AN ERROR ANALYSIS OF PREPOSITION OF PLACE AND DIRECTION IN PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES MADE BY THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF SMAK St. LOUIS I SURABAYA

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfilment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching

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Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni
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November, 1991
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by: ROSI

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writer would like to acknowledge her deepest and greatest gratitude and indebtedness to:

1. Mr. Drs. A. Gurito, her first advisor whose comments and suggestions have been of great help to her in accomplishing this thesis.

2. Ms. Dra. Maria Francisca Handoko M.Pd, her second advisor who has encouraged and guided her patiently towards the writing out of this thesis.

3. The Headmaster and the English teachers of SMAK St. Louis I Surabaya for their generosity in giving the opportunity to her to conduct the experiment tests in their school.

The writer's thanks are also due and heartily given to her loving parents and husband who have given the chance to her in completing this thesis.

The writer is certain that without the guidance and assistance of those mentioned above, this thesis would never have been completed the way it should be.
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ABSTRACT

In the English GBPP for SMA 1984, it is stated that "Prepositional Phrases" is one of the sub-topics of English learning that the second year students should master. Realising the fact that the second year students might have difficulties in constructing the prepositional phrases, the writer, then, interested in finding out the most troublesome element of it. However, she limited the topic on preposition of place and direction only.

The writer conducted her experiments on the second year students of SMA St. Louis I Surabaya. She analyzed the students' works, classified and counted the errors encountered. She found there were three types of errors which were mostly done by the students. There were addition errors (4.9%), omission errors (18.5%), substitution errors (76.6%).

These errors bring her to some possible reasons why the students made such errors: First, the students were not aware of the existence and the usage of the preposition of place and direction in prepositional phrases. They used wrong prepositions to construct right prepositional phrases. Second, the students had not mastered the pattern of prepositional phrases in which a preposition should be followed by a noun phrase or pronoun phrase. Third, the students did not pay attention of the usages and meanings of each preposition, in this case preposition of place and direction, in order to make a proper Prepositional Phrase. Fourth, the students were not able to find out by themselves the correct preposition for each Prepositional Phrase.

Based on the findings, she concluded that the students still needed deeper explanations in order to understand prepositional phrases more. Hopefully, the findings of this study may give better information about the way the students learn English prepositional phrases in their efforts to master English as a foreign language. Meanwhile, the findings are expected to be used by English teachers as feedback to improve the teaching methods especially the teaching of Prepositional Phrase. Therefore, the teachers, by doing so, will help the students to get rid of, or at least minimize, making errors in Prepositional Phrases.

The writer admitted that there were still a lot of weaknesses in completing this thesis. She expected that further research 'would' be done by other researchers in order to get deeper information.