

**AN ERROR ANALYSIS ON THE USE OF ENGLISH ARTICLES IN
DESCRIPTIVE TEXT WRITTEN BY THE NINTH GRADE
STUDENTS AT SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 6 PALEMBANG**

THESIS

BY

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
*UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH PALEMBANG***

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MUHAMMADIYAH 6 PALEMBANG**

THESIS

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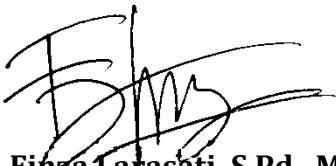
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Menyatakan bahwa skripsi berjudul :

An Error Analysis on the Use of English Articles in Descriptive Text
Written by the Ninth Grade Students at Smp Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang,
beserta seluruh isinya adalah benar merupakan hasil karya sendiri dan saya
tidak melakukan penjiplakan atau pengutipan dengan cara-cara yang tidak
sesuai dengan etika keilmuan dalam masyarakat ilmiah.

Atas pernyataan ini, saya siap menerima segala sanksi yang berlaku
atau yang ditetapkan untuk itu, apabila dikemudian hari ternyata pernyataan
saya tidak benar atau ada klaim dari pihak lain terhadap keaslian skripsi saya.

Palembang, 20 Agustus 2022

Yang menyatakan,

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO:

“If you’re not a good shooter today, don’t worry, there are other ways to be useful”

DEDICATION:

I would like to dedicate this thesis for people who always be special in my heart and who always there for me, they are:

- 1. My beloved parents, Slamet Sudarmono and Waqisah. Thank you so much for everything. I love you so much.**
- 2. My beloved advisors and lecturers, Asti Gumartifa, S.Pd., M.Pd., Finza Larasati, S.Pd., M.Pd., Masagus Sulaiman, S.Pd., M.Pd, who always support me in every condition.**
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ABSTRACT

Faozi, Nur. 2022. *An Error Analysis on the Use of English Articles in Descriptive Text Written by the Ninth Grade Students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang*. Thesis, English Education Study Program, Sarjana Degree (S1), Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Palembang. Advisor (1) Asti Gumartifa, S.Pd., M.Pd., (2) Finza Larasati, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Key word: Error Analysis, Writing, English Articles, Descriptive text

The research aimed to analyze the types of errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang on the use of English articles in descriptive text and analyze the cause of errors made by the students. The research subject was students of XI class consisting of 39 students, which are taken by convenience sampling technique. This research used a qualitative method with the research design is descriptive statistics analysis, the data were collected from writing test and interview. For the data analysis technique, the researcher used the formula; $P = F/N \times 100\%$. The findings showed that students made various types of errors into three types: Omission, addition, and substitution. First, the high frequency of error was omission; there were 50 or 45.04% errors of omission. Next was substitution; there were 33 or 29.74% errors. Last was the addition error; there were 28 or 25.22% errors. Furthermore, the researcher found that the first cause of error were overgeneralization with the percentage 82.05% and the second is ineffective teaching process with the percentage 38.46%.

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The researcher realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect. There are still many weaknesses that need to be improved in this thesis. The researcher accepts any kind of criticism, comments, suggestion, and advice.

Last but not least, he hopes that this thesis will be useful for the university and the next researcher in the future.

Palembang, August 2022

The researcher,

NF

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background, formulation of the problem, limitation of the Study, objective of study, and significance of study.

A. Background

One of the world's languages is English, the most widely used language in international communication. According to Subasini and Kokilavani (2013), English is the world's most widely spoken language. It is the language of higher administration, superior judiciary, further education, and diplomacy (p. 56). In Indonesia, English has become the first foreign language, and it is an important subject taught and learned in schools. In addition, school curriculum number 32/ 2013 Chapter 7 Curriculum (2013), in learning English, students are required to master four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

As one of the language skills, writing plays an essential role in learning English. Conforming to Peha (2010), writing is the communication of content for a purpose to the reader (p. 58). In addition, Afrin (2016), writing is also seen as a productive skill and a beneficial tool in the learning process. It is a generic skill that is used to evaluate student performance at various stages of schooling (p. 104). In writing, students need an understanding of how words, sentences, and structures can express the meaning that they want to convey. Writing for English language students is not only the activity of writing but also a way to communicate with the readers for particular purposes and context because it is like in a direct conversation with the reader.

English writing skills need grammar to make a good meaningful sentence. By writing in the right grammar, students will think more logically and clearly, therefore this will help them communicate without misunderstanding. In line with Alufohai in Aldhawiyah (2016) states that Grammar at the sentence level is important. Many grammar rules include articles, part of expression, sentence, tense, etc (p. 2).

English article is a part of grammar. According to Leacock in Sholihatun (2017), articles are ideal targets for automatic error detection because they are among the most frequent English students' errors. In English, there are three articles namely a, an, and the. The accurate use of English articles seems to be difficult even for those who have a good mastery of the language (p. 54). Master (2002) cites three basic facts about the article system that can cause this difficulty: (1) are among the most frequently occurring function words in the language which make continuous conscious rule application difficult over an extended discourse; (2) function words are normally unstressed and consequently very difficult for a student to distinguish as input in the spoken mode; and (3) The use of English article stacks many functions on one morpheme, which causes a considerable burden for the student, who generally looks for a one-form one-function correspondence (p. 332).

Descriptive text is a text that describes the characteristics of something. According to Hammond in Cahyono (2011), The social function of descriptive text is to describe a particular person, place, or thing. A descriptive text is organized with a generic structure of identification. A descriptive text will show the description of the object. Paragraphs of description may contain parts or physical characteristics, value or quality, usage, or function (p. 292). In writing descriptive text, students often find some difficulties. The students usually feel difficult to organize their ideas. Furthermore, many students made some mistakes and faced difficulties to build and develop their imaginations.

According to Erdogan (2005), Error analysis is related to student performance related to the cognitive process that students use to recognize or code input received from the target language (p. 263). Furthermore, he adds error analysis is the activity of identifying, classifying, interpreting, or explaining the error that made by students and the common difficulties that students faced in writing English sentences. In this research, the researcher focuses on analyzing English article errors in writing descriptive text made by the ninth-grade students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang. English article is one of grammar that should be mastered by the students.

With regard to the types of text taught in junior high school, descriptive text is taught to the 7th and 8th graders. Meanwhile, students still find difficulties in descriptive text especially in using articles. This fact is proven by the result of the interview with the teacher of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang. In general, students do the error in writing descriptive, especially when using English articles. In addition, in the school-based curriculum (K13) of Junior High School, Students must be able to comprehend many sorts of texts, such as descriptive texts, recount texts, procedure texts, and expositions, to meet the competency requirements in learning English, especially writing. One of writing text with genre that is familiar and taught to the ninth grade at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang is writing on descriptive text. Since students are always faced with writing through genre, they must know types of text, and automatically they are able to comprehend descriptive text and also other types of text

Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested in examining student learning problems through writing descriptive text to find out the student's mistakes in the article. Therefore, the researchers have titled "An Error Analysis on the Use of English Articles in Descriptive Texts Written by the Ninth Grade Students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang".

B. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background, the researcher formulated the problems in this research as follows.:

1. What are the types of errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang on the use of English articles in their writing of descriptive text?
2. What is the most frequent error made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang student on the use of English articles in their writing of descriptive text?
3. What are the causes of errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang students on the use of English articles in their writing of descriptive text?

C. Limitation of the Study

The focus of the research was to find out the errors and the causes of errors in the use of English articles in writing descriptive text made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang.

D. Objective of Study

In order to get better order on the discussion of the study, the researcher would like to compose the objective of the study as follows:

1. To know the types of errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang on the use of English articles in their writing of descriptive text.
2. To know the most frequent errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang on the use of English articles in their writing of descriptive text.

3. To find out the causes of errors made by the ninth-grade students of SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Palembang on using English articles in their writing of the descriptive text.

E. Significance of Study

Due to the importance of research, the researcher hope that the results of this study can provide useful input for students, English teachers, and other researchers. The first is for students, this study is very useful in finding out which part of the English article has the greatest weakness. Moreover, after knowing their weaknesses, they can better learn the correct pronunciation of English articles and especially sentences in descriptive texts. The result of this research was expected useful for the English teacher especially in developing and improving the students' writing skills in using English articles. Third, for other researchers, this research is expected to useful for the other researcher in doing the research. This research is also expected to be a source of material for conducting similar studies for further studies. Therefore, through this research, it is expected that the study contributes a reference for other researchers to enrich their resources.

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