

ABSTRACT

Hevny S. Mubarak An Analysis of Grammatical and Mechanical Errors in Writing Narrative Text Made by Grade Eleven Students of SMA PGRI Tanjungsiang Subang

This research was based on English writing composition which was supported by the researcher's teaching training in SMA Al-Islam Cilengkrang Bandung which showed that most of students still made errors in their writing composition, either grammatically or mechanically. One way to avoid these errors continue in their daily English writing, the researcher was interested to conduct the analysis of these errors on students' composition in SMA PGRI Tanjungsiang Subang.

This research intends to find out the kinds of grammatical and mechanical errors that the students make in their writing composition, and also to find out the causal factors of errors that the students make in their writing composition.

This research uses a qualitative methodology because the study is intended to discover the phenomenon exists in students' writing, that is the errors in grammatical and mechanical rules. This research uses a descriptive method. The purpose of this method is to describe the grammatical and mechanical errors in students' writing for the grade eleven students of SMA PGRI Tanjungsiang, Subang. The techniques of collecting data are test and interview. The test is obtained to ask the students to write a free composition on narrative text, and the interview is obtained to ask the causal factors of errors they make in their writing composition. In analysing the data, the researcher collects their writing composition then analyzes them by investigating and organizing the data based on two main aspects of English composition; grammatical and mechanical rules.

The result of this research shows that the errors of mechanical rules are a half of errors in grammatical rules. The kinds of grammatical errors which appear in their composition were *agreement*, *tense*, *word order*, and *preposition*. While the kinds of mechanical errors which appear in the composition were the errors of *spelling*, *capitalization*, and *punctuation*. The causal factors of errors in their writing were categorized in four divisions: (1) the lack of knowledge, (2) the lack of understanding, (3) the lack of confidence, and (4) the lack of time. Based on this findings, the researcher suggests that the English teachers should guide their students by giving them some tasks to write compositions which is grammatically and mechanically correct, especially in order to avoid their errors in tenses and word-spelling, which are the two most commonly kinds of grammatical and mechanical errors that occur in their writing.