

AN ANALYSIS OF SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS' ABILITY IN
DIFFERENTIATING CONTRAST ADVERBIAL CLAUSES (CONCESSION
AND OPPOSITION) AT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF UNIVERSITAS
NEGERI PADANG
THESIS

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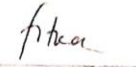
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ABSTRAK

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This study analyzes the student ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clause (Concession and opposition) at English department of Universitas Negeri Padang. This research is a descriptive qualitative research used in analysing the students ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clause. The instrumentation of this research was a test. From 915 items analysed, the research found that second-year students' ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clause at the English Department of UNP was adequate. It was also found that the mistakes done by the students in using conjunction were 31.26%. This finding indicated that the second-year students at English Department of UNP less understand about contrast adverbial clause.

Key words: *Students Ability, Contrast Adverbial Clause,*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

In learning English, there are four skills that students have to be mastered. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Chowdury (2013) states that there are four cores of language skills. Writing is the most difficult skill for second and foreign language learners to master. Writing is not only about organizing a good idea in written form but also producing understandable written product. To produce a good and understandable written form, students need to master the sentence pattern called grammar.

Grammar is a set of rules which is needed in writing to make sentences grammatically correct and easy to understand. The sentences made by the writer could be classified into several types. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound-complex sentences. Complex sentences are frequently used to combine two or more simple sentences of different levels to make effective writing. It consists of an independent clause as the main clause and a dependent clause as the subordinate clause. One of subordinate clauses used in writing is adverbial clauses. Adverbial clause is a dependent clause that modifies the verb of sentences. Azar (2002) states that adverbial clause is dependent clauses that they cannot stand alone as a sentence in written English. They must be connected to an independent clause.

In English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang, students learning the adverbial clauses in third semester in the *Advanced Grammar* subject. In this study, the writer will focus on one type of adverbial clauses, which is contrast adverbial clause. Contrast adverbial clauses are divided into two parts. They are concession clause and opposition clause. Those types of adverbial clauses are the clauses used to express contrast ideas or information. Werner and Nelson (2007) state that the concession clause is type of adverbial clauses that are used to express the related ideas or information. Besides, the opposition clause is type of adverbial clauses that is used to express the opposite views about something.

Further, this contrast adverbial clause has words signal to indicate whether it is concession clause or opposition clause. Concession clause is indicated with words signal such as *although, even though, though, in spite of the fact (that), and despite of the (fact)*. Opposition clause is indicated with words signal such as *where, whereas, and while*. Commonly, people used those words signal to indicate contrast adverbial clause, without concern about concession or opposition clauses.

In advanced grammar subject, the lesson learning outcome clearly states that the students should be able to produce various types of adverbial clauses by completing the course. The students' ability to apply this type of adverbial clauses are still in doubt. Although the students already know contrast adverbial clauses, there are still some difficulties in differentiating between concession clause and opposition clause. For example, the writer has already done preliminary research to 10 students who have passed this course. The writer gave a sentence; *in spite of*

the fact/whereas the child hadn't seen the truck, he managed to avoid it and the students asked to choose the appropriate conjunction. The result shows that 6 of 10 students choose *whereas the child hadn't seen the truck, he managed to avoid it* as the answer. On the contrary, the true one is *in spite of the fact the child hadn't seen the truck, he managed to avoid it*. In fact, between the independent clause, *in spite of the fact the children hadn't seen the truck*, and the dependent clause, *he managed to avoid it*, have a related idea which is out of the expectation. Whereas is used to conduct two clauses that have opposite ideas. From this example, it can be concluded that the students still got difficulty in differentiating between concession clause and opposition clause.

The problem might be caused by an unfamiliar word *in spite of the fact that*. However, most students only familiar with some words such as *although* and *even though* they used to contrast the ideas. The students are still unfamiliar with the other subordinating conjunction which is using in contrast adverbial clauses and it is clearly that they do not know the use and the function of each subordinating conjunction. Some lecturers in English Department of UNP also state that their students are incapable in differentiating between concession and opposition clauses. Therefore, the researcher would like to know the students' ability in differentiating between concession and opposition clauses after they have learnt those clauses in Advanced Grammar subject. This topic is important because the misuse of subordinating conjunction might be caused the students into misleading and misunderstanding of each sentence that they made.

There are a lot of researchers conducted on the adverbial clause. Zakia (2015) conducted the research about the students' ability in using adverb clauses in the complex sentences at English Department of Bung Hatta University. Tuchscherer (2016) conducted a thesis entitled *Adverbial Clauses in 4th Grade Science Textbooks: A Structural and Functional Analysis*. Asti (2019) also conducted the journal about an analysis of second-year English Department student's ability in using subordinate conjunctions. Fahemi (2017) also conducted the research entitled *The Students' Ability in differentiating compound and complex sentences at grade XI SMA Negeri 1 Angkola Selatan*. Those researches discussed about adverbial clause in general. They have conducted the research to find the whole types of adverbial clause to find the students' ability in using adverbial clauses including the compound and complex sentences.

Further, Bustang (2017) conducted the research titled student's ability in using independent and dependent clauses in complex sentences at sixth-semester students of Universitas of Bosowa. Wulandari (2015) in her article an analysis on students' ability to write complex sentences using adverb clauses in simple past tense at Bung Hatta University. Sari (2018) in her thesis analysis of students' ability in using adverbial clauses in writing complex sentences: a case study at the fifth semester of English Education Department PKIP Universitas of Mataram in academic year students 2017/2018. Those studies showed the use of adverbial clause in the form of complex sentences. They also use many types in adverbial clauses in conducting the research to find the students' ability in using adverbial clauses in form of complex sentences.

The fact that there were some researchers conducted on adverbial clauses, the writer interested to limit the area of the research which focused on students' ability in using contrast clauses, concession and opposition clauses. Compared to those researches mentioned above, this research only focused on analysis of students' difficulties in differentiating both concession and opposition clauses. Therefore, the students' ability on differentiating both concession and opposition clauses in their writing should be taken into account so that the reader will deeply understand the idea of the writing.

Based on the statement above, the writer was interested to conduct a descriptive research entitled "An Analysis of Second-Year Students Ability in differentiating Contrast Adverbial Clause (Concession and Opposition) at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang".

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the explanation above, there are several problems faced by the students in differentiating concession and opposition clauses such as the students' mastery in using contrast adverbial clauses, the students' understanding in using contrast adverbial clauses, and students' ability in using contrast adverbial clauses. The problems occurred because they are confused to select the appropriate conjunction that is used to indicate whether it is a concession clause or opposition clause. The misuse of conjunction affected the meaning of the sentence because every conjunction has its function when it was placed in a sentence.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of problem above, this research focuses on the analysis of students' ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clauses and the mistakes made by the students in differentiating those sentences.

D. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this research is formulated as follows: how the second-year student's ability is in differentiating contrast adverbial clauses and the common mistakes made by the students in constructing the sentences at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang.

E. Research Questions

Base on the formulation above, this research identified some questions as follows:

1. How is the second-year students' ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clause (concession and opposition) at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang?
2. What are the most common mistakes made by the students in constructing the contrast adverbial clauses at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang?

F. Purpose of this Research

Related to the research questions, the purposes of this research are:

1. To find out the second-year students' ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clauses (concession and opposition) at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang.
2. To find out the most common mistakes made by the students in constructing the sentences at English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang.

G. Significance of the Research

The research is expecting to give a helpful contribution to the following:

1. The readers

It is hoped that this research provides the information and knowledge for the readers about the different uses of conjunction which is used in contrast adverbial clauses. Those uses can be the references for the reader to understand more the ideas stated in the writing.

2. Other researchers

The result of this research is expected to be a beneficial reference for the next researchers who conduct similar research about adverbial clauses.

H. Definition of Key Terms

1. Adverbial clause

Adverbial clause is a dependent clause that is used to change or qualify the meaning of an adjective, a verb, a clause, another verb, or any type of word or phrase.

2. Concession clause

A clause which is introduced by subordinating conjunction, *although, even though and despite of the fact that*. This clause is used to describe two or more contrast clauses which are still have related ideas.

3. Opposition clause

A clause which is introduced by subordinating conjunction, *whereas, while, and where*. this clause is used to describe two or more contrast clauses which have different ideas.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

Based on 1.029 items analysed, it was found that second-year students' ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clauses at English Department of UNP was adequate. It was also found that the mistakes done by the students in using conjunction were 31.26%. This finding indicated that the second-year students at English Department of UNP less understand about contrast adverbial clause.

B. Suggestion

The use of the various types of sentences in writing is very important to produce interesting writing. Interesting writing can increase readers' understanding of the meaning of sentence itself. There are some suggestions offered by the researcher to the following parties:

1. For the second-year student of English Department in UNP. The students should improve their ability in differentiating contrast adverbial clauses by applying the knowledge about contrast adverbial clauses that they have learned in Advanced Grammar subject. The most important aspect that should be earned more is about the use of subordinate conjunctions that used in the contrast adverbial clauses, both concession and opposition clauses.

2. It is also expected that the result of this research could be used by the next researchers as a reference to conduct similar research about compound sentences.

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