎn de xuǎnzé! Wǒ lèguān qí chéng/

(6a) It's a good thing for woman, and there will be (a little) more choices! I am optimistic about it.

(7) 吃飯要快一點，不要去太管他們，你把你自已稿好...

/chīfàn yào kuài yīdiǎn, bù yào qù tài guǎn tāmen, nǐ bǎ nǐ zìjǐ gǎo hǎo.../

(7a) Eat faster a little, don't worry too much about them, you do well your own...

The adverb 【一點】 /yi dian/ in the (6a) show that the adjective 【多】 /duo/ or many/much is only a little. Therefore it is good that women have more choices, however the degree of choices is only a little. This also happened at the (7a) sentence the adverb 【一點】 /yi dian/ after the adjective of 【快】 /kuai/ or fast, shows the degree of how fast (the manner) of eating.

Based on the research, Hong (2013) explains that when making comments, speaker can stan on two different point of views. In one case speakers speak based on the current situation. On the other case speakers express “【比較】 /bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】 /yi dian/”. Therefore this construction is a unconvincing conclusion and show different value of the contruction “ Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/”. Please have a look at the example below.

(8) 我想設計比較簡單一點。

/wǒ xiǎng shèjì bǐjiào jiǎndān yīdiǎn/

(8a) I want the design to be simpler a little.

The speaker of sentence (8) is a house designer. The designer expresses how she will design the house, what style she will apply, etc. In this case, most native speakers would agree that 【一點】 /yi dian/ or “little” still stand its semantic meaning and does not stand as mitigator. Therefore the

construction of “【比較】/bi jiao/+Adjective 【一點】/yi dian/” does not really show the function of 【一點】/yi dian.

Zhang (2018) states that sentences with 【了】/le/ between the adjective and 【一點】/yi dian/would be more complicated. Let’s look at the sentences below.

(9) 這條裙子大了一點。
/zhè tiáo qúnzi dàle yīdiǎn/

(9a) This skirt is a little bigger.

The sentence (9) most of people thought that the skirt is big, however the skirt is bigger a little..

(10) 這件裙子小了一點。
/zhè jiàn qúnzi xiǎole yīdiǎn/

(10a) This skirt is a little smaller.

While at the example of (10) the background is a woman who just out from the fitting room. She put back the skirt and was thinking that she has putting a bit of wight. She said, “This skirt is smaller a little.” Or “This skirt become smaller a little. In general truth, the clothes cannot turn out to be bigger or smaller.

“【太】/tai/+adjective+ 【了】/le/+ 【一點】/yi dian/” is a common construction in Chinese Mandarin, such as 【太自私了一點】/tai zisi le yi dian/ “a little too selfish”, 【太早了一點】/tai zaole yi dian/ “a little too early”. This construction has a peculiarity and both proven syntactically and semantically and pragmatically (Wang, 2019).

(11) 但是我覺得一些地方這種模特太多了一點。
/dànshì wǒ juéde yīxiē dìfāng zhè zhǒng móte tài duōle yīdiǎn/

(11a) But I think in some places these models are little too many.

(11b*) *Tapi menurut saya ada sedikit terlalu banyak model seperti ini di beberapa tempat*

(12) 然而，這兩個特徵的背後是一個無可爭議的事實：大陸本土流行音樂實在是太慘了一點。
/rán'ér, zhè liǎng gè tèzhǐ de bèihòu shì yīgè wú kě zhēngyì de shìshí: Dàlù běntǔ liúxíng yīnyuè shízài shì tài cǎnle yīdiǎn/

12a) However, behind these two characteristics is an indisputable fact: the mainland's local pop music is really a bit too miserable.

(12b*) *Namun, di balik kedua karakteristik ini ada fakta yang tak terbantahkan: musik pop Tiongkok agak terlalu menyedihkan sedikit.*

Both sentences in (11) and (12) are basically similar in semantics and slightly different in structure. However the frequency of accuracy is much lower. A typical expression in Chinese Mandarin by adding 【太】/tai/ “too” before the adjective. On the contrary, in Indonesian language this construction is unacceptable, this happened in the sentences of (11b*) and (12b*).

METHOD

The type of this research is a contrastive analysis. There are 4 (four) pairs structures of “Adjective+ 【一點】/yi dian/”, “【比較】/bi jiao/+Adjective 【一點】/yi dian/”, “Adjective+ 【了】/le/+ 【一點】/yi dian/” and “【太】/tai/+adjective+ 【了】/le/+ 【一點】/yi dian/” and their equivalents in Indonesian languages. The subject of the research are collected from the corpus

linguistics of Academia Sinica Taiwan, Indonesian grammar books, and Indonesian corpus established by the Ministry of Education and Culture the Republic of Indonesia, and from online news. The key word used in searching data is Adjective+【一點】/yi dian/” a little or a bit in Chinese Mandarin and *sedikit* or a little/ a bit in Indonesian language.

The technique used in collecting data is scanning reading and note-taking. The procedure of data analysis is as follows: 1) data collecting, 2) data classifying and 3) data analyzing.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Based on the Academia Sinica linguistic corpus there are 697 data with the structures of “Adjective+【一點】/yi dian/”, “【比較】/bi jiao/+Adjective【一點】/yi dian/” and 56 data with the structures of “Adjective+【了】/le/+【一點】/yi dian/” and “【太】/tai/+adjective+【了】/le/+【一點】/yi dian/”. In total there are 753 data. To make it clearer, please pay attention to the table 1 below.

Tabel 1. Four Category of Adjective+【一點】/yi dian/

Categories	Total	%
形容詞+一點 Adjective+【一點】/yi dian/	632	83.95
比較+形容詞+一點 比較】/bi jiao/+Adjective【一點】 /yi dian/	65	8.6
形容詞+了+一點 Adjective+【了】/le/+【一點】/yi dian/	42	5.58
太+形容詞+了+一點 【太】/tai/+adjective+【了】/le/+ 【一點】/yi dian/	14	1.87

Discussion

The first category, “Adjective+【一點】/yi dian/.”

(13) 相信真正的愛，可以超乎年紀、時空，甚至性別。雖然我不是同性戀者，但這樣想，可以讓我舒服一點。

/xiāngxìn zhēnzhèng de ài, kěyǐ chāo hū niánjì, shíkōng, shènzhì xìngbié. Suīrán wǒ bùshì tóngxìngliàn zhě, dàn zhèyàng xiǎng, kěyǐ ràng wǒ shūfú yīdiǎn/

(13a) Believe that true love can beyond age, time and space, and even gender. Although I'm not gay, it makes me feel a little more comfortable thinking about it this way.

(14) 只是說媽媽，我以後會更認真一點這樣子。

/zhǐshì shuō māmā, wǒ yǐhòu huì gèng rènzhēn yīdiǎn zhèyàng zi/

(14a) Just saying Mom, I will be a little more serious in the future.

In sentence (13), 【舒服】 “comfortable” followed by 【一點】/yi dian/ means the speaker feels a little more comfortable because the sentence about true love. The second sentence strengthen the opinion of the speaker about the equal of love for all human. Then in sentence (14b), a mother talks about her child’s learning. The child did not do well on the exam. The score is very low. How a mother composes the right sentence to persuade the child study hard? The child says, “I will be a little more serious in the future,” which means that the child is not serious or not serious enough when speaking at the time. From that day on, the child said that he or she would be

a little more serious. The child speaks politely and uses 【一點】 /yi dian/ or a little to soften the language.

In Indonesian language, *sedikit* 【一點】 /yi dian/ or a little means very small, not enough, not for good in negative expression. *Sedikit* is an adverb that can be put before and/ or after the adjective (Moeliono, 2017). Please at the example of Indonesian language below.

(15b) *Hati-hati mengerjakan ujian, beda sedikit saja hasilnya akan berbeda.*

(15a) Be careful in doing the exam, just a little different the result will be definitely different.

(16b) *Hati-hati mengerjakan ujian, sedikit beda saja hasilnya akan berbeda.*

(16a) Be careful in doing the exam, different a little, the result will be different.

In the sentence (15b), (a little different means slightly different or it is really just a little bit. Not too much. Consecutively the sentence (16b) when *sedikit* appears before the adjective, the meaning is just the same as the previous sentence (15b).

The second category “【比較】/bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】/yi dian/” .

(17) 好，這一題他們都認為是三，沒有差別。我們請教我們的專家，正確答案應該是。這個人講話比較猖狂，差不多標準答案是，男性傳給女性。

/hǎo, zhè yī tí tāmen dōu rènwéi shì sān, méiyǒu chābié. Wǒmen qǐngjiào wǒmen de zhuānjiā, zhèngquè dá'àn yīnggāi shì. Zhège yǒurén jiǎnghuà bǐjiào chāngkuáng, chàbùduō biāozhǔn dá'àn shì, nánxìng chuán gěi nǚxìng bǐjiào róngyì yīdiǎn/

(16a) Well, they all think that this question is three, there is no difference. We asked our experts, the correct answer should be. Some people talk more furiously, and the almost standard answer is that it is easier for men to deliver it on to women.

(17) 他說，趙士強的作風較美式，不給壓力，不等球，有機會就打，讓球員盡情發揮，球員不易緊張，比較難纏一點。

/tā shuō, zhàoshìqiáng de zuòfēng jiào měishì, bù gěi yālì, bù děng qiú, yǒu jīhuì jiù dǎ, ràng qiúyuán jìnqíng fāhuī, qiúyuán bùyì jǐnzhāng, bǐjiào nán chán yīdiǎn/

(17a) He said that Zhao Shiqiang's style is American's style. He doesn't give pressure, he doesn't wait for the ball, he plays whenever he has the chance, and lets the players play to their fullest, the players are less nervous, more difficult.

In sentence (16) 【比較容易一點】 means more easy a little or a little easier for men to deliver the case to women. this describes a comparison of the behavior between men and women towards the question mentioned at the previous sentence. Similar to sentence (17) that talks about Zhao Shiqiang. He is an international baseball player from Taiwan. A person says that Zhao Shiqiang style is American's style, which is double focus. Zhao Shiqiang's style is a comparison of the current American style, or American's style is compared with other style. The value of the comparison is the result which is more difficult (to be conquered) than before or if playing with other style.

(18) *Ini burung kecil sedunia, hanya sedikit lebih besar daripada lebah.*

(18a) This is the world's smallest bird, only a little bigger than a bee.

(19) *Udara di Melbourne berbahaya, sedikit lebih baik daripada India.*

(19a) The air in Melbourne is dangerous, a little better than India.

Both the sentence (18) and (19) is easy to be understood. In Chinese Mandarin, the second category 【比較】/bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】/yi dian/.

Tabel 2. Pattern **【比較】/bi jiao/ +Adjective** **【一點】/yi dian/ in Chinese Mandarin**

主題/主 詞	比較	形容詞	一點
Theme or Subject	more	adjective	a little

Tabel 3. Pattern **【比較】/bi jiao/ +Adjective** **【一點】/yi dian/ in Indonesian Language.**

Tema/ Subjek 1	sedikit	Adverbial (lebih atau kurang)	Adjektif	daripada	Subjek 2
Theme or Subject 1	a little	Adverb (more or less)	adjectives	than	Subject 2

The third category, “Adjective+ **【了】/le/+** **【一點】 yi dian/** “ .

(20) 我又**清醒了一點**也可能有一天，嬉皮會把地球給燒掉。

/wǒ yòu qīngxǐng le yīdiǎn yě kěnéng yǒu yītiān, xī pí huì bǎ dìqiú gěi shāo diào/

(20a) I'm a little more consious and maybe one day the hippies will burn down the earth.

The sentence (20) above has the Adjective+ **【了】/le/+** **【一點】 yi dian/** structure in **【...清醒了一點】** with **【了】/le** to show the comparison or condition before and when the speaker utters that sentence. Therefore the phrase a little more consious is the condition when the speaker speaks. Before, the speaker has not consious as yet or just consious (without slitghly consious).

(21) 單方面發展，一直在創業，一直往前衝，少了一點觀賞，一分情意，一點美感。

/dān fāngmiàn fāzhǎn, yīzhí zài chuàngyè, yīzhí wǎng qián chōng, shǎole yīdiǎn guānshǎng, yī fēn qíngyì, yīdiǎn měigǎn/

(21a) Developments that only one-side applied, contantly creating the business, continuously moving forward, enjoying a little less, a little bit of caring and a little artistic.

In the sentence (21) **【了】/le** in the construction of Adjective+ **【了】/le/+** **【一點】 yi dian/** states the comparison of the situation of now when the speaker states the sentence and the situation before the one-sided development, o rit is also possible to compare one aspect with others. In this case is the aspect of development.

Now let’s look at the Indonesian language on the third category.

(22) Trump sudah sedikit membaik.

(22a) Trumps has improved a little

(23) Duh produksi beras telah sedikit menurun dan stok sedikit menipis.

(23a) Oops, rice production has decreased a little and stocks have run low a little.

The pattern with **【了】/le** means there is a different situation when the speaker utterns the sentence and the time before it. In Indonesian language **【了】/le** means *akhir, telah, sudah*. It shows the accomplished aspect, which means also comparing the situation before and now, the time when the speaker utterns the sentence.

In sentence (22) the verb *membaik* which means improve already shows the different situation in compared with before. Somehow we can add the quality of impruvement by adding an adverd less or more , means *sedikit* or *banyak*. This also similar to sentence (23) in the verbs of *menurun* and *menipis* which mean become decrease and low.

Morover, in Indonesian language this type of pattern will be possible change the shift of word class (part of speech). This process is called derivational morphemes (Shu & Lin, 2016; Chaer, 2012). Derived from Booij (2005) the process of shift word class can be as follows at table 4.

Table 4. Derivational Morphological Process

No	Adjective	Prefix	Verb
1.	<i>baik</i>	<i>me+</i>	<i>membalik</i>
2.	<i>turun</i>	<i>me+</i>	<i>menurun</i>
3.	<i>tipis</i>	<i>me+</i>	<i>menipis</i>

Susilo (2019) state the verbs *membalik*, *menurun*, *menipis* mean improving, decreasing, being low show the different situation. The adverbs *sedikit* shows the quality, grade, value of the verbs standing after the *sedikit* or a little, Aronoff&Kristen (2011).

(22i) A: *Trump sudah sembuh.*
 B: *Seberapa sembuh itu?*
 A: *Sedikit.*

A: Trump is getting better.
 B: How good is that?
 A: A little.

(23i) A: *Penurunan produksi beras telah berkurang.*
 B: *Berapa banyak?*
 A: *Sedikit.*

A: The decline in rice production has been reduced.
 B: How much?
 A: A little.

The fourth category Kategori keempat “【太】/tai/+adjective+【了】/le/+【一點】/yī diǎn/”.

(24) 十七歲的妮娜在一些世界級舞團的標準來看，已是太老了一點。
 /shíqī suì de nī nà zài yīxiē shìjiè jí wǔ tuán de biāozhǔn lái kàn, yǐ shì tài lǎole yīdiǎn/

(24a) Seventeen-year-old Nina was a little too old by the standards of some world-class dance companies.

(24b*) Nina yang berusia tujuh belas tahun agak terlalu tua sedikit menurut standar beberapa perusahaan tari kelas dunia.

(25) 那六十到七十二天又太久了，太久了一點。
 /nà liùshí dào qīshí'èr tiān yòu tài jiǔle, tài jiǔle yīdiǎn/

(25a) Those sixty to seventy-two days were too long, a little too long.

(25b*) Enam puluh sampai tujuh puluh dua hari itu sedikit terlalu lama, terlalu lama sedikit.

In Chinese Mandarin there are such sentence structures (24) and (25). Add 【太】/tai/+adjective+【了】/le/+【一點】/yī diǎn/ very+adjective that follows.

On the other hand, there is no such structure in Indonesian language. Just some alternatives sentences as follows.

(24i) *Nina yang berusia tujuh belas tahun terlalu tua menurut standar beberapa perusahaan tari kelas*

dunia.

Seventeen-year-old Nina is too old by the standards of some world-class dance companies.

(24ii) *Nina yang berusia tujuh belas tahun sudah tua menurut standar beberapa perusahaan tari kelas dunia.*

Seventeen-year-old Nina is old by the standards of some world-class dance companies.

(24iii) *Nina yang berusia tujuh belas tahun sedikit tua menurut standar beberapa grup tari kelas dunia.*
Seventeen-year-old Nina is a little old by the standards of some world-class dance companies.

In Indonesian language structure in one simple sentence there is only one adjective, one adverb and one other aspect. Double adjective or adverb will result redundancy and the sentence become grammatically incorrect.

Similar to sentence (24) therefore there are some alternatives for the sentence (25) as shows below.

(25i) *Enam puluh sampai tujuh puluh dua hari itu terlalu lama*
Sixty to seventy-two days is too long.

(25ii) *Enam puluh sampai tujuh puluh dua hari itu lama.*
Sixty to seventy-two days is long.

(25iii) *Enam puluh sampai tujuh puluh dua hari itu sedikit lama.*
Sixty to seventy-two days is a little long.

CONCLUSIONS

Chinese Mandarin has four categories “ Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian/”, “【比較】 /bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】 /yi dian/”, “Adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 yi dian/“ and “【太】 /tai/+adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 /yi dian/”. There are only three type equal to the structure of Indonesia language. 【一點】 /yi dian/” in Indonesian language means *sedikit* or a little can be put before and after an adjective. However stand before the adjective is often easy to find. There is not any differences in the first category of Adjective+ 【一點】 /yi dian between Chinese Mandarin and Indonesian language. At the second category, 【比較】 /bi jiao/ +Adjective 【一點】 /yi dian/, Chinese Mandarin and Indonesian language have different structure. This difference is due to the comparison of 【比較】 /bi jiao/ in Chinese Mandarin and *lebih/ kurang* +Adjective + *daripada* in Indonesian language. Therefore the different structure is inevitable. The third category Adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 yi dian/ . Based on this structure, the Indonesian pattern will possible change the words class (part of speech). This due to the derivational morphological process. There is prefix *me*+Adjective or *ber*+ Adjective. Please to be underlined that not all the adjective will be automatically change the words class. There are some adjectives that stay still at their word class without morphological process. The fourth category which is 【太】 /tai/+adjective+ 【了】 /le/+ 【一點】 /yi dian does not have its equivalent in Indonesian pattern.

Although this structure occurs mostly in oral communication, however learners may face some difficulties due to some differences. This preliminary study can be followed up further seriously and provide some new ideas for teaching Chinese Mandarin in Indonesia.

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