

**AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL PROBLEMS IN
WRITING ANALYTICAL EXPOSITION TEXT IN CLASS XI IPA 1 AT
MAN 2 PADANG**

THESIS



BY:

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ABSTRAK

Siti Mutmainah. 2013. An Analysis of the students' Grammatical Problems in Writing Analytical Exposition Text in Class IX IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang. Tesis. Program Pasca Sarjana Universitas Negeri Padang.

Menulis merupakan kegiatan yang kompleks. Ketika siswa menulis, mereka tidak hanya harus memikirkan ide yang ingin mereka tuangkan, tapi juga susunan ide, mekanisme penulisan, pemilihan kata, dan struktur bahasa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui masalah-masalah struktur bahasa yang muncul dalam tulisan teks analitis eksposisi. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk melihat faktor penyebab masalah-masalah tersebut muncul dalam tulisan siswa.

Partisipan dalam penelitian ini adalah semua siswa di kelas XI IPA 1 MAN 2 Padang yang terdiri dari 13 siswa laki-laki dan 19 siswa perempuan. Jenis penelitian yang digunakan pada tesis ini adalah penelitian deskriptif. Data penelitian dikumpulkan melalui proses pemberian tugas menulis dan wawancara. Pemberian tugas menulis dilakukan di dalam kelas pada jam pelajaran bahasa Inggris dan setelah itu dilakukan wawancara terhadap 20 orang siswa. Seluruh data yang telah terkumpul dianalisis dengan menggunakan prosedur analisis penelitian kualitatif. Data tersebut disederhanakan dan dipindahkan dari data mentah menjadi bentuk yang lebih tersusun dengan baik. Kemudian, data tersebut dikelompokkan dalam sebuah tabel berdasarkan indikator yang digunakan dan disimpulkan.

Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa siswa memiliki masalah dalam penggunaan *simple present tense*, *passive voice*, *conjunctive relations*, *direct and indirect object*, *linking and possessive verbs* dan *modals*. Temuan juga menunjukkan bahwa faktor yang menyebabkan masalah tersebut muncul adalah transfer bahasa (*language transfer*), lingkungan (*environment*), dan status bahasa Inggris (*the status of English*) di Indonesia. Dari temuan penelitian tersebut dapat disimpulkan bahwa siswa menghadapi masalah untuk menggunakan struktur bahasa dalam menulis teks analitis eksposisi.

ABSTRACT

Siti Mutmainah. 2013. An Analysis of the students' Grammatical Problems in Writing Analytical Exposition Text in Class IX IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang. Thesis. Graduate Program of State University of Padang.

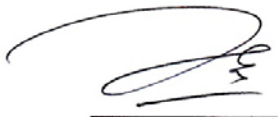
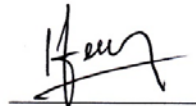
Writing is a complex process. When the students write, they do not only have to think the ideas to write, but also the organization of the ideas, diction, mechanics, and grammar. This research was aimed to find out the students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text. Besides that, it is also to find out the factors which cause the students' grammatical problems occur on their writing.

The participants of this research were all of the students in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang which consisted of 13 boys and 19 girls. The type of this research was a descriptive research. The data were collected by using students' task and interview. The task was done in the classroom and it was followed by the interview done to 20 students. The data collected were analyzed based on the theories to analyze qualitative data. The data collected were simplified and transformed from the raw data into manageable form. After that, the data were classified based on the indicators used, and they were concluded.

The findings of this research showed that the students' grammatical problems were to use simple present tense, passive voice, conjunctive relations, direct and indirect object, linking and possessive verbs, and modals. It was also found that the factors which caused the students' problems were language transfer, environment, and the status of English in Indonesia. From the data gotten, it could be concluded that the students had problems in six elements of grammar in analytical exposition text.

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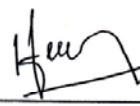



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Dengan ini saya menyatakan bahwa:

1. Karya tulis saya, tesis dengan judul "AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL PROBLEMS IN WRITING ANALYTICAL EXPOSITION TEXT IN CLASS XI IPA 1 AT MAN 2 PADANG" adalah asli dan belum pernah diajukan untuk mendapatkan gelar akademik baik di Universitas Negeri Padang maupun di perguruan tinggi lainnya.
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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Writing is very important for students who learn a language, such as English. By writing the students can shape their thinking since it is a complex process of discovering, organizing, reshaping and revising ideas on a paper. In other words, the students do not only need to put some sentences into paragraphs but also to make the ideas understandable by the readers. In addition, in academic context, writing needs to be learnt because it is to have better school graders. Besides that, by having a good skill to write, the students can apply their application letter to companies which they want to work with.

Since writing is an important and a complex skill, it cannot be neglected that the students who learn writing had some problems to write. As the matter of fact, the students had problems to use the English vocabulary. When the students want to express their ideas in a written form, they need to be able to use the vocabulary (words) of language appropriately. By using the appropriate words, the ideas can be understood easily so that the readers can understand the writers' message.

To use the vocabulary, it may not be easy for the students who do not understand the meaning of the words that they will use in their writing. In fact, many English words have similar meanings and different meanings with different contexts. In other words, the students should pay attention in using

appropriate words by considering the context. When the students do not understand the meaning of the words that they use in their writing and do not consider context, they would face difficulty to use the words appropriately.

The students' difficulty to use the vocabulary happened in class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang. Based on the preliminary data which were taken from students' tasks, it was indicated that 6 (60%) of the students used inappropriate words on their writing. For example, one of the students wrote "the garden is **filled** by flowers and trees" instead of "flowers and tress **grow** in the garden". The data shows that the students got confused in choosing the appropriate words when they wrote a text. Besides that, the students ignored the importance of context to choose the appropriate words to express their ideas. In short, the students were not able to use the right words to say something in the right way.

Besides having problems in vocabulary, the students also had problems in grammar. Richard and Renandya (2002: 145) explain that grammar is the rule of language which is too important to be ignored. When the students do not consider grammar on their writing, they would arrange messy sentences. In fact, the sentences on their writing would be meaningless. In other words, it is necessary for the students to pay attention to their grammar when they write a text. It is because the accuracy of the language can lead the readers comprehend the text they read. Thus, the students have to consider the English grammar to make the readers understand the writers' intended meaning.

It was also based on the preliminary data that the students who are in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang also had problems in grammar. It was around 7 (70%) of the students made grammar errors on their writing. From their writing, it was indicated that the students did not know how to use modal, adjective, possessive, article, and noun. In addition, most of the students got confused to differentiate between verbal sentence and nominal sentence and the use of singular/plural form. They just put them all together. As a result, what actually they meant could not be understood. For example, one of the students wrote “After we ate, we **were** wash **us** hand in **ditch pure water** and **clean**”. In that sentence, the student made errors in constructing verbal sentence, using possessive, and noun phrase. The student did not use **were** because s/he made verbal sentence. Then, the word **us** is not appropriate since the student wanted to tell the possessive one. S/he must use **our** instead of **us**. Besides that, the student did misordering of words to make noun phrase. In fact, s/he should write **in pure and clean water in ditch**. Therefore, it can be said the students did not pay attention to grammar on their writing.

In *School Based Competence Curriculum* (KTSP), there are many types of texts which are stated in the syllabus for teaching writing at grade XI in the first semester namely report, narrative and analytical exposition text. Those texts have different social function, generic structures, and language features with the other types of texts. The analytical exposition text is the text which is related to the scientific text. The students can find the text in many

books, articles, and journals. For analytical exposition, its social function is to persuade the readers that the idea is important matter. In addition, its generic structures are thesis, arguments, and reiteration/conclusion. Moreover, its language features are the use of simple present tense, passive voice, noun, conjunctive relation, action (material) processes, thinking verbs (stative verbs), linking and possessive verbs, relating verbs, and modals.

Related to teaching and learning writing, there have been many researches discussed about the students' grammatical ability. Daarus (2009), Julinarti (2008), and Maros, et al (2007) conducted researches about students' grammatical ability with different settings of research and participants. Then, Septiana (2011) and Yuniswati (2010) conducted researches related to the students' grammatical and lexical errors. From their researches, it can be concluded that grammar often occurs as the students' problems in writing.

Based on the explanation above, this research is to investigate about the students' grammatical problems in writing the analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang. Then, this research includes the factors which influence the students have grammatical problems in writing the analytical exposition text.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem, there are some writing problems that can be identified. Firstly, the students got difficulties in using vocabulary. In other words, they could not use English words appropriately in

their writing. When they wrote text, they did not pay attention to the appropriateness and clarity of words they used. The students were also not aware to the importance of context to choose the best words for their writing. Even, understanding the context is useful to determine the appropriate words. Secondly, the students got confused in using grammar accurately when they wrote. They just put some words together in a sentence and did not know about how to use modals, adjective, adverb, possessive, article and singular/plural form. Moreover, the students also made errors related to verb tenses and spelling. Finally, the students had to be able to write report, narrative, and analytical exposition text as the texts stated in curriculum for grade XI of Senior High School in the first semester.

C. Focus of the Research

Based on the problems identified above, the focus of this research is the students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text. It is done by looking at the students' grammatical problems in writing the analytical exposition text. Besides that, this research has sub-focus which is to see the factors which influence the students have grammatical problems on their writing.

D. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this research is formulated in this following question:
“What are the students’ grammatical problems and the factors which influence the students own grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang?”

E. Research Questions

Based on the formulation of the problem mentioned above, the research questions are stated as follow.

1. What are the students’ grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang?
2. What are the factors which influence the students have grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang?

F. Purposes of the Research

Based on the research questions stated previously, the purposes of this research are to find out:

1. the students’ grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang.
2. the factors which influence the students have grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang.

G. Significance of the Research

The findings of this research are expected to contribute to the English teaching and learning. Theoretically, this research can support the theories of teaching writing. Besides that, this research can also be one of the reference theories for further research. Practically, it is to give information to the English teachers related to students' grammatical problems and factors which influence the occurrence of the problems in their writing of the analytical exposition text. Therefore, the teacher can improve their teaching so that the students would be able to produce a good writing.

H. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid confusion of the readers in understanding the topic that is discussed, the researcher describes some key terms involved:

1. Writing : an activity for the students to express their ideas or thought by inventing the ideas, organizing the ideas, and paying attention to the mechanics, vocabulary, and grammar to produce a good text.
2. Grammatical Problems: the students' problems to use the structure of the language accurately in writing which make the sentences difficult to be understood.
3. Analytical exposition text: a type of text which has a function to persuade the readers to believe that something is a case.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

An analytical exposition text has special grammatical features as well as the other texts. The students who learn about the text in Grade XI at Senior High School are expected to be able to use the grammar in writing accurately. The grammar is needed to master by the students since they contribute the quality of writing. In fact, when they ignore the structure of language, the language which they use are difficult to be understood. Because of that, it is important to see the students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text. It is also essential to know the factors which cause the students' problems.

Based on the data analysis, the students had problems to use grammatical features in writing the analytical exposition text. In using grammatical features of analytical exposition text, the students had problems to use six of the grammatical features. In other words, the students had grammatical problems of simple present tense, passive voice, conjunctive relations, direct and indirect object, linking and possessive verbs, and modal verbs. Actually, those elements of grammar were needed to be concerned to get good quality of writing.

The students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text were caused by some factors. The factor which caused the students had

grammatical problems in writing the text was the language transfer. Transferring two different languages by the students who did not master the languages affected their English use. Besides that, the environment was also as the cause of the students' problems. The student did not practice their English in their environment and did not use the environment as a source to improve their English. Finally, the status of language was also as the cause of the students' grammatical problems. Since English was as the foreign language in Indonesia, the students had little opportunity to use the language. In addition, they realized that the students studied the language as the curricular requirement in their school. They had no immediate or necessary practical application.

All of those research findings need to be followed up to find out some solutions which are appropriate to solve the problems. Besides, these research findings proved that the students in Class XI IPA 1 at MAN 2 Padang had grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text. In other words, the use of the grammatical features needs to be improved by the students. Therefore, the result of the students' writings is good in the language used.

B. Implication

There are some implications related to the students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text. They are:

1. The English teacher can ask their students to have more practice using English with good grammar in oral even written. They may

practice their English in their environment so that they will be accustomed to apply their sentences in correct grammar.

2. The teacher teaches the grammar elements explicitly with adequate exercises. When the teacher explains grammar clearly and gives grammar exercises, the students can understand the grammar and apply it in their communication.
3. The teacher gives more exercises to the students to apply their grammar. Therefore, the teacher does not only give the theory of grammar but also a chance for the students to practice.
4. In writing class, the teacher should give more writing exercises to the students. So that, they will be familiar to English writing forms.

C. Suggestion

Based on the research findings presented in the previous chapter, the researcher suggests several points for the students, especially in MAN 2 Padang. Those suggestions are:

- a. The students should practice using English to communicate in their environment since quantity and quality of L2 interaction influence on ultimate success of L2 learning.
- b. The students should master two languages, English and Indonesia Language, so that they know the different rules used to express something.

- c. The other researchers are suggested to continue this research to get a solution to solve the students' grammatical problems in writing analytical exposition text.

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