

## ABSTRACT

### **Paradise Princess. 2021. EFL Students' Errors and their Attitudes toward Complex Sentences in Academic Writing Course**

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In academic writing, using different types of sentences as one of its characteristics is often found difficult for students to construct, especially in constructing complex sentences related to the dependent clauses: *noun clauses*, *adjectives clauses*, *adverb clauses*, and *multiple-clause structures*. The difficulties can be seen from the errors produced in the complex sentences and their attitudes toward the complex sentences used in the academic writing. This thesis aims to find out the English Language and Literature Department students' errors and their attitudes toward complex sentences in Academic Writing Course at Universitas Negeri Padang. In this descriptive study, 32 academic writings of the students were used as the source of the data chosen by using the proportional random sampling technique. This study revealed that the dominant types of errors found were 165 (42%) omission errors and 150 (38%) addition errors of 393 errors in total. Then, intralingual factor was the highest cause of errors producing two dominant causes of errors: 165 (32%) incomplete application of rules and 150 (29%) overgeneralization of 520 errors in total. Moreover, it was found that 25 (78%) of 32 students had positive attitudes toward complex sentences and 7 (22%) of them had neutral attitudes. Thus, it can be concluded that the students still have lack of competence in constructing complex sentences even though they feel enjoyed and able to construct complex sentences in writing academic essays.

**Keywords: Students' Attitudes, Complex Sentences, Academic Writing**