AN ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH MADE BY THE FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY OF MUHAMMADIYAH MALANG

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ABSTRACT
Some linguistic practitioners said that among four basic skills in English, they are writing, speaking, reading and listening. Writing is the most complicated one. The writer was interested in analyzing the errors made by the fourth students at University of Muhammadiyah Malang because of two reasons. First, the students often make errors in their composition when they wrote an essay, although they had been given the topic before by the lecture. Second, they are not re-checking their assignment.

This study used Descriptive research design because there is no administration, or control of treatment. The population research involved 179 students but the sample was only 25% from the population. The sample was taken from class A. The research instrument of study was a composition test given by the researcher in using simple past tense. To analyze the data the writer took some steps, namely identifying and classifying the errors and determining the frequency of occurrences the errors.

The results of the test showed that there were 119 errors from 18 compositions in Descriptive paragraph by using simple past tense. There were 13 or 10.92% errors of omission, 13 or 10.92% errors of addition, 91 or 76.47% errors of misformation and 2 or 1.68% error of misordering. In other words, the dominant errors made by the students happened in misformation errors.