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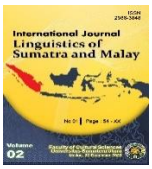

The Conjunctions *"Sebab" and "Karena"* in the Minangkabau Language Variety: A Corpus-Based Syntactic Study

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the frequency, colligation pattern, and syntactic role of *"karena"* and *"sebab"* conjunctions in the MinangKabau language variety. The Minang LCC corpus of the Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb) gadget was used to obtain data. There are two phases of analysis in this research: quantitative analysis and qualitative analysis. The frequency of cause and because conjunctions in the Minang-Kabau language variation is ascertained by quantitative study. In the Minang-Kabau language variety, the syntactic function of cause and because conjunctions are discussed, and the colligation pattern is ascertained through qualitative analysis. The study's findings indicate that although the conjunction because occurs 37 times, the conjunction because only occurs 27 times. This shows that the conjunction *karena is* more often used in the Minangkabau language variety than the conjunction *sebab*. There are variations in the colligation patterns of the MinangKabau conjunctions *sebab* and *karena*. The conjunction *sebab is* followed by syntactic categories of nonpersona nominal phrases, nonpersona nouns, persona nominal phrases, verb phrases, and verbs. The conjunction *karena is* also followed by the syntactic categories nonpersona nominal phrase, nonpersona noun, persona nominal phrase, verb phrase, and verb. *Cause* conjunctions followed by nouns, nominal phrases, verbs and verb phrases have the syntactic roles of quantity, cause, place, doer, and quality. Unlike the *cause* conjunction, the syntactic role of the conjunction *because* in the Minangkabau language variety is more. Prepositions to have syntactic roles of time, quantity, cause, place, actor, quality, and resistance.

Keywords: Conjunction, Frequency, Colligation, Syntactic Role, Corpus

1. Introduction

A cause must exist before an effect can happen. In any language usage for communication, the conjunctions cause and because are frequently used. It is crucial to keep in mind that the word cause refers to the fundamental element or source of an issue or circumstance, whereas the word because is used to describe why something occurred. Xosanavongsa (2019) presents a formal model for contextual event causal dependency, while Meek (1995) concentrates on the inference and finding of causal links. In the meantime, Indonesia linguist Chaer (2011, p. 115) found that the conjunctions *sebab* and *karena* are conjunctions that join two non-equal linguistic elements. Both includes as subordinative conjunctions. The word "because" at the start of a clause is expressed with the conjunction because. Due to the fact that this supporting clause may be positioned as the opening clause, or the conjunction because can be placed at the beginning or in the middle of the phrase since this subordinate clause might be positioned as either the first or second clause.

For example, in the sentence:
"Ardi was absent from school because he was taking care of his sick mother".

The conjunction cause is used to connect states "because" can generally replace the position of the conjunction because.

Examples of its use in sentences:

"The cow will be sold because they need a lot of money". Purwanti (2023, P. 15-16)

Conjunctions or connecting words are very often found in every language because one of their functions is to connect sentences or clauses. According to Alwi, et al. (2003, p. 298) conjunctions are task words that connect two equal language units, words with words, phrases with phrases, clauses with clauses. Types of conjunctions according to Alwi, Hasan. et al. are (a) coordinative conjunctions and (b) subordinative conjunctions. Subordinating conjunctions consist of (1) subordinative time, (2) subordinative conjunction of condition, (3) subordinative conjunction of supposition, (4) subordinative conjunction of purpose, (5) subordinative conjunction of conscience, (6) subordinative conjunction of comparison, (7) subordinative conjunction of cause, (8) Subordinative conjunction of result, (9) Subordinative conjunction of means, 10) Subordinative conjunction of manner, (11) Subordinative conjunction of complementation, (12) Subordinative conjunction of attributive, (13) Subordinative conjunction of comparison. This discussion will focus on the subordinating conjunctions of cause, namely the conjunctions *cause* and *because*.

Indonesian language including Minangkabau, require careful consideration of the conjunctions cause and because. The Minangkabau community uses Minangkabau, a regional language, for everyday communication by Minangkabau speakers. Navis (1984, p. 243) analyse the use of the written language Minangkabau "*kaba*" (derives from Sanskrit and meaning "joke" or "solace") and other works of classic Minangkabau literature and found the topic of conjunctions because becomes a phenomenon that merits more investigation. The Minangkabau people have long acknowledged the traditional Minangkabau *kaba* as a literary masterpiece, and naturally, given the abundance of famous works written in Minangkabau.

Numerous more studies have looked into how conjunctions are used in different languages, providing insight into their studies. Jones and Larry (2001) research examining "Characteristics and Conjunction Errors in the Capacity of Distinction: Proof of Dual Process Theory". Features and conjunction errors in the dual process theory and joint error features are based on familiarity in usage inattention. Nugraha et al (2015) examines the use of conjunctions in written and spoken language by fifth grade students of Baki Pandeyan 01 Elementary School in Sukoharjo. Debaisieux (2004) contest the conventional understanding of these conjunctions as subordinating, arguing instead that their grammatical function is more nuanced. The subjective and objective uses of "because" as well as children's understanding of causal constructs are explored by Levshina (2017). However, these studies did not use big data with corpus-based research to help language use research more objectively.

There has not been much research on conjunctions in the Minangkabau language variety, even though the Minangkabau language variety shows the use of conjunctions using corpus-based analysis. Corpus linguistics is a field that examines language using a corpus as a source of data. Studies of Fattah (2018) and Saeed (2020) both emphasize the importance of context in interpreting causal conjunctions, with Fattah specifically focusing on translation shifts and Saeed on the role of context in communication. Taufiqurrahman (2021) and Pangaribuan (2018) highlight the challenges in using corpus of conjunctions, particularly in educational contexts. Sanders (2014) provides a broader perspective, discussing the variation in the expression of causality and the role of subjectivity in discourse.

Biber (1996) and Park (2017) both highlight the potential of corpus-based techniques in this area, with the latter noting the evolving nature of corpus linguistics. Specific studies have applied these techniques to investigate the use of conjunctions by Arabic (Hassan, 2011), Chinese and English (Wan, 2011), and Sudanese (Allah, 2014) learners, as well as in Malaysian secondary school English language textbooks (Philip, 2012). These studies have revealed both common errors and areas for improvement in conjunction usage. Leung (2005) further compares the use of major English conjunctions by American and Hong Kong university students, finding differences in variety and usage. Lastly, Gabrielatos (2011) emphasizes the importance of considering context in corpus-based analysis, particularly in the identification of diachronic trends.

The research mentioned above discuss conjunction data through corpus-based analysis. According to Stefanowitsch (2020), language data in corpus linguistics research is meant to be processed using corpus tools since they contain a substantial quantity of real content language use that can represent the diversity of languages in the study. Since corpus linguistics may supply a large amount of data and has the potential to check a wide variety of languages, Sinclair (2003) emphasizes the need of using it to analyze lingual data.

Software can help to form a large corpus. Not only with regard to corpus formation, a large amount of data can also be analyzed more objectively. Large amounts of data can be examined with software. Corpus processing software has various features, one of which is the frequency feature. The frequency feature is a feature that serves to count the number of words in the corpus. Frequency is divided into two types, namely normalized frequency and raw frequency. The result of the division between the frequency of the searched word and the number of tokens in the corpus then multiplied by the amount of normalization is the normalized frequency McEnery & Hardie (2012). The amount of normalization used in general is 1,000,000. The number of occurrences of the searched word is the raw frequency.

Firth (1968) argues that colligation is a term that refers to the relationship between syntagmatic and grammatical categories. Colligation is different from collocation which discusses the meaning relations of word combinations that occur together in a particular context. Colligation focuses on the structural pattern of a word or grammatical category. Hoey (2005) argues that colligation is a term regarding grammatical patterns and structural patterns related to lexical items. Colligation includes three aspects. The first aspect is the link between the lexical item and the grammatical context. The second aspect is the link between the lexical item and the specific syntactic function when the item is used, for example, consequence which is commonly used as part of the complement Hoey (2005). The third aspect is the link between the lexical item and the position in the phrase, clause, sentence, text or discourse when the item is used, for example, consequence is commonly used as part of the theme in a sentence Hoey (2005).

The syntactic role of conjunctions followed by verbs, verb phrases, nouns and nominal phrases is analyzed with several theories, namely Ramlan (1987), Alwi et al. (2010), Saeed (2016), and Slager (2021). Based on these four theories, this study uses the syntactic role of adverbial elements with the terms time, quantity, cause, place, actor, quality, and resistance.

Based on this explanation, the purpose of this study is to find the frequency, describe the colligation pattern, and analyze the syntactic role of the conjunctions *cause* and *because* in the Minangkabau language variety. To find the use of conjunctions in formal situations, this research uses data from the Minang LCC corpus of the Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb) tool. CQPweb (CQP stands for Corpus Query Program) is a powerful web-based corpus query tool, with which users can apply various Corpus Linguistics (CL) analysis techniques Prihantoro (2022, p. 3). Through these research objectives, this study is expected to show the use of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions in Minangkabau language.

2. Method

The research method used is mixed methods. Yusuf (2014) argues that in mixed method research, qualitative research methods or techniques are used in one phase and quantitative research methods or techniques are applied in another phase. This research uses a corpus-based approach or data on the Minang LCC corpus of the Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb) device. Tognini-Bonelli (2001) argues that a corpus-based approach is a methodology that utilizes a corpus to elaborate, test, or exemplify theories and descriptions that have been formulated before creating corpus data.

The focus of this study is the right-hand constituents that follow the Conjunctions *sebab* and *karena*. To find the concordance of the two Conjunctions, Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb) software was used. Data was collected by entering keywords in the Query feature in Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb). The researcher entered the keywords *sebab* and *karena* to find the concordance of the two Conjunctions.

This research has two stages of analysis, namely quantitative analysis and qualitative analysis. The Query feature in Corpus Query Processor (CQPweb) is utilized to find the frequency of occurrence of *sebab* and *karena* Conjunctions in the corpus, this stage includes quantitative analysis. In the qualitative analysis stage, the colligation pattern can be known through the concordance of *Karena* (*cause)* and *sebab* (*because)* Conjunctions in the Query feature. In the qualitative analysis stage, the data is analyzed by syntactic role theory. Formal presentation method is used as the data presentation method.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Frequency of Conjunctions cause and because

By studying a large collection of language samples using corpus linguistic analysis, the identification trends in how conjunctions are frequently used can be shown based on the existence of provision of data-based.

The results of the study found that the frequency number of the conjunction *sebab* is smaller than the conjunction *karena* in the Minangkabau language variety. Figure 1 shows the frequency of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions in the MinangKabau language variety.

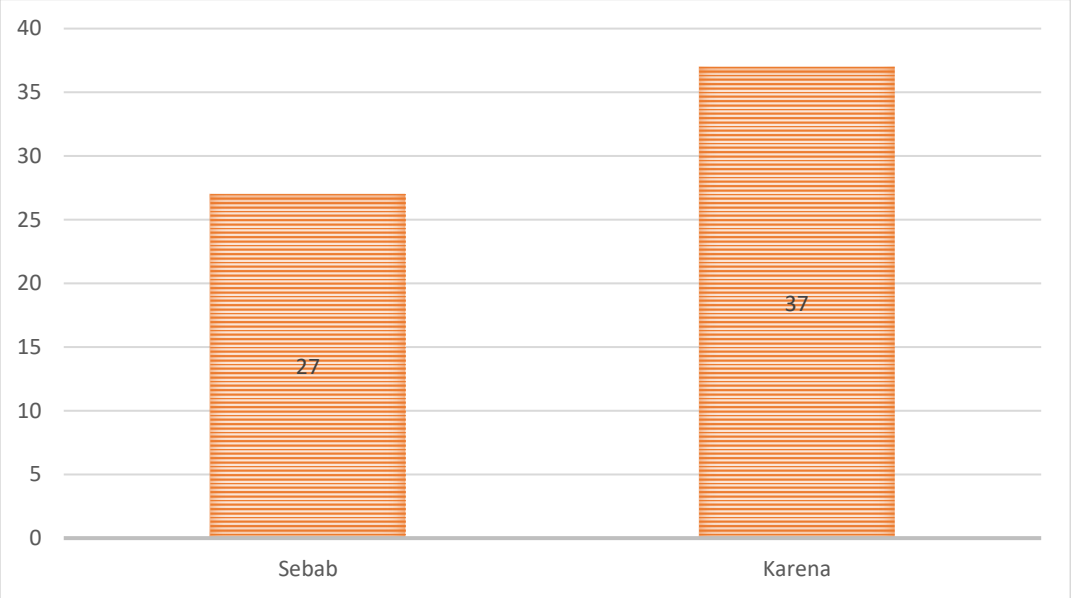

Figure 1. Frequency Diagram of Conjunctions of *sebab* and *karena*

Based on the results of the study, the conjunction *sebab* in the MinangKabau language variety is least followed by non-persona nominal phrases and most followed by verb phrases in the Minangkabau language variety. This is different from the conjunction *Karena*. The conjunction *karena* in the Minangkabau language variety is least followed by verbs and most followed by persona noun phrases. Saeed, & Al-Salman's study (2020) also claims the conjunction *because* proved to be the strongest of all, as it is characterized with the structural mobility to occupy different positions (i.e., before or after the main clause) and in formal or informal discourse. Table 1 displays the results of the research.

Table 1. Colligation Conjunctions *sebab* and *karena*

No.	Colligation	Frequency of sebab	Frequency karena
1	Conjunction + Nonpersona FN	6	5
2	Conjunction + Nonpersona N	2	6
3	Conjunction + FN Persona	4	13
4	Conjunction + V	6	4
5	Conjunction + FV	9	9
	Total	**27**	**37**

Based on the results of the study, Conjunction *sebab* has less syntactic role than conjunction *karena*. The syntactic role of the conjunction *sebab* in the corpus of Minang language is divided into five types, namely quantity, cause, place, actor, and quality. The syntactic role of the conjunction *karena* found in the corpus of Minang language consists of seven types, namely time, quantity, cause, place, actor, quality, and resistance. The research results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Syntactic role of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions

No.	The role of syntax	Frequency of sebab	Frequency karena
1	Time	-	1
2	Quantity	1	5
3	Because	17	19

4	Place	6	6
5	Performers	2	1
6	Quality	1	4
7	Resistance	-	1
	Total	**27**	**37**

Conjunction *sebab* has fewer syntactic roles than Conjunction *karena*. The number of syntactic roles of Conjunction *karena* makes Conjunction *karena* more often used than Conjunction *sebab* in the Minangkabau language variety. Specific studies also have applied these techniques to investigate the use of conjunctions by Arabic (Hassan & Mat Daud 2011), and Sudanese (Allah, 2014) learners.

4.2. Colligation and Syntactic Role of Conjunctions sebab and karena

The following is a discussion of the colligation and syntactic role of *cause* and *because* conjunctions in the Minangkabau language variety.

a. Colligation and Syntactic Role of Time

The colligation and time syntactic role of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions are shown in the following data.

(1) *Peranan pantiang dalam manumpas aksi Kapten Westerling nan nio marabuik kakuasaan negara,* ***karena*** *menerima penyerahan kedaulatan Indonesia oleh Balando pada tanggal 27 Desember 1949*.

‘An important role in crushing the actions of Captain Westerling who wanted to seize state power, **because** he accepted the surrender of Indonesian sovereignty by Netherlands on December 27, 1949..’

The conjunction *karena* in Data (1) is followed by the verb phrase received the surrender of Indonesian sovereignty by Netherlands on December 27, 1949. The phrase refers to the year of the surrender of Indonesian sovereignty, which was on December 27, 1949.

b. Colligation and the Syntactic Role of Quantity

The colligation and quantity syntactic role of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions are shown in the data as follows.

(2) *Amerika Serikat jo computing science di Inggris Sabananyo labiah dari itu,* ***sebab*** *salapeh surek elektronik maninggaan POP3 Server mako itu akan malalui banyak server-server*.

‘The United States and computing science in the United Kingdom It is actually more than that, **cause** after the electronic mail leaves the POP3 Server, it will go through many servers.’

(3) *Karasu adolah sabuah kota nan ado di Provinsı Sakarya, Turks, k****arena*** *penghasilannya masih kecil*.

‘Karasu is a town in Sakarya Province, Turks, **because** its income is still small.’

(4) *Conan dibuekan Prof Agasa alat-alat nan mambantu nyo,* ***karena*** *mangetek*.

‘Prof. Conan made Prof. Agasa tools that helped him, because he was shrinking.’

The conjunction *sebab* in Data (2) is followed by the nominal phrase after the electronic mail leaves the POP3 Server, it will go through many servers. The phrase refers to the quantity of the electronic mail leaves the POP3 Server, it will go through many servers. The conjunction *karena* in Data (3) is followed by the nominal phrase its income is still small. The phrase refers to the quantity of its income, which is still small. The conjunction *karena* in Data (4) is followed by the verb phrase he was shrinking. The phrase refers to the quantity of tools that helped him, namely he was shrinking. Debaisieux (2004) also found the conjunctions "cause" and "because" play a crucial role in expressing causality in English and other languages.

c. Colligation and Syntactic Roles cause

The colligation and syntactic role of *cause* and *because* conjunctions are shown in the following data.

*(5) Inyo dikana sabagai salah saurang sutradara paliang bapangaruah dek **sebab** manghasilkan film-film nan dianggap klasık.*

‘He is remembered as one of the most influential directors **cause** he produced films that are considered classic.’

(6) *Mamakai namo suku atau marga akan mangilangan identitas Minangnyo, dek **sebab** maniru-niru kabianaan urang Batak nan mamakai marga di belakang namanyo.*

‘Wearing a tribal name or clan will lose his Minahasa identity, **cause** it imitates the habits of the Batak people who wear a clan behind their name.’

*(7) Ejaan namo Soekarno diganti olehnyo sandiri manjadi Sukarno, **karena** menurutnya nama tasabuik manggunakan ejaan panjajah (Balando).*

‘The spelling of Soekarno's name was changed by himself to Sukarno, **because** he thought the name used the spelling of the colonizer (Netherlands).’

*(8) Tumbuhan patah tulang punya kecenderungan untuk tidak diserang penyakit **karena** getahnya nan beracun.*

‘Patah tulang plants have a tendency not to be attacked by diseases **because** of their poisonous sap.’

The conjunction *sebab* in Data (5) is followed by the verb phrase produced films that are considered classic. The phrase refers to the reason why He is remembered as one of the most influential directors, namely produced films that are considered classic. The conjunction *sebab* in Data (6) is followed by the verb phrase it imitates the habits of the Batak people who wear a clan behind their name. The phrase refers to the reason that Wearing a tribal name or clan will lose his Minahasa identity, namely imitates the habits of the Batak people who wear a clan behind their name. The conjunction *karena* in Data (7) is followed by a nominal phrase he thought the name used the spelling of the colonizer (Netherland). The phrase refers to the cause of the spelling of Soekarno's name was changed by himself to Sukarno, namely he thought the name used the spelling of the colonizer (Netherland). The conjunction *karena* in Data (8) is followed by the nominal phrase of their poisonous sap. The phrase refers to the reason that “Tumbuhan patah tulang punya kecenderungan untuk tidak diserang penyakit”, namely their poisonous sap.

d. Colligation and Syntactic Role of place

The colligation and place syntactic role of *sebab dan karena* conjunctions are shown in the following data.

(9) *Bola basket sangek cocok untuak ditonton dek **sebab** biaso dimainan di dalam ruang tatutuik jo cumo mamaraluan lapangan nan ketek.*

‘Basketball is great to watch **cause** it's usually played indoors and only requires a small court.’

(10) *Nagarı Sungai Jambu berhawa sejuk, **karena** talatak di lereng Gunung Marapi.*

‘Nagari Sungai Jambu has cool weather, because it is located on the slopes of Mount Marapi.’

(11) *Militer dan administrası yang relatif aman bagı pergudangan dan pertukaran barang-barang, **karena** Batavia mudah mencapas jalur jalur perdagangan ke Indonesia bagian timur.*

‘The military and administration were relatively safe for the warehousing and exchange of goods. because Batavia easily reached the trade routes to eastern Indonesia.’

The conjunction *sebab* in Data (9) is followed by the verb phrase it's usually played indoors and only requires a small court. The phrase refers to the place where basketball it's usually played, namely indoors and

only requires a small court. The conjunction *karena* in Data (10) is followed by the verb phrase talatak it is located on the slopes of Mount Marapi. The phrase refers to the place of Nagari Sungai Jambu, which it is located on the slopes of Mount Marapi. The conjunction *karena* in Data (11) is followed by the noun phrase Batavia easily reached the trade routes to eastern Indonesia. The phrase refers to The military and administration were relatively safe for the warehousing and exchange of goods, namely Batavia. As Blühdorn (2006) provide a broader perspective on the syntactic, prosodic, and semantic behavior of causal connectives in German and English, respectively.

e. Colligation and Syntactic Roles of Actors

The colligation and syntactic role of the agent of the conjunction *sebab* and *karena* are shown in the following data.

*(12) Dek **sebab** itu, ayahnyo baharok kapado anak-anaknyo untuak bisa manjadı pasepak bola.*

‘**cause,** his father hoped that his children would become footballers.’

*(13) Dan sabalunnyo banamo بتحكت Banugkath **Karena** itu, mamak dan kemenakan adolah urang nan satu suku.*

‘And previously it was called بتحكت Banugkath **Because**, uncle and nephew are people of the same tribe.’

The conjunction *sebab* in Data (12) is followed by the noun phrase hoped that his children would become footballers. The phrase refers to the actor who hoped that his children would become footballers k, namely his father. The conjunction *karena* in Data (13) is followed by the nouns uncle and nephew. the nouns refer to the actors, namely uncle and nephew.

f. Colligation and Syntactic Role of quality

The colligation and quality syntactic role of *sebab* and *karena* conjunctions are shown in the following data.

(14) *Malainkan dapek manıngkekan barek badan, **sebab** makanan-makanan tasabuik manganduang tinggi kalori*.

‘Rather, it can increase body weight, **cause** these foods are high in calories.’

*(15) Diambiak dari sosok patınju kalas berek tanamo maso tu Benjamin Caunt, **karena** sosoknyo nan tenggı gadang.*

‘Taken from the figure of the famous heavyweight of the time Benjamin Caunt, **because** of his tall figure.’

The conjunction *sebab* in Data (14) is followed by the noun phrase these foods are high in calories. The phrase refers to the quality of these foods, which is high in calories. The conjunction *karena* in Data (15) is followed by the noun phrase of his tall figure. The phrase refers to the quality of the figure, namely of his tall figure. Levshina (2017) delves into the subjective and objective uses of "because" and children's comprehension of causal constructions.

g. Colligation and Syntactic Role of Resistance

The colligation and resistance syntactic role of the conjunctions *sebab* and *karena are* shown in the data as follows.

(16) *inyo akan pergi sabalun disuruh dan akan dating sabalun dipanggil. **Karena** kemarahannya nan memuncak, ibu Malın menyumpah anaknya*.

‘She would leave before being told to and would come before being called. **Because**, her anger peaked, Malın's mother swore at her son.’

The conjunction *karena* in Data (16) is followed by the noun phrase her anger peaked, Malın's mother swore at her son. The phrase refers to Malın's mother swore at her son, namely her anger peaked, Malın's mother swore at her son.

5. Conclusion

Both “sebab” and “karena” are used to show cause and effect relationships between different parts of a sentence. However, they have different syntactic roles within a sentence. Conjunction *karena* has a higher frequency than conjunction sebab. Conjunction *sebab* appears 27 times, while conjunction *karena* appears 37 times. This shows that the conjunction *karena is* more often used in the Minangkabau language variety than the conjunction *sebab*. The conjunctions *sebab* and *karena* in the Minangkabau language variety have differences in terms of colligation patterns. The conjunction *sebab is* followed by syntactic categories of nonpersona nominal phrases, nonpersona nouns, persona nominal phrases, verb phrases, and verbs. The conjunction *karena is* also followed by the syntactic category’s nom nonpersona nominal phrase, nonpersona noun, persona nominal phrase, verb phrase, and verb. *Cause* conjunctions followed by nouns, nominal phrases, verbs and verb phrases have the syntactic roles of quantity, cause, place, doer, and quality. Unlike the *cause* conjunction, the syntactic role of the conjunction *because* in the Minangkabau language variety is more. Prepositions to have syntactic roles of time, quantity, cause, place, actor, quality, and resistance. They can also be used to connect clauses within a sentence to show the relationship between different ideas. Biber and Park both highlight the potential of corpus-based techniques in this area, with the latter noting the evolving nature of corpus linguistics.

Overall, understanding the syntactic roles and colligation of conjunctions such as *sebab* and *karena* is important for effective communication in Minangkabau language. By using these conjunctions correctly, writers and speakers can clearly convey the reasons and explanations behind different actions and events. However, there is a gap in the literature when it comes to the specific conjunctions "karena" and "sebab" in the Minangkabau language variety. Further research is needed to prove with evidences on their usage as Sinar, et all propose using digital literacy in English is clearly necessary for learning, which thus impacting how teachers prepare their learning materials or instructions. Learning materials can provide valuable insights into the functions and meanings of conjunctions, as well as how they contribute to the overall structure and coherence of a text.

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