

# ENGLISH LOANWORD IN RANTAU PANJANG LANGUAGE

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## Abstract

This research is crucial to understand the connection between language and past communities' cultures. This research used a qualitative approach based on descriptive methods. The researcher employed an unstructured interview as the instrument for gathering data. In this interview, the researcher selected key informants who were both native residents and the older generation in the Rantau Panjang area. The interview results indicated that people in Rantau Panjang have been using English loanwords for several years. Historically, English loanwords were utilised for communication and trading purposes.

**Keywords:** *English, loanword, Malay, Rantau Panjang*

## I INTRODUCTION

During the pepper trade, the riverside residents unconsciously assimilated the vocabulary of European traders, particularly those from England. Therefore, during this period in Rantau Panjang, Tabir District, where the Tabir River served as a transportation route, the residents inadvertently incorporated several English words into their daily lives. Therefore, research on the English vocabulary of the Rantau Panjang Malay community is necessary. Rantau Panjang Malay language is a kind of linguistics diversity and local cultural heritage. During the colonial period, the nature facilitated the interaction between the local community with foreign visitor from England. Since the pepper production in Jambi Province, the British people did the journey along the Batanghari River in the Jambi Province. At that time, Batanghari River is second biggest port in Sumatera, Indonesia (Arman, 2018; Sumarni, 2022).

The trade interaction between British people and the native population engaged in pepper sales facilitates intensive communication between the two groups. Communication may occur in Indonesian, indicating that British individuals can speak and comprehend Indonesian or that native speakers attempt to understand the language of individuals from England. Two possibilities may occur. The indigenous population may have acquired English indirectly through interactions with traders who visited their region. The indigenous population attempted to replicate the spoken language, despite lacking comprehension of its written form at that time.

In ordinary life, this language is used together with the original Malay Rantau Panjang vocabulary, unless a word does not already exist in the Rantau Panjang Malay vocabulary. This effect is due to interference between English and Rantau Panjang Malay, where the two languages' lexicon is utilised interchangeably rather than replacing each other. It's probable that English terminology evolved as a result of the British experimenting with Rantau Panjang Malay. In this experiment, certain English language will be utilised when the speaker does not or has not yet learnt the equivalent in Rantau Panjang Malay. The audience, in this case the local Rantau Panjang Malay speakers, accepts the passion with which the word city is used. It is also a truth that England has the most colonies in the entire world. As a result, English is more widely known and used in many nations, particularly in former British colonies. That is why English expanded so swiftly over the world (PascaPBI, 2012), besides English has some form of English (Isarankura, 2018) and many dialects (Osoblivaia, 2023).

In linguistic studies, English is commonly used as a loanword or borrowed word. The phonological system of the borrowing language, known as the loanword, modifies borrowed words to some extent. The longer borrowed words remain in use, the more they resemble the original words of the borrowed language. Borrowing occurs when a specific language integrates vocabulary from another language into its lexicon. These terms are borrowed or loanwords (Muzyatun et al., 2021). Linguistic borrowing represents a notable consequence of language contact situations. Typically, phonological and morpho-syntactic alterations occur to align with the language's structure (Jayantini et al., 2017; Mushait & Al-Athwary, 2020). Nouns and verbs consistently represent the most prevalent category in any corpus of loanwords (Aizawa, 2024). A loanword, or lexical borrowing, is a word that has entered the lexicon of a language through borrowing, transfer, or copying. Consequently, nominal inflexion is a prominent

morphological characteristic of the borrowing language and is consistently involved in adapting loanwords.

Nowadays, mostly, Indonesian words are borrowed from other languages, including English (Ariyati, 2014; Gustara, 2015; Satriani, 2018). Many new foreign words employed in Indonesia generated this phenomenon. The term for it is a loanword. It signifies that a term borrowed from one language has found its way into another (Rohbiah, 2019). Adoption of words is the process of assimilating foreign language vocabulary by the user, retaining the original spelling and pronunciation, hence preserving the word's exact form (Supeni & Fauziah, 2018).

Morphology is a way to understand the complexity of language. It is also the study of word structure in isolation. Through morphological research, we can develop a deeper understanding of how language is formed, used, and understood by native speakers. Morphology has several important goals for linguists. First, morphology is used to analyse and describe various languages in the world carefully and in depth. Since morphological phenomena are integral to these languages, linguists need appropriate morphological tools to understand them completely. Second, morphology also aims to find a typology of languages based on several dimensions. This aims to explain various aspects related to language typology so that we can understand the diversity of languages in the world. Third, morphology helps reveal the nature of the language system, which can provide a better understanding of the nature of humans as language users. By understanding the basic principles of linguistics and the internal organisation of grammar, it is hoped that we can better understand how human language abilities and the creativity of language rules are organised. Fourth, morphology provides better insight into how linguistic rules function in language production and perception and how linguistic knowledge is represented mentally, both psychologically and historically. This contributes to a broader understanding of cognitive science, which investigates human cognitive abilities in understanding and using language.

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies word structure. Morphology is part of the broader science of language, along with phonology, syntax, and semantics (Al-Athwary, 2016). In morphology, one can understand the formation of words, such as loanwords or borrowing words. Through the study of word structure, morphology aims to reveal the relationship between changes in word form and changes in meaning that often occur regularly and systematically. It also links to a diverse range of syntactic functions.

As a linguistic science, morphology has a vital role in answering several questions about the form, meaning, and function of words and how they interact with language use (Dashti & Dashti, 2017). For example, morphology concerns how words form their internal structure and how changes in this structure can affect a word's meaning. In addition, morphology investigates the usage of words in various communication contexts.

Due to foreign language instruction and exposure to other languages via television, the Internet, and social media, specific words from a source language begin to integrate into a target language (Zibin, 2019). Language speakers often explain why morphology is crucial to their language. It focuses on the tasks and functions of morphology in the creation and use of language. When we want to name objects or express different concepts, we need appropriate words. Therefore, the creation of new words often occurs due to changes and developments in the lives of humans who use language. Language has a morphological system that works to fulfil this need.

The use of words in language will continue to increase along with the growth of human language users' needs. Creating new words occurs in two main ways: first, by creating new lexemes through derivation, and second, by changing the form and function of existing lexemes through inflexion. The creation of new lexemes sometimes involves using pre-existing lexemes as a basis. Lexical needs, not grammatical ones, drive this process, resulting in the creation of new words to address the language's need for expanded vocabulary.

Each group in Indonesia contributes their unique language and cultural heritage to its rich social landscape, showcasing its vast ethnic diversity. Language, as an organized system of sound symbols, facilitates social interaction and reinforces individual and communal identities. Despite Indonesian being the official national language, the 1945 Constitution safeguards regional languages as crucial communication mediums within local communities. The Rantau Panjang Malay community speaks Batin, a compelling example of these regional languages. It exhibits distinctive features, including a vocabulary that bears notable similarities to English in both form and sound—an intriguing reflection of historical and cultural exchange. Research on English loanwords in the Rantau Panjang Malay Language is essential due to the complexity of the issues involved.

## II METHODS

This research adopts a qualitative approach with descriptive methods, which aims to describe in detail the morphological structure of the Rantau Panjang Malay language, which English influences. In a qualitative approach, researchers focus on in-depth understanding and interpretation of complex contexts with the research objective of revealing the morphological characteristics of the language. Descriptive methods are used to collect data and related information, which is then analysed systematically to understand the underlying morphological structure of the Rantau Panjang Malay Language.

This research was conducted in Rantau Panjang, Tabir District, Merangin Regency, Jambi Province. The main informant in this research is a native Malay resident of Rantau Panjang, Mrs. Mariam Kancil. The number of samples for this research was taken based on the research objective, namely local community figure of using the loanwords of English. The data was collected through interviews and observation. The interview was done with the origin of Rantau Panjang society and direct observation of language use in everyday contexts. The collected data was analysed to loanwords from English into local language structures. This research is provided a comprehensive picture of how English influences the morphology of Rantau Panjang Malay. The researcher noted relevant findings and noticed patterns that emerged when using morphology, including the form and function of words absorbed from English.

## III FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

*Table 1. English Language in the Malay Language of Rantau Panjang*

No	English Word	Morphem in Rantau Panjang Malay Language	Phonetic Symbol in Rantau Panjang Malay Language	Semantic Meaning
1	Bogey	<i>Bog</i>	/bog/	Ghost
2	Ball	<i>Bal</i>	/bal/	Ball
3	Gate	<i>Get</i>	/get/	Growth plant dwarf
4	Look	<i>Iluk-iluk</i>	/iluk/	Careful
5	Moo	<i>Imuk</i>	/imuk/	Look
6	Cent	<i>sen</i>	/sen/	Money
7	In Thought	<i>Intong</i>	/intong/	Stupid, think more
8	To late get	<i>Kalagit</i>	/kalagit/	Later
9	To get sheer	<i>Tagilis</i>	/tagisil/	Accidentally touched
10	Own do	<i>Undo</i>	/undo/	Bring
11	To low see	<i>Talucie</i>	/taluci/	Out of hand or eyes
12	Paid Daft	<i>Padek</i>	/padek/	Great
13	Un Call	<i>Uncal</i>	/uncal/	Throw without saying
14	Be On	<i>Baon</i>	/baon/	Bring
15	In Bank	<i>Imbong</i>	/imbong/	Hide

Referring to Table 1, the loanwords or lexical borrowings from English into the Malay-Rantau Panjang language serve two primary functions: as verbs and adjectives. Additionally, certain loanwords exhibit identical forms with varying pronunciations, while others display distinct forms with equivalent

pronunciations. We articulate the term 'Bogey' without the 'ey,' signifying an entity that instills fear of a ghost. We can phonetically divide 'bogey' into "boh" and "ghee." Vocalise these sounds, placing initial emphasis on them. The term 'ball' /bɔ:l/ is pronounced as 'bal' without the double 'l'. The term 'gate' /geɪt/ is pronounced as 'get', without the diphthong of 'ei'. The term 'look' maintains the phonetic representation /lɒk/ when the letter 'l' is appended, resulting in 'iluk'. The term 'moo' produces the phonetic sound /mu:/. The letter 'l' transforms into 'imuk' when incorporated. The term 'cent' /sent/ with the sound 'sen'. The term "undo" (/ʌn'du:/) retains the same form as its original English counterpart in the Malay-Rantau Panjang language.

As an example, consider the following sentences in the Malay-Rantau Panjang language:

Datum 1: in though

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Intong** nian budak iko

English: How stupid this boy is.

In English, the word 'in-thought' means that someone must put the information in his/her mind. Therefore, when motivated to act, he or she grasps the task at hand without any complaints, confusion, or rejection. Therefore, if he or she makes any kind of rejection or mistake in doing or understanding something, it indicates that they are not remembering everything they have read, listened to, and learned. The Rantau Panjang Malay language pronounces the term 'in-though' as 'Intong,' transforming 'though' into 'tong' and not producing 'gh' at the end of the sound production. Semantically, this word means that people who believe they lack knowledge or comprehension of a particular task or matter use this word to convey information. 'Intong' refers to a person who lacks any defining characteristics or gifts. However, in daily life and other contexts without unexpected or non-serious issues, this information can be useful. Another way of putting it is that 'intong' is a name given to a person perceived to be lacking in competence or to have a limited amount of experience in the situation that is now being discussed.

Datum 2: to late get

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Kalagit** aku gawe

English: I will do it later

In English, the phrase 'to late get' refers to the inability of an individual to earn something quickly. The Rantau Panjang Malay language pronounces this phrase as 'kalagit', semantically signifying an unwillingness to take action. Someone can use the word 'kalagit' when he or she postpones or does not undertake to do something. This term signifies a genuine readiness or a rejection of external pressure.

Datum 3: to get sheer

Malay-Rantau Panjang: Aku **tagisil** buku nyo tadi

English: I touched her book

The phrase 'to get sheer' is pronounced as 'tagisil' in Rantau Panjang Malay language. This word means that someone touches something accidentally or contact with an object on its surface. The term 'tagisil', semantically, implies an element of accident or coincidence, potentially leaving the individual feeling astonished or embarrassed by the encounter.

Datum 4: own do

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Undo** barang ko

English: Bring this

The phrase 'own do' is pronounced as 'undo' in Rantau Panjang Malay language. It refers to the act of bringing something into one's possession independently. The term "own" is "to possess" or "to have something as one's property.

Datum 5: cent and to low see

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Sen** aku **talucie**

English: I lost my money

The term 'sen' means money, and 'talucie' means someone does not know where the money is. The term "sen" denotes a money unit in several settings, particularly in some Southeast Asian nations such as Malaysia, where it serves as a subunit of the Malaysian Ringgit. In common usage, "sen" denotes money or cash, representing a form of financial value.

Datum 6: paid daft

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Padek** nian

English: Very great

The term 'padek' means excellent. The phrase "padek" signifies something "great," remarkable, or outstanding. People frequently use it to express admiration, superior quality, or an exceptional level. Analogous to "great" in English, "padek" encompasses a broad spectrum of contexts—characterizing individuals, accomplishments, situations, or items distinguished by their superiority. The term "padek" signifies not only recognition of quality but also an elevation to respect or appreciation. This phrase encompasses attributes such as impressiveness, success, or exceptional craftsmanship. The phrase "padek" is beyond simple acceptance; it underscores a degree of excellence that renders anything noteworthy, commendable, or even inspirational. The term "padek," whether employed in informal dialogue or formal acknowledgement, emphasizes the exceptional nature of a person or item.

Datum 7: un call

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Uncal** barang tu ke aku

English: Throw that thing to me.

The term 'uncal' means 'throw something to someone else'. "Uncal" is to drive an object toward another person, generally with the anticipation that they will intercept or receive it. One can employ the phrase "uncal" in various contexts, typically referring to the casual or informal act of passing or transferring an item. To "uncal" an object is to transmit it to another individual casually and directly, enabling a swift and informal exchange of the item. Irrespective of its use in sports, casual settings, or playful exchanges, "uncal" encapsulates the notion of throwing to enable reception by another person.

Datum 8: Be on

Malay-Rantau Panjang: **Baon** karitah ko

English: Bring this bicycle

The term 'be on' means 'bring'. We propose the phrase "be on" to signify "bring." It generally possesses various connotations, frequently contingent upon context. It typically denotes something that is planned, presently occurring, or in a state of preparedness rather than to "bring." Translating "be on" as "bring" could imply an individual's responsibility for delivering or supplying something. This phrase is rare but may suggest preparedness to provide or present an item. In summary, although "be on" does not inherently signify "bring," expressions such as "bring along" or "bring over" may serve as more effective substitutes.

Datum 9: in bank

Malay-Rantau Panjang: Dimano biko **imbong** sen aku?

English: Where do you hide my money?

The term 'in bank' means that someone hides something from others. It typically signifies depositing or maintaining assets within a financial institution for safekeeping. However, metaphorically using "in bank" to imply secrecy or hidden storage may indicate the intentional concealment of an item from sight or awareness. We understand this expression to mean concealing something. We suggest placing the item in a secure, clandestine area, akin to the safekeeping of valuables in a bank vault. This usage denotes the deliberate concealment or protection of information from others' knowledge or access.

Because of their long history of contact with the English language, Indonesians have borrowed words and phrases from it (Nurweni, 2013). Because of the widespread exposure to the English language among Indonesians, many linguistic units borrowed from it have found their way into every facet of daily life. Linguistic interferences may impact languages, including phonemic, grammatical, and lexical. According to Juliawan (2017), the Indonesian language is undergoing significant transformation. Due to the incorporation of numerous words from several languages, its lexicon is constantly evolving (Muhiatun et al., 2021). Historically, the introduction of some foreign cultures into Indonesia aligns with the cultural interactions between the Indonesian populace and other nations.

Language is the fundamental factor for communication within society. Language has established the communication system, using either sounds or traditional symbols (Anggraeni, 2021). English stands as one of the most extensively utilized languages globally (Pawitra et al., 2023). They exist in both oral and written formats. Language consists of words organized according to rules established over generations. Years ago, language users employed symbols such as numbers, images, and gestures.

Currently, language signifies a community or specific nation. Language embodies the society in which it originated and is used. We have selected a worldwide language to facilitate global communication.

In order to improve language as a medium of communication and perception, "borrowing" specifically refers to the process of incorporating and adapting vocabulary from one language into another due to language contact rather than through historical (genetic) development (Chojimah & Widodo, 2021). Direct borrowings represent a highly effective approach to strengthening a language's vocabulary. A direct transfer of phonetic and morphological variants of lexical units takes place from the producer language to the receptor language (Slaba et al., 2021). We can categorize direct borrowings into two types: complete and partial. Linguists classify the first type as lexical units, which arise in a language's vocabulary through internal and external borrowing processes. The second category of direct borrowings consists of lexical units adopted when the language lacks formal and external expressions for specific concepts. Contemporary scholars have categorized this form of direct borrowing as partial. The primary approach to their creation involves modelling words and constructions based on foreign patterns, specifically through calque or loan translations. It entails a literal translation of word elements from the source language into the target language.

A loanword refers to a word or phrase that originates from one language and finds its use in another. Despite borrowing being a common practice among language communities, there is extensive documentation of lexical borrowing from English into other languages. Numerous languages of former colonies have experienced Englishization (becoming English), resulting in a synthesis between English and the indigenous language (Hoque et al., 2021). The local variety of English has gained widespread acceptance among peripheral populations, facilitating the emergence of new English varieties. People may adopt the English language to express a concept or identify an object for which their native language lacks a readily available equivalent.

A specific society's language may reflect its culture and perspectives. Typically, a more profound meaning is associated with each term, phrase, or word in a language. Language is more than just a tool for communication; it is also a powerful way of expressing personal and social dynamics, especially when conveying reluctance or asserting autonomy. Language serves as a crucial medium for the exchange of information and the transmission of messages to others. Language is a system of sound signs collectively accepted for collaboration by members of specific communities. Language is crucial in societal relationships, as it enables effective human interaction. Humans continuously grow in their interactions, adapting to contemporary circumstances and the language employed. A community will evolve its language in tandem with its broader interactions.

#### IV CONCLUSION

There are two conclusions for this research. First, the English loanwords in Rantau Panjang is linked to colonialism that impacted the linguistic environment of Rantau Panjang Malay. This shows that interaction with English during colonial times had a long-term influence on the native language. Second, although many English loanwords have comparable sound in Rantau Panjang Malay, their forms, whether in spelling or semantic meaning, frequently differ from the original English terminology.

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