

**DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS ON GRAMMATICAL ERRORS OF
STUDENTS IN COMPOSING DESCRIPTIVE PIECE OF WRITING AT
ONE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN JAMBI**

A Thesis

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DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY

I, Nana Widya Farastuti, A1B211026, clarifies that this thesis is my own work and has not been submitted in any form for another degree or diploma at my university or other institute or tertiary education. Information derived from published and unpublished work of others has been acknowledged in the text and the list of references.

Jambi, July 2018

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ABSTRACT

Farastuti, Nana. W. 2018. Descriptive Analysis of Grammatical Errors of Students' Difficulties in Composing Descriptive Piece of Writing at One Public University in Jambi. The First Supervisor is Yulhenli Thabran, S.S., M.A. Second Supervisor is Nunung Fajaryani, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Keywords: Writing, Descriptive Writing, Error Analysis

This research was conducted based on students' difficulties in writing descriptive texts in the second semester (class of 2015) of one public university in Jambi. This study aims at finding out about: (1) the common grammatical errors made by the second semester students, and (2) the possible cause for grammatical errors found in the writing made by the second semester students. In this research, the researcher focused her study on the grammatical errors of the students who composed descriptive writing. This study was an error analysis. It used a descriptive qualitative approach. The sample population of this study was the second semester students of one public university in Jambi. They consisted of one class of second semester students from academic year of 2015 that comprised of 31 students. In this research, the researcher used Purposive Sampling Technique. In order to get the data needed, short descriptive texts written by 31 students were obtained. The text were collected from the students by the means of final test in paragraph writing course conducted by a lecturer who asked them to write about their favorite places in Jambi.

Based on the findings of this study, it has been found that there are 326 items of errors which occur in the students' sentences. Based on the surface strategy taxonomy, it is found that 89 items or 27,3% of the total errors are omission, 33 items or 10,1% of the total errors are addition, 141 items or 43,3% of the total errors are misinformation and 63 items or 19,3% of the total errors are misordering. The possible causes for these errors based on the comparative strategy taxonomy mostly belong to intralingual error type, which is 147 items or 87% of them meanwhile the rest 22 items or 13% belong to the interlingual error type.

Thus, it can be inferred from the findings that the most common errors made by the students in the sample population is caused by the lack of grammatical understanding and the students tend to transfer linguistic patterns in *Bahasa Indonesia* into their English compositions without taking notice of acceptable grammar and structure in the target language. finally, the results of this study may provide useful insights for the lectures who are dealing with academic writing subject in regards to the improvement of their students' skills in writing a descriptive text in English language. Future researchers may provide extentions to this study by conducting similar studies with larger size of samples and populations as beneficial contribution to this specific research area.

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Finally, the researcher deeply believes that this research is still far from being perfect. Therefore, researcher deeply welcomes to any suggestion to improve this thesis.

Jambi, July 2018

The Researcher

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