

**AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL PROBLEMS AND FACTORS
INFLUENCING THEM IN WRITING INTRODUCTION CHAPTER OF
RESEARCH PROPOSAL AT THE SEVENTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF
STKIP ABDI PENDIDIKAN PAYAKUMBUH**

THESIS



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ABSTRAK

Ifna Nifriza, 2016. Analisa Kesalahan Tata Bahasa Mahasiswa Serta Faktor yang Mempengaruhinya dalam Menulis BAB Pendahuluan Proposal Penelitian terhadap Mahasiswa Semester Tujuh STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh. Tesis. Program Pascasarjana 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 penulisan bab pendahuluan pada proposal penelitian. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk melihat faktor penyebab masalah-masalah tersebut muncul dalam tulisan mahasiswa. Partisipan dalam penelitian ini adalah semua mahasiswa semester tujuh yang sedang menulis proposal penelitian di STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh yang terdiri dari 50 mahasiswa. Data penelitian dikumpulkan melalui proses pengumpulan proposal penelitian mahasiswa dan wawancara. Seluruh data yang terkumpul dianalisa dengan menyederhanakan dan memindahkan data mentah menjadi bentuk yang lebih tersusun dengan baik. Kemudian data tersebut dikelompokkan dalam sebuah tabel berdasarkan indikator yang digunakan kemudian dibuat kesimpulan. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa siswa memiliki masalah dalam penggunaan *parallelism*, *subject verb agreement*, *pronoun agreement*, *verb tenses and active and passive voice*. Temuan juga menunjukkan bahwa faktor yang menyebabkan masalah tersebut adalah *overgeneralisasi (overgeneralisation)*, mengabaikan batasan aturan (*ignorance rule restriction*), pemakaian aturan yang tidak lengkap (*incomplete application of rules*), kesalahan hipotesa konsep (*false concept hypothesized*). Dari temuan penelitian tersebut dapat disimpulkan bahwa siswa menghadapi masalah untuk menggunakan struktur bahasa dalam menulis bab pendahuluan pada proposal penelitian.

ABSTRACT





Ifna Nifriza, 2016. An Analysis Of Students' Grammatical Problems and Factors Influencing Them in Writing Introduction Chapter of Research Proposal at The Seventh Semester Students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh. Thesis. Graduate Program of State Univesity of Padang.

Writing is a complex process. When students write, they do not only have to think about 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 introduction chapter of research proposal. Besides that, it was also to find out the factors influencing those problems. The participants of this research were the all of the seventh semester students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh which consisted of 50 students. The data were collected by collecting students' research proposal and doing interview. 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, then wrote the conclusion. The findings of this research showed that the students' grammatical problems were to use parallelism, subject verb agreement, pronoun agreement, verb tenses and active and passive voice. It was also found that the factors which caused the students' problems were overgeneralisation, ignorance rule restriction, incomplete application of rules, false concept hypothesized. From the data gotten, it could be concluded that the students had problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal.



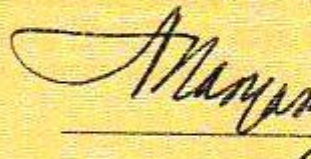
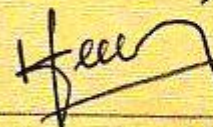
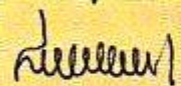
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Writing is a complex thinking process especially for non native speakers because the activities range from the transformation of thought into words; the activities consist of using structure, coherent organization and considering several variables like content, vocabulary, etc. Since writing is an important and a complex skill, it cannot be neglected that the students who learn writing have some problems to write. As a matter of fact, the students have 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. Thus, 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 words that they will use in their writing. In fact, many English words have similar meaning and different meaning. It makes the students confused to use them in their writing. In other words, the students should pay attention in using appropriate words by considering the context. The students get difficulties in choosing appropriate words with the context because they do not understand the meaning of words which they have written.

Besides, the students also have problems in applying grammar. Students sometimes arrange messy sentence if they do not consider grammar in writing. The sentences on their writing become meaningless. In other words, it is necessary for the students to pay attention to their grammar when they write something. The accuracy of the language can lead the readers to comprehend the text which they read. Thus, the students

have to consider the English grammar to help the readers to understand the writer's intended meaning.

Having good ability in applying grammar and choosing words to write ideas in written form can improve the quality of the written text. Thus, it helps the readers easy to understand all texts. This phenomenon can be seen in the real life situation, such as in writing letter to a friend, writing an essay for a school task, writing the description of a thing to other people, expressing an idea through written form, writing research report in the university and so on. In other words, students get many advantages from this ability.

In this case, the university students in the seventh semester have been assumed that they have the highest level in writing skill. Therefore, they must conduct a research and write the research report. Before accomplishing the research report, the students must write a proposal. Proposal is a paper that is written prior to the research process. In the proposal, the students write three chapters. The first chapter is to discuss about background of the problem that will be studied. The second chapter provides some theories that support the research. The last chapter is to discuss methodology that will be used in the research.

As a matter of fact, the problems and difficulties in writing introduction chapter of research proposal are also faced by the students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh, especially English Department students. Based on preliminary study result, the students admit that writing research proposal is difficult. Although they have taken Research Methodology and Scientific Writing lectures, they still complain that they need extra efforts to compose such a good research proposal, especially the introduction chapter. Besides, the lecturers say that they often find some mistakes in the students' research proposal, especially in the introduction. More than 70% of students' research proposal

introductions are written by using incorrect grammar. In addition, it was found from some proposal's seminar observations that the introductions written are suggested to be improved and repaired. Even, some of them are suggested to be changed.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher are interested to do a research about the students' grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal at the seventh semester students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh. Then, this research included the factors that influence the students' grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal. The researcher is interested in doing this research because the researcher wants to know the grammatical problems faced by the students of the seventh semester in writing introduction chapter of research proposal and factors influencing those problems.

B. Identification of the Problem

Concerning with the background of the problem above, there are some writing problems that can be identified. The students can not use English words appropriately in their writing. In writing the text, they do not pay attention to the appropriateness and clarity of words they use. The students are not aware to the importance of context to choose the best words for their writing. Whereas, understanding the context is useful to determine the appropriate words. Secondly, the students get confused in using grammar accurately in their writing. Grammar errors will influence certain patterns of how words are put together to form correct sentences. It will make the ideas ambiguous because it is the basic rules in writing.

Furthermore, it is very important for the seventh semester students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh to be able to use correct grammar in writing, especially in writing introduction chapter of research proposal.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above and related to what are argued by experts about the language of research proposal especially in grammatical area, this research limits on paralellism, subject-verb agreement, pronoun agreement, verb tense and active voice which the students write in the introduction chapter of research proposal.

D. Formulation of the Problem

The problem of this research is formulated in the following question: “Why do the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh face grammatical problems in writing research proposal?”

E. Research Questions

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

1. What are the grammatical problems faced by the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh in writing introduction chapter of research proposal?

2. Why do the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh have the grammatical problem in writing introduction chapter of research proposal?

F. Purposes of the Research

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

1. the grammatical problems faced by the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh in writing introduction chapter of research proposal.
2. the reason why the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh have the grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal.

G. Significances of the Research

This research is expected to be beneficial for theoretical and practical significances. For theoretical benefit, the research finding can give some contributions about the theory of writing especially in writing research proposal. For practical benefit, this research is expected to give contribution for some elements. Firstly, for lecturers, this research hopefully gives the description about grammatical problems that the students face in writing introduction chapter of research proposal and factors influencing them. Secondly, for the students, this research can give contribution to the students' quality in writing. Through this research, the students will be aware to improve their skill in applying grammar in writing, especially in writing introduction chapter of research proposal. Thirdly, for other researchers, the researcher hopes that they can use the result of this

research as the reference to do the next research. fourthly, for researcher her self, the researcher expects to get knowledge about the problems faced by the students in writing introduction chapter of research proposal and factors influencing them.

H. Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid the readers' confusion in understanding the terms used in this research, they are defined as follows :

1. Students' grammatical problems : students' problems in using the language structure accurately in writing which make the sentences difficult to be understood.
2. Writing research proposal : to write the planning of the research and to propose it to the advisors and contributors.
3. STKIP Abdi Pendidikan : an educational institution in Payakumbuh which demands the English department students to write research proposal as a final project.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION, IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTION

Related to the result of the discussion derived from data analysis presented in previous chapter. Some conclusions, implications, and suggestions are formulated.

A. Conclusion

Related to the research questions in the first chapter about the grammatical problems faced by the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh and data analysis, it can be concluded that it was generally found that the students had problem to use twelve grammatical features in the language of research proposal. Moreover, there were four factors influencing students' grammatical problems in writing. Then, it can be specifically concluded that:

1. Concerning with the first reseach question about the grammatical problems faced by the students of the seventh semester at STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh. The result shown that the students had problems to use twelve grammatical features in the target language of research proposal. Namely, problem in parallelism with coordinate conjunction, problem in parallelism with paired conjunction, problem in making verb agree after expressions of quantity, problem in making verbs agree after certain words (any, every, no, some, each, every), problem in using subject and object pronoun, problem in using possessive adjective and possessive pronoun, problem in using pronoun reference for agreement, problem in using present tense, problem in using future tense, problem in using past tense, problem in using correct form of active, and problem in using correct form of

passive. Actually, those elements of grammar were needed to be concerned to get good quality of writing.

2. Relating to the second research question about factors influencing those grammatical problems, it is found that there were four factors influencing the grammatical problems in writing. firstly overgeneralization, the students generally involves the creation of one deviant structure in place of two regular structure in writing. They can not differentiate about the different usage of the words. Besides that, ignorance rule restriction was also as the cause of the students' problems. The students fail to observe the restriction of structure. Next, Incomplete application of rule was also as the cause of the students' problems. The students did not complete the rules in one sentence. Finally false concept hypothesized. The students did not apply the concept correctly in writing.

All of those research findings need to be followed up to find out some solutions which are appropriate to solve the problems. Besides, this research findings proved that the students in the seventh semester of STKIPAbdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh had grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal.

B. Implication

There are some implications related to the students' grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal. They were as follow:

1. Due to the importance of grammar in writing, this study can give significant contribution not only to tell learner about the grammatical problems faced by the students in writing introduction chapter of research proposal, but also to inform the teacher or lecturer about the common grammatical problems faced by the university

students in writing introduction chapter of research proposal. It is also help the lecturers to create the effective and appropriate methfood in teaching grammar.

2. By focusing on the causes of students' grammatical problems in writing introduction chapter of research proposal, this study can give contribution to the learners about the common causes or factors influencing their grammatical problems in writing. Also, to give the further guidance for the lecturer in minimalizing the students' problems in writing especially grammatical problems.

C. Suggestion

Based on the research findings presented in the previous chapter, the researcher suggests several points for the students, especially the students of STKIP Abdi Pendidikan Payakumbuh. Those suggestions are:

1. English departement should offer an additional class for writing by using the correct grammar in order to minimize the students' grammatical problems in writing.

2. It is also suggested to the lecturers, especially grammar lecturers to use various teaching strategies in teaching grammar to make the students master grammar before starting writing.

3. Related to the result of this study, tenses become the most problematic grammatical variables in writing introduction chapter of research proposal, the future researchers are suggested to study about minimizing the grammatical problems in writing research proposal.

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