

# Phonemic Study in Mother Languages in North Sumatra

**Harianto II\*, Teguh Satria Amin, Zulfitri**

Universitas Muslim Nusantara Al-Washliyah, Medan, Indonesia

\*Corresponding Author: hariantoii@um naw.ac.id

## Abstract

*Mother tongue is one of the communication tools used as a delivery to others. The phonological side of the language in North Sumatra has differences in each grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary. This research was conducted to analyze and examine the phonemic elements in the mother tongue of the province of North Sumatra. This study uses some data which is divided into 2 parts, namely primary and secondary. For primary data itself is data obtained by researchers directly. While secondary data is data obtained from existing sources in previous studies. In this study data collection techniques through cakap's Free Involvement Listening Technique or SBLT, observation and interviews. This research shows that the mother tongue in North Sumatra itself has a variety of regional languages used by the surrounding community, the phonological side of the language in North Sumatra has differences in each grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary.*

**Keywords:** Phonemic, Mother Tongue, North Sumatra

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## INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication tool that is used to convey intentions and also messages from one person to another so that what you want to say can be understood. And this language is acquired by people since they were born. In language, of course there are many aspects ranging from the sounds of the language itself to vocabulary and other aspects. In the theory of skills in this language there is what is referred to as listening, reading and also speaking which is obtained by the learning process. And in terms of learning from the sounds of this language it is also called phonology.

Phonology in general is studying language processes, especially in the sound sector which is divided into segmental and suprasegmental sounds. In segmental sounds, it has several elements such as vowels and consonants as well as semi-vowels mentioned in Marsono by Jones (2009: 16). This difference, of course, occurs due to obstructions in human speech organs such as lips, tongue and others.

This vowel sound is a sound that does not have obstacles or obstructions found in the speech organs or speech organs. In the articulation itself there is no obstacle because the vowel sound occurs in the area of the vocal cords. Based on information from Verhaar (2008: 18) it is stated that the obstacles that occur in this unusual area of the vocal cords are also called articulations. Vocal cords that vibrate will produce vocal cord resistance so that it gives rise to a sound. All vowels are voiced sounds, even when the speech apparatus is not completely closed, the glottis remains closed.

While the consonant sound itself is the sound that arises from the air currents which are obstructed in some of the speech or speech organs. And this is likely to occur in an articulation where the inhibition process will make the vocal cords vibrate. And with this process voiced consonants will appear. And if the articulation is not accompanied by vibrating vocal cords and the glottis is in an open condition, then the consonant sound will not sound. As for the semi-vowel itself, it is a sound which when articulated has not yet formed a pure consonant even though the sound is practically also referred to as a consonant. This sound is often referred to as a semi-vowel or semi-consonant.

Phonology is a science that studies the sounds of language which has been written about by all linguists and is also research material from researchers around the world. For regional languages in Indonesia itself, there has been quite a lot of research on regional languages from a linguistic point of view. This research will discuss the mother tongue in North Sumatra, especially the Mandailing language and also Angkola in terms of the phonemic study.

Mandailing language and Angkola language are one of the mother tongues in North Sumatra. These two languages have similar pronunciation and vocabulary so that many people generalize that these two languages are the same. This is quite reasonable considering that the Mandailing and Angkola languages are in 1 sub-family and have many related or cognate vocabularies based on research using 200 Swadesh basic vocabularies.

These two languages are one of the mother tongues in North Sumatra. And studies on the phonological and phonemic aspects that are carried out exclusively can see that the mother tongue, especially the Mandailing and Angkola languages of North Sumatra, can provide quite complete studies and information. In terms of speech, Mandailing as well as Angkola are indeed quite limited in the phoneme sector when compared to Indonesian.

In Indonesian, it has several phonemes that are different from the mother languages in North Sumatra, especially Mandailing and Angkola. Indonesian has the phonemes /f/, /v/ and /p/. Meanwhile, in the Mandailing and Angkola languages, these three phonemes are only available in the phoneme /p/ or represented by the phoneme /p/. While words such as nature, active, focus, philosophy and so on which contain the phonemes /f/ and /v/ will be pronounced as sipat, active, pokus and also pilsapat.

Not only that, the phonemes /s/, /z/ will be considered the same. As with the words zakat and age, native speakers in North Sumatra, especially Mandailing and also Angkola, say sakat and saman. The phonemes /x/ and also /q/ are also one of the phonemes in the Mandailing language which are called /k/. Likewise with the phonemes /e/, /ɛ/ and also /ê/ where the pronunciation in Indonesian has a different articulation, so in North Sumatra it is presented or pronounced in the same way, namely /e/ and also /ɛ/ only.

The suprasegmental element is one of the sides discussed. In the mother tongues of North Sumatra, especially the Mandailing and Angkola languages, vowel phonemes can differentiate meaning due to different sounds depending on the length and shortness of the word. One of them is the word /honest salute/ which has the meaning of being hit eight times. While /sala: panjujar/ has the meaning of a way of striking out. This can also be seen from the word /bagas/ which means house, while if it is pronounced /baga:s/ it means the depth of the river. All of this is explained by Abdul Chair (2017).

For people who have experienced regional migration, there will be the possibility of not being able to communicate using the full Mandailing language, even though they understand the meaning and also the meaning of the words in the Mandailing language. Migration to areas outside North Sumatra, made changes to the way of speaking and also the pronunciation of words from these people.

This research was conducted to provide benefits to the people in North Sumatra, especially the younger generation, to learn about language rules, especially phonemic studies in the mother tongue in North Sumatra. The theoretical benefit of this is that it has a close relationship with the study of linguistics which can support knowledge of language phonology which is closely related to phonemic science in the Mandailing language. Of course, this research can be used by the younger generation, especially students, to learn more about the linguistic side of their mother tongue.

The practical benefit of this research is of course to provide knowledge to the public regarding the phenomenon of the use of phoneme structures in North Sumatra's native languages, especially the Mandailing and Angkola languages which are the basis or reference for adding elements of literature for the younger generation, especially students in the linguistics sector.

The theoretical framework and also the theoretical basis of this research are needed to become the basis for researchers in solving problems in the research process. This theoretical framework can also be a

reference for researchers in setting goals and also the direction of the research. Besides that, it can be the main basis for the research process to make the research clear enough and also consistent. The theoretical basis or theoretical framework will consist of a description and study of the theory in a process of comparison, contrast to the placement of each position in the problem under study of these establishments and positions.

According to Samsuri (2007: 3) that language is a means of communication and also has a close relationship with the users of that language. This is because language is a communication tool that is quite vital for humans. And the function of the language is a tool used to build thoughts and also feelings and desires to human actions. Language is a tool that is used as a way to influence humans as the main basis that is quite rooted in people's lives.

The people in Indonesia are a bilingual society, considering the lives of the people around this archipelago who have their mother tongue or local languages that live among these humans. Regional languages and Indonesian are the two languages that are mastered by all people who live and live in Indonesia. And based on Samsuri (2007: 56) that the diversity of languages is indeed a reflection of the rich culture and local wisdom of the archipelago. Therefore the community has a very important role to maintain and preserve its use.

The regional language used in this archipelago has a position as one of the elements of national culture and also the side of local wisdom when viewed from the political side of the national language. And this regional language is protected by the state. There are several kinds of mother tongues in North Sumatra. And there are those that have a fairly high level of kinship, such as the Mandailing and Angkola languages, where these two languages still survive in North Sumatra amid the heavy influence of other languages entering the archipelago. And this is due to the influence of the attitudes and behavior of the speakers of the language.

Mandailing language is a language that belongs to the Malay language family which is a branch of Protomalaya which is also similar to Javanese and Toraja languages which are also branches of Old Malay according to narratives from Anicetus (2012: 7). This language is one of the languages that are related and are in the same family as Angkola, Toba Batak, Pakpak, and also Simalungun. The Mandailing language is used as a language by the local community which is used to communicate and also interact with other communities, especially in North Sumatra. This language has characteristics in the grammatical sector and also the language system and also the meaning of words that have their own impression.

According to Sibarani (2007: 45) that the linguistic division of languages in North Sumatra itself is divided into Toba Batak, Karo Simalungun, Pakpak Dairi and also Angkola - Mandailing languages. From Sibarani's statement it is known that the Angkola and Mandailing languages are one part because the kinship side of these two languages is very strong. Both languages are in the same sub-family.

In line with Sibarani, Kozok (2009: 37) also mentions that Angkola and Mandailing are 2 languages that have quite a lot in common although there are some differences in them. So that these two languages are sometimes often combined into the Angkola – Mandailing language. From several studies that have been conducted, people who are used to speaking the Mandailing language can also speak Angkola. Vice versa. Therefore, these two languages are often combined into the category of mother tongues in North Sumatra.

In every language, of course, it has phonemics or phonemes. However, not every sound of a language will become a phoneme. These sounds must be studied and tested beforehand with several tests of the phoneme findings. Phoneme names, features and also the character of the phonemes themselves come from the sounds of language. And the number of these phonemes is the same as the number of speech sounds, although this is quite rare. The phonemes themselves are fewer in number when compared to the sounds of a language.

According to Gleason (2011: 9) that phonemes are the smallest elements of language that can distinguish meaning as well as meaning. And in every speech sound which consists of segmentals and also suprasegmentals which can be used as differences in meaning, they are also called phonemes.

Meanwhile, according to Tjandra (2004: 57) that a phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that has an abstract form and also features a certain phonetic distinction with a function to distinguish meaning in

spoken language as well as the crystallization of several concrete sounds which act as allophones in a sound system. the language. And this phoneme has a meaning as a differentiator of meaning in a language.

Based on Alwi's thought (2008: 53) that this phoneme has a meaning as an abstraction of the sound of language and this phoneme is the smallest unit of language from sound and also aspects of sound of language that can be used to distinguish the form and meaning of words. From this narrative the phoneme itself is a different language sound or vocabulary that has similarities in its pronunciation. And in linguistics, phonemes are written with two slashes or /.../. And this phoneme in the grammar rules has various kinds of pronunciation which will depend on the location of the word and also the syllable.

There are 7 vowel phonemes in the Mandailing and Angkola languages which are divided into 3 types of phoneme characters consisting of:

1. High vowel phoneme.

[i] is an allophone of a phoneme that is not distributed complementarily. This is contained in the following words:

/i/ becomes [ɪ] in closed syllables like [nɪn], [basɪs], [nankɪn], [barɪs]. Then [i] in open syllables like [ia], [pity]. Then /i/ changes to /y/ in the open syllable after the vowel. As in the word [jaiylanduk].

The vowel [u] has 2 allophones consisting of open and closed vowels. For vowels /u/ changes to [u] in open syllables like [uda], and also [ubat].

2. Middle Vowel Phoneme

The letter [e] is a medium front vocoid that is not rounded. The front in the tongue area, is moved to the palate which will form a cavity between the front area and also the palate so that the position of the lips will widen.

/e/ in open ultima and also multiplier in [ome] and also [onde]. Then in the open syllable after the vowel in the word [jaiylanduk]. Then in the open syllable for the words [agi], [iba].

3. Low Vowel Phonemes

[ã] is a low, non-rounded vocoid palatalized. The tip of the tongue will move to the palate area where a cavity will form between the tip of the tongue and the palate. According to Khairina (2014: 46) that the distance between the tongue and the palate will be farther away in the lip area so that vowels are created as in the words [abin], [barita], [badar] and also [abis].

Then on the letter [i] in open syllables like [duck] and also [fill].

Apart from vowel phonemes, another category is diphthongal phonemes or also known as double vowels. In this phoneme there are several parameters that are used as a reference where the diphthong sounds in the Mandailing language will be described as follows.

1. High Vowel Phonemes

In this category, the combination of double vowels aI occurs at the front of the tongue and also has high vowel phonemes. Meanwhile, phonemes with the letter /au/ are on the back.

2. Middle vowel phoneme

In the middle vowel phoneme category, the letter Ae occurs at the front of the tongue. While the letter /a/ will occur on the back of the tongue.

Table 1. the middle vowel phoneme category

	Front	Middle	Behind
Tall	aI		au
Intermediate	Ae		
Lower			a

The next category of phonemes in the Mandailing language is the consonant phoneme. There are 18 consonants in the Mandailing language phoneme. And divided into 2 categories, namely non-continuous and also continuous. And the allophones of the 18 consonants are:

#### 1. Labialization

In the letter [p] is a bilateral contoid contoid that does not have a detached nasal sound. This is the same as the occurrence of sound. In the final position, [p] will turn into a contoid that cannot be separated. And [p] if it is in the last position it will be formed by removing the nose. In guest languages, this nasal break will occur without any causal pattern in the fact that this [p] is in the final position, even though in the structure of this language it is formed in a non-release form like in the words [alap], [tarup].

While [p] in the initial and middle positions will occur in the word [nutmeg] and also [pado].

Besides [p], the letter [b] is a contoid contoid, bilabial and also voiced. The upper and lower lips become the articulators and the articulation area where the air coming out of the lungs will be blocked by the two parts of the lips that are pressed together. The vibrating vocal cords and also the air that appears after opening the lips, will give rise to the sound [b] in the words [baba], [babiyat] or [abat].

The letter [w] itself is a labiodental vocoid and has a sound. The lower lip will serve as the articulator and the upper teeth will serve as the articulation area. On the part of the pharynx will experience an increase which causes air will not come out of the nasal cavity so that it will appear and come out of the oral cavity. The lower lip will be brought close to the area of the upper teeth and will not be too tight so that the air will be slightly obstructed as in the words [bawan] or [clouds].

#### 2. Alvolar

The alvolar consonant itself is a consonant that has an articulation with the tongue that touches part of the alveolum. This consonant has an articulation at the tip of the tongue, so it is also known as an apical consonant. As is the case in English and also with the pronunciation of the leaves of the tongue which are also referred to as laminal consonants mentioned by Abdul Chair (2017: 113).

For example, the letter [t] which is a contoid contoid, alveolar and also voiceless and detached nasal. This sound will be the same as the sound [t] which if in the final position of the word will be formed loosely. So there will be loose nasal. The nasal [t] in bagasa will occur without having a pattern like in the words [butet] or [tripe]. While [t] in the middle and initial position is [tabo] or [measure].

The letter [d] is a contoid contoid as well as alveolar and voiced. The tip of the tongue will act as an articulator and also the arches of the teeth which act as the articulation area. And examples of words in the language are [dabu], [dice] or [dadi].

Another letter that is also in the alveolar category is [r] which is a vibrating, uvular and voiced contoid. Then the letter [n] which is the contoid nasal, alveolar and voiced. Then the letter [s] which is a fricative contoid, alveolar and also voiceless. While the letter [l] also enters into the lateral, alveolar contoid and also sounds.

#### 3. Palatal

In the palatal category, the letter [c] is one of the letters in that category with contoid, palatal and voiceless properties where the middle area of the tongue will function as an articulator. And the ceiling area will also act as an articulator and articulation area. Then the letter [j] is the contoid of the stop, palatal and voiced. Meanwhile [ ñ ] is a nasal, palatal and voiced contoid.

#### 4. Velar

In this velar category there is the letter [k] which is an inhibitory, velar and voiceless contoid where the back area of the tongue will function as an articulator and the soft palate will function as an articulation area. Then the letter [g] is a contoid, velar and voiced.

#### 5. Glotal

In the glottal category, the letter [h] is a laryngeal phrasal contoid and is voiceless. The articulation of the lator on a pair of vocal cords where the air that is exhaled from the lungs, will pass through the shifting vocal cord gap according to Abdul Chair (2017: 36).



Each sound of this language has the same opportunity to turn into a phoneme. However, not all of these sounds can become phonemes, so the sounds must undergo a test beforehand with several studies of the discovery of these phonemes. The name of the phoneme to the characteristics and also the character itself comes from the sound of the language used. It is possible that the number of phonemes will be the same as the number of sounds in the language.

According to Tjandra (2004: 58) states that the diversity of phonological characteristics in the vowel and consonant level sector in each language is a problem that can cause people to experience difficulties in learning their second language. And this difficulty will give a lot of mistakes in learning this second language.

From this statement, research on phonology and also the phoneme side is really needed related to phonological and phoneme analysis which includes vowels and consonants in every language in the archipelago. Phonological contrastive research in this language has the aim of exploring the causes of the errors that occur.

The diversity in phonological characters, in which there are levels of vowels and consonants in each ethnic group, is a problem that causes people to experience difficulties in learning a second language. Research in the field of phonology and also phonemic studies is certainly needed. Especially in the field of phonological contrastive analysis and phonemic studies in languages consisting of vowels and consonants in each language which has a purpose in the learning process.

## METHODS

This study uses some data which is divided into 2 parts, namely primary and secondary. For primary data itself is data obtained by researchers directly. While secondary data is data obtained from existing sources in previous studies. In this study, data collection and collection became one of the most important factors in determining the research process. This of course affects the type of data source regarding where the data is obtained and also the instrument for collecting the data.

Based on the narrative from Sugiyono (2013: 224) states that the data collection method is a very strategic step in conducting this research. This is due to the purpose of this study which wants to analyze on the linguistic side, especially in the phonological and phonemic sectors. Still according to Sugiyono (2012 116), there are 3 data collection techniques commonly used which consist of:

1. Cakap's Free Involvement Listening Technique or SBLC

This technique is a research technique that is not directly involved in the dialogue process and also the conversation and does not participate in the conversation process between respondents or informants. Researchers only serve as observers and listeners. According to Sudaryanto (1993: 1340), this technique allows researchers to listen to narratives that occur around the community.

2. Observation

Observation is a data collection technique that does not only take the attitudes of informants or respondents from interviews and listening. However, it is used as a recording device for various kinds of phenomena that occur according to conditions and situations. This technique is also used as research to study human behavior, work processes and also natural phenomena that occur in the environment of the respondents.

3. Interview

Interview is a data collection technique that occurs face-to-face as well as a direct question and answer session between the researcher and the informant or respondent.

Based on the thoughts of Sugiyono (2012: 120) that research subjects are places as well as people and objects observed in the context of data collection as the main target of the research. And the subjects of this research are the people around North Sumatra who use their mother tongue, in this case Mandailing and Angkola as their daily language. And these people do not do regional migration, leaving their place of residence for quite a long time. And the variables used are phonemic studies in the Angkola-Mandailing language.

Still according to Sugiyono (2012: 59) that there are 2 things that have an influence on the quality of research data which consists of the quality of research instruments related to the validity and reliability of these instruments. The quality of data collection is closely related to the method used to analyze and collect data. Sugiyono also mentioned that those who become instruments in qualitative research must, of course, have mastery of insight into the field being researched, and be ready to go down into the object of this research.

According to Djajasudarma (2008: 11), humans who are aware of the situation and conditions in the field are researchers who are ready to carry out this research and also become the main instrument in any research conducted. In this study, two techniques were used, namely interviews and listening. During the interview, there will be questions that are structured and refer to phonemic studies in linguistics. While this interview technique was carried out so that the oral data obtained could be analyzed properly.

While the listening technique will be carried out by researchers by listening to the Mandailing and Angkola languages used by everyday people. This listening exercise will be carried out in order to obtain data consisting of phoneme sounds in the mother tongue in North Sumatra. Data collection in the research process involved informants who played an important role with the criterion that the informant or respondent was a native of North Sumatra and also a native speaker of the mother tongue in the province. Gender of men and women with an age range of 20 to 65 years with no senility potential for elderly informants. Can speak Indonesian well and also physically and mentally healthy.

This study uses a qualitative data analysis method based on Bognan & Biklen (1982) and quoted by Moleong (2007: 248) which states that efforts are made by organizing data, sorting it into manageable units and looking for patterns so that it can be arranged systematically and can represent the results of the study. This data analysis was carried out by conducting quite detailed interviews with informants who really understood the language they spoke in everyday life. Therefore the informant must understand the mother tongue in North Sumatra.

Based on Sugiyono (2009: 255), this domain analysis is the acquisition of a general and comprehensive picture of the research object and also the social situation. Researchers can get this domain by creating questions that will be used as a reference and basis for further research.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This mother tongue in North Sumatra does have its own uniqueness. Especially the Angkola – Mandailing language which is still in 1 sub-family. And in this study there are several discussions related to the labial, alvolar and also palatal categories. For the labial itself, it is divided into the letters p, b, m and also w. While the alvolar itself consists of t, d, l, n, r, and also s. Meanwhile, the palatal category will consist of the letters c, j, n, and also ñ and y. In this study using conversational sentences which are divided into 538 words.

### 1. Labial

Labialization is an accompanying sound that occurs due to the way the lips are rounded and also narrowed when the main sound is pronounced. For example, the [t] sound in the word 'purpose' sounds narrower. There are various examples of labial sounds in the Mandailing language, such as the labial 'p' in the word 'piga.' Then on the labial 'b' in the word 'bagas.' There is also a labial 'm' in the word 'muruk' and a labial 'w' in the word 'color.'

### 2. Alvoral

In the alveoral category, there are several examples of words in the mother tongue, such as the Angkola – Mandailing language. On the alvoral 't' in words like 'torkis.' Then the alvolar 'd' in the word 'muruki,' then the alvolar 'r' in the word 'rohak,' to the alvolar 'n,' 's' and also 'l'.

### 3. Palatal

For the palatal category, there are also several examples of words in the mother tongue, Angkola – Mandailing. For example, on the palatal 'c' in the word 'maccit,' then on the palatal 'j' in the word 'clothes' and also the palatal on the letter 'y' in the word 'baya.'

Vowel sounds in the Mandailing language will be produced without any narrowing or closing processes in the articulation area. In the Mandailing language there are various kinds of vowel sounds that can be heard clearly, such as the words 'ango', 'fish', 'ginger', 'fighting' and also 'us'. The distribution of these vowels has the possible positions occupied by vowels in basic words. The distribution of vowels in the Mandailing language is presented in table 2.

Table 2. The distribution of vowels in the Mandailing language

Phoneme	Beginning	Middle	End
/a/	Ah		We
	Dijia		He
			Inda
			ma
/i/	Ise		Soonari
	ita		Songoni
			Hami
/u/			Hamu
			that's it
/e/			sude
/o/			Jolo
			Ho
			boto

In the table 2, it can be seen that the vowel sounds in /a/, /i/, /u/, /e/, /o/ will be completely distributed because they can occupy all positions in all basic words. Vowels are based on the variable speech organs that function to produce these words. This variable is based on the area of the tongue that moves based on the height of the tongue, the distance from the open jaw, lips that are round or not and the accompanying sound of the coarticulation process and also the extension of the sound.

In the Mandailing language there are 8 sounds of vowels which are in the phonetic or phonemic stage. The giving of the sound utterance is:

1. The letter [a] which is a front vowel, open and unrounded and low. The center of this area of the tongue will be in a low position and the lips will not be round. This can be found in the words 'bae', 'bale' and also 'ae'. And this vowel [a] is at the beginning and also the middle.
2. The sound [e] is a front vowel with an upper middle position which is half closed and open and not round. The front area of the tongue will rise about two thirds from its lowest position and is also in a closed state. While the lips stretched wide. As an example of the word 'ginger', 'malane' 'bateh' and also 'nene'.
3. The letter [ə] is a middle vowel with a lower high and is half closed. And the middle area of the tongue will be lifted two-thirds of the way up with neutral shaped lips. This can be found in the words 'sasa ə', 'ekə', 'duə', and also 'pabilə'.
4. The letter in the sound [E] which is a front, mid-lower vowel and also half-open with non-rounded lips. The front area of the tongue will be raised a third from the lowest position with the lips rather wide. For example in the words 'menE', 'mEpeh', 'dagEn' and also 'lanE'.
5. Sound [i] which is a front vowel with high upper and closed and not rounded. In the area of the front of the tongue, this will rise high enough to make the lower jaw close and make the lips stretch. Examples of words are 'fire', 'mahidu', to 'star'.
6. The sound [o] which is a back and middle upper vowel with a rounded shape. This is found in the example of the words 'ango', 'loki-loki' and also 'libo'.
7. The sound [u] which is a lower back and high vowel and is round and closed. The back of the tongue will be lifted high with rounded lips. Examples of words are 'ungah', 'month', 'buno'.



Apart from vowel sounds, diphthong sounds are also found in the Angkola – Mandailing language. This sound is the rise and fall of sonority which has the meaning as a sound of language whose articulation in one tongue position and another is different. These diphthongs are vowels whose quality changes at the time of the pronunciation. From the rise and fall of the diphthong sonority sound, it will be divided into 2, namely:

1. Diphthongs rise

This diphthong is a diphthong in which when the double sound in the vowel is expressed, the first vowel will decrease in sonority and will lead to a non-vowel sound. While the second vowel sound will rise. This can be seen in words like 'anday', 'pamaray', 'danaw' and also 'kabaw'.

2. Diphthong down

A descending diphthong is a diphthong in which when the sound is doubled, the first vowel will be sonorized while the second vowel will lead to the non-vowel sound.

This semi-vowel sound is a sound which in practice is included as a consonant but if it is articulated it does not yet form a pure consonant. And this sound is a speech sound that has vowel and consonant characteristics. In the Angkola – Mandailing language, these semi-vowel sounds are in the letters [w] and [y]. In the letter [w] if it is pronounced by bringing the lips closer without any obstruction of air being exhaled from the lungs. For example in the word 'wirit', 'danaw', and also 'mustard'. While the sound of the letter [y] is a palatal semi-vowel sound that is voiced and also detached. The front tongue will be brought closer to the palate area and the tip of the tongue will protrude high forward and will return to its original position quickly as in the words 'bayo', 'nanay', 'kayo' and also 'layar.'

From the results of data analysis as well as studies on the phonemics of the mother tongue, especially the Angkola and Mandailing languages in North Sumatra, there are several categories such as vowel sounds that will be pronounced without any narrowing or closing in the articulation area. And the rise and fall of diphthong sonority will also be divided into rising and falling diphthongs which are contained in several words. However, the Angkola and Mandailing languages do not have descending diphthongs.

A semi-vowel sound is a sound that is pronounced by bringing the lips closer together without any obstruction of the exhaled air from the lungs. From the discussion and also the conclusions, the researcher can get several sound characters in different letters and phoneme sounds that are pronounced or pronounced differently.

## CONCLUSION

This research was conducted to analyze and examine the phonemic elements in the mother tongue in the province of North Sumatra. Mother tongue is one of the communication tools used as a delivery to others. The mother tongue itself is the original language or the first language that is mastered by humans since they were born which occurs as a result of the interaction process with other members of society. The mother tongue in North Sumatra itself has a variety of regional languages used by the surrounding community. And the phonological side of the language in North Sumatra, of course, has differences in each grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary.

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