

ABSTRACT

Dwitasani, Cindy Fara. *Errors in Sentence Structure found in Descriptive Text Written by First Grade Students of SMPN 39 Surabaya*. Submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana degree of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Airlangga University. Surabaya. 2013.

Sentence structure is the arrangement of words in sentences that include elements and word order. The aim of this study is to find out kinds of errors in sentence structure that the first grade students of Junior High School made in their descriptive texts. This study was conducted with qualitative approach to find out errors in their sentence structure. To analyze the errors, the writer used the theory of sentence structure by Greenbaum & Nelson (2002) and the surface structures classification by James (1998). The writer investigated errors in sentence structure especially in the omission of sentence elements, subject-verb agreement, word order, tenses and the incorrect use of sentence elements. The findings showed that the total errors of sentence structure made by students are 231 errors, as follows: the omission of sentence elements (63 errors or 27.27%), subject-verb agreement (110 errors or 47.61%), word orders (5 errors or 2.16%), incorrect use of sentence elements (36 errors or 15.58%) and uncategorized (17 errors or 7.08%). The findings suggest that the students should be careful in sentence structures because there still so many missing elements in their sentences.

Keywords: *Error, Sentence Structure, Descriptive Text, Word Order*

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION