

**A STUDY OF SOME GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN
WRITING I MADE BY THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
STUDENTS OF AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY**

THESIS



By :

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY
SURABAYA**

2004

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**Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Sarjana Degree of English Department Faculty of Letters
Airlangga University Surabaya**



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This thesis is solely dedicated to
My Dear Mum and late Father



You Get What You Give

Approved to be examined
Surabaya, 20th of February 2004

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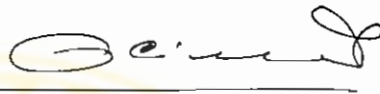
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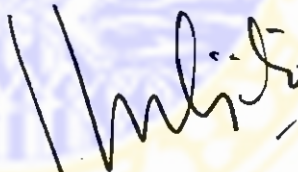
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ABSTRACT

Rahayu, Ninik. *"A Study of Some Grammatical Errors in Writing I Made By The English Department Students of Airlangga University."* A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for Sarjana Degree of The English Department, Faculty of Letters, Airlangga University, 2004.

Learning a foreign language in our society currently may not be extra-ordinary anymore since there are numerous people who learn it. In other words, learning a foreign language has become a necessity that has to be carried out by everyone who wants to succeed in the international world. The foreign language, commonly learnt by the Indonesian people is English. People realize that the only way to have English proficiency is by learning. The process of learning is performed in various ways such as joining an English course, taking a private lesson or being a student of the English Department in a university. In learning a second language, a learner may experience language transfer. Transfer will be *negative*, or in the most common terminology, *interference* if the differences between the two languages lead to interference, which may finally result in the making of errors. In contrast, transfer will be *positive* when the first and second language habits are similar. This study attempts to probe kinds of interferences and the most common kind of interference of the Indonesian language made by some of the English Department students in the English writing. The results reveal that the students performed mostly errors in Tenses; Prepositions; Singular and Plural; Articles; and Auxiliary Verbs. The sources of errors in the compositions are generally misinformation and omission. In most cases, the interferences in Tenses were produced by the students because of the interlingual interference. After conducting the study, the writer finds out that learners always fall back on the first language when they have not acquired the second language sufficiently.

Keywords: *language transfer, interference, interlingual interference, intralingual interference, calques*