THE ERROR OF SUBJECT – VERB AGREEMENT MADE BY THE STUDENTS TALKING WRITING IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF WIDYA MANDALA UNIVERSITY

A THESIS

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Abstract

The thesis was made based on two research questions, namely “What types of Subject-Verb Agreement error made by the students of the English Department of Widya Mandala University in writing narrative?” and “What are the causes of Subject-Verb Agreement errors made by the students in writing narrative?” The objectives of the study were to find the types of Subject-Verb Agreement errors which are frequently misconstructed by the students of English Department of Widya Mandala University in writing narrative and to determine the causes of Subject-Verb Agreement errors made by the students in writing narrative. The results of the study were expected to arouse the awareness of the lecturers of writing class in English Department of Widya Mandala University about the students’ difficulties in learning Subject-Verb Agreement by providing the information about the high frequency of errors occurrence. After that, it was expected for the lecturers to improve their techniques in teaching Subject-Verb Agreement. Hopefully, the errors which the students made in learning this pattern could be prevented or minimized.

This research was a non-experimental study which was emphasized on descriptive study because its aim was to identify, analyze, describe, and classify the errors and their types. It used “Proportion Studies”, “Occurrence Studies”, and “Quasi-Proportion Studies” The subjects of this study were the first semester students of English Department of Widya Mandala University who taking writing narrative.

After doing the first steps, the writer got the findings. Based on her analysis, there are three errors the students made in their writing narrative. The students did the error of omission, error of addition, error of substitution, and error of ordering. Among four types of error, the students did three of them. The type of error that the students did not do was error of ordering. The number of error was various, but there are none error of ordering. The errors were caused by some reasons. The writer made predictions of the causes after she analyzed and classified the errors. There were three causes of the errors. The causes were the students could not determine the verbs for the subjects, whether they were singular or plural, and whether the subjects were first, second, or third person, the students could not use the correct verbs according to their time signal, and the students did not know how to build the correct verb phrase.

Based on the research, a conclusion could be made. The error of Subject-Verb Agreement frequently exists. In making the subject and verb agree each other, the students still need to learn more. They frequently made the same errors. It was necessary for the lecturers to give them more theory of Subject-Verb Agreement and more practice in applying it on their narrative writing. Perhaps, the errors of Subject-Verb Agreement could be minimized in the future.