A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS’ ERRORS IN ENGLISH WRITING AT SMP 1 DUNGKEK SUMENEP IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2005 / 2006

Oleh: SRI WAHYUNI (01360114)

Keywords: Descriptive, English Writing

The writer was interested in analyzing the errors made by the second year students of SMP 1 Dungkek, Sumenep because of two reasons: First, the students often make errors, when they wrote an essay, at although they had been given the topic before by the teacher. Second, they don’t know the kinds of errors. The purposes of the study were to find out the kinds of the errors in writing made by the students, and the most dominant errors in using simple past tense. This study has some significance for both the students and the teachers to increase learning and teaching English, especially in using the verb change of simple past tense.

This study used descriptive research design, and a population research involving 60 students. The research instrument of the study was a composition test given by teacher consisting of 13 items of simple past tense. To analyze the data, the writer took some steps, namely identifying and classifying the errors, and determining the frequency of occurrence by using percentage formula.

The result of the test shows that there were 500 errors in hand writing of simple past tense. More specifically, errors there were 23.8% errors of omission, 50.4% errors of addition, and 11.7% errors of misformation, and no one made misordering errors. In other words, the dominant errors made by the students happened in addition errors.