Expansion and contraction of sentence in Bodo and Assamese

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Abstract: Another part of grammar is syntax. Phonology, morphology and semantic etc. are a part of grammar. Therefore, syntax is also a part of grammar. Humans use sentences to express their thoughts. Sentence is the largest component of language. There are mainly two parts to a sentence. These are: subject and object. In this way, a sentence can be expansion and contraction by the word, phrase and clause. Just as semantics can expansion and contraction meanings, syntax can also expansion and contraction sentences. A sentence can be expanded mainly by including the subject and predicate. That is, a short sentence can be lengthened by expanding the subject and predicate of the sentence. Expansion sentences can also be contracted in a number of ways. Therefore, it can be said that, the expansion and contraction refer to ways composers play with the expected length of a phrase.

Index Terms - **Bodo, Assamese, sentence, expansion and contraction**

1.1 Introduction

The Bodo language belongs to the Bodo-Garo branch of the Tibeto-Burman language family. It is primarily spoken by the Bodo people, an ethnic group residing in the northeastern states of Assam and parts of West Bengal and other neighboring regions in India. The Bodo language has its roots in the Tibeto-Burman languages, which are a group of languages spoken in the eastern Himalayas and surrounding areas. Over the centuries, the Bodo language has evolved through interactions with neighboring languages and cultures, shaping its unique linguistic characteristics. The Assamese language belongs to the Indo-Aryan branch of the Indo-European language family. Its origins can be traced back to ancient languages spoken in the region that is now modern-day Assam, a state in northeastern India. Assamese has evolved over centuries, influenced by various languages and cultures, including Sanskrit, Ahom, and other regional languages. The script used for writing Assamese is primarily the Assamese script, which is derived from the ancient Brahmi script. Bodo and Assamese, being languages spoken in close proximity in the northeastern state of Assam, do share some similarities due to language and cultural exchanges. These similarities can be observed in certain vocabulary, cultural practices, and linguistic influences. However, it's important to note that despite these similarities, they are distinct languages with their own unique grammar, vocabulary, and cultural heritage.

1.2 Objective:

The objectives of this paper are:
(i) To discuss the Bodo and Assamese language sentences
(ii) Efforts will be made to know how to can expand the sentence in Bodo and Assamese.
(iii) It will also be discussed how sentences in both languages can be contraction.

1.3 Methodology:

This discussion paper discusses the descriptive method. Data collection is done from primary and secondary sources. The data has been collected by going from village to village through primary sources. At the same time, it has also been collected from the intelligent people through mobile. Secondary sources are collected from magazines, journal, internet and books, etc.

1.4 Explanation:

A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought, idea, or statement. It typically consists of a subject (who or what the sentence is about) and a predicate (what the subject is doing or the action it is involved in). Sentences are the basic units

of communication in written and spoken language, and they can vary in length and complexity. In linguistics, studying syntax involves analyzing the principles that underline sentence structure in different languages. It explores how words and phrases are ordered, how they relate to one another, and how they create meaning within a sentence. Understanding syntax is essential for comprehending the grammatical structure of languages and for constructing coherent and meaningful sentences. The expansion of a sentence refers to rewriting it in a more detailed or elaborate manner, providing additional information or context. It involves taking a concise or abbreviated sentence and expressing the same idea using more words, explanations, or examples to make the meaning clearer. Essentially, expansion adds depth and detail to a sentence, offering a more comprehensive understanding of the message being conveyed. A contraction is a shortened form of a word or group of words created by omitting specific letters or sounds and replacing them with an apostrophe. Contractions are commonly used in informal writing and speech to make sentences shorter and more conversational. For example, "cannot" can be contracted to "can't," and "I will" can be contracted to "I'll."

Expanding a sentence means providing additional information or details to make the sentence more informative or elaborate. It involves adding words, phrases, or clauses to the original sentence in order to clarify, explain, or provide more context. For example, consider the simple sentence: "She went to the store." Expanding this sentence could involve adding details: Simple Expansion: "She went to the store to buy some groceries." Complex Expansion: "After finishing her work, she went to the store to buy fresh vegetables, fruits, and household supplies." In both cases, the sentence has been expanded to provide more information, making it more detailed and descriptive. Expanding sentences can enhance the overall clarity and richness of communication.

Contraction of a sentence involves shortening it by combining two or more words and replacing the omitted letters with an apostrophe. Contractions are commonly used in informal writing and speech to make sentences less formal and more conversational. They often involve merging pronouns, verbs, and auxiliary verbs. For example, the sentence "I am going to the store" can be contracted to "I'm going to the store." In this contraction, the words "I" and "am" are combined, and the letter "a" is omitted and replaced with an apostrophe. Here are a few more examples of contractions:

"You are" can be contracted to "You're."
"They have" can be contracted to "They've."
"She will" can be contracted to "She'll."

Contractions are commonly used in everyday language to make speech and writing more efficient and natural. In Bodo and Assamese, like in many other languages, sentences can also be expanded and contracted to convey different meanings or nuances. The specific rules for expansion and contraction in these languages would depend on their grammar and syntax rules. A sentence can be lengthened by expanding the subject and predicate, especially in Bodo and Assamese language sentences. These expansions are shown below:

1.4.1 By expanding the subject:

A sentence can be lengthened by expanding the subject in various ways. Below are examples of both languages.

(i) In adjective form:

Bodo- gusɯaw sukʰ gɯijɯi mansija zerawbɯ tʰaŋblabɯ gɯzɯn mɯna.

    Mind   happy   not   person   everywhere   go   happy   find (not)

Eng.- No matter where the unhappy person goes, he/she cannot find happiness.

Ass. – lazukija bektije xokolote bʰag heraj.

    Embarrassed person everything loses

Eng.- Embarrassed person loses everything.

(ii) With the kinship term:

Bodo- zɯŋni apʰaja hal ewdɯŋ.

    Our   father   plough

Eng.- Our father is plough.

Ass. – amar cʰikoke amak eri goise.

    Our   teacher   us   left go

Eng.- Our teacher has left us.

(iii) Use of name calling:

Bodo- zɯhɯlaw dɯimalua gɯhɯ gɯra zɯhɯlawmɯn.

    Brave   dwimalu   mighty   warrior

Eng.- The brave Dwimalu was a mighty warrior.

Ass. - bwisnobsokole bʰogoban krisnok puza kore.

    Vaishnav   lord   krishna worship

Eng.- Lord Krishna is worshipped by Vaishnavites.

(iv) With adjective clause:

Bodo- gaw mitʰikanaj zajgajaw tʰaŋbla asuŋ-abuŋ zanaŋa.

    Self familiar place   go   discouraged get (not)

Eng.-Don't get discouraged if you go to a familiar place.

Ass. – nizor zonmor dekʰotkoi odʰik pobitro kunu stan naj.

    Self birth   country   more sacred   place have (not)

Eng.- There is no place more sacred than the country of one's birth.

(v) Using instrumental, dative and ablative case with non-finite verbs:

Bodo- madhua gatʰɯnnipʰraj dɯi labɯnanɯi tʰɯrsi lotʰa sujɯ

    Madhu ghat   water fetches dish   wash

Eng.- Madhu fetches water from the ghat and washes the dishes.

Ass. - razue nizo hatere khoritu kati zui zolaj disil.

    Raju his hand bun cut fire lit

Eng.- Raju cut the bun with his own hands and lit the fire.

(vi) With non-finite verb and its accusative:

Bodo- rimija pʰɯinanɯi ɯŋkʰam zanaisɯi.

　　　　Rimi　come　　　rice　　　eat

Ass. - rimie ahi bʰat kʰale.

　　　　Rimi come rice eat

Eng.- Rimi came and had dinner.

　　　　(vii) With the clause:

Bodo- zaj gɯsɯ mɯdum ziu hɯnanɯi nazajɯ binɯ habajaw utʰrinɯ hajɯ.

　　　　Who mind heart　soul give　　try　　he　　work　success　can

Ass. - zi xokole mone prane kotʰor porisrom kore teoloke xopʰol hobo pare.

　　　Who　every mind soul　more　　try　　do　　they　success　can

Eng.-Those who put their heart and soul into hard work can be successful in their work.

1.4.2 By expanding the predicate:

　　　　Just like expanding the subject, we can also expand the predicate in many ways. Below is an example of predicate expansion in both languages:

　　　　(i) With adverbal clause:

Bodo- beseba gɯbarɯi barhɯŋkʰa barnajaw no-baŋ bajzɯbɯ.

　　　　Many　　　speed　storm　　　　blow house　destroy

Ass. - Bahu gotit oha dʰumuhat　gʰor bari dʰoŋxo hoj.

　　　Many speed come storm　　house　　destroy

Eng.- Many houses were destroyed in the storm.

　　　　(ii) With accusative, instrumental case:

Bodo- simija dabazɯŋ goj kʰawdɯŋ.

　　　　Simi　knife　betel　cut

Ass. - simie xurire Tamol katise.

　　　　Simi　knife betel　cut

Eng.- Simi cut the betel with a knife.

　　　　(iii) With verbal clause:

Bodo- sikʰaw dakʰajt dakʰalamtʰar.

　　　　　Thief　　　do (not) be

Ass. - cʰur dokait ekebare nokoriba.

　　　　　Thief　anything do (not) be

Eng.- Don't be anything the thief.

　　　　(iv) With the adjective of the predicate:

Bodo- bima bipʰaja zɯŋni mwzaŋ lama dintʰigiri.

　　　　Mother father　our　good　　road　guide

Ass. - Pitri-matri amar bʰal potʰ nirdexok.

　　　Father　mother our good road　guide

Eng.- Our parents are our best guides.

　　　　(v) With time indicator:

Bodo- sanba aŋ lɯmzagasinɯ doŋ.

　　　Five day I　　sick

Ass. - Pasdinor pora moi asustʰa hoj asu

　　　　Five day　　I　　sick

Eng.- I have been sick for five days.

　　　　A sentence can also be constructed as long as the sentence can be expanded. Long sentences can be shortened in many ways in both Bodo and Assamese languages. Below are some options for both languages:

　　　　(i) Subordinate clauses with the subject and predicate of a sentence can be shortened to a single word. For example- (Bodo) zai bojnibɯ mɯzaŋ sangra bijɯ bojzɯŋbɯ onsaj zajɯ, (Assamese) zizone xokolore bhalor karone kam kore teu xokolore sroddhabhazon hoj. This sentence can be shortly as follows:

Bodo- bikʰa guwar mansija boinibɯ aŋgɯ zajɯ.

　　　　Heart　large　person　everyone　dear

Ass. - xuhrid manuh xokolore prijopatra hoj.

　　　Heart large　person　everyone　dear

Eng.- A large hearted person is dear to everyone.

　　　　(ii) A sentence can also be shortened by compounding. For example- (Bodo) sannɯ gɯrɯŋ zaj mansi bi kʰɯipʰɯdaw gɯsɯ homtʰajɯ. (Assamese) zizon cʰintaxil bijakti teo bipidor xomoyot dʰoizjo dʰori tʰake. It can be written as:

Bodo- sansumɯi mansija kʰɯipʰɯdaw gɯsɯ homtʰajɯ.

　　　　Intelligent person risk　　　　interested

Ass. - gijanizone bipodor xomoyot bisolot nohoj.

　　　　Person　　risk　　time

Eng.-An intelligent person is interested in risk

　　　　(iii) A long sentence can also be shortened by adding an affix. For example- (Bodo) zaigaja sanni zɯŋnajzɯŋ zerwibɯ gɯzɯŋ zabaj, (Assamese) tʰaikʰon xurzyor pohor pori sariopʰale alokito hoise. This can be written in short as:

Bodo- zajgaja sanni sɯraŋzɯŋ gɯzɯŋ zabaj.

　　　　Place　sun　　light　　　bright

Ass. - tʰaikʰon xurzyor pohorot uzoli utʰise

Place　　sun　　light　　　bright

Eng.- The place is bright by the light of the sun.

(iv) A sentence can also be shortened by taking words that convey the meaning of the words. For example- (Bodo) pʰɯtʰajnaj lakʰinɯ hajɯi mansizɯŋ datʰaŋ, (Assamese) obissaxizonor logot koto zowato usit nohoj. It can be written as:

Bodo- pʰɯtʰajkʰebsozɯŋ datʰaŋ.

betrayal　　Go (not)

Ass. -protarokor logot nazaba.

betrayal　Go (not)

Eng.- Don't go by betrayals.

1.5 Conclusion:

It can be seen from the above discussion that expansion and construction of sentences refer to the process of elaborating or building upon a sentence to provide more information, clarity, or context. Expansion and construction of sentence in Bodo and Assamese are also found. Subjects and predicates are taken to expand both languages. A sentence can be expanded by lengthening the subject and predicate. A sentence can be constructed in the same way as it can be expanded. The construction of Bodo and Assamese languages can be done in many ways. Where a long sentence can be shortened.

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