

**THE PHASE E STUDENT'S ERRORS ON SIMPLE PAST TENSE
IN WRITING SIMPLE SENTENCES AT SMAN 2 SUTERA,
KABUPATEN PESISIR SELATAN**

THESIS



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PADANG
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*Submitted to fulfill a partial requirement for S-1 degree at English Department,
Teacher Training and Education Faculty, Bung Hatta University*



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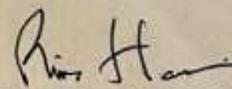
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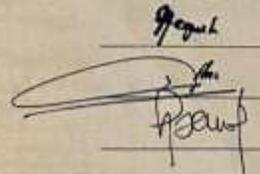
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ABSTRACT

Fitri, L. B. 2023. The Phase E Students' Errors on Simple Past Tense in Writing

Simple Sentences at SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan

Advisor : Dr. Lely Refnita, M.Pd.

The purpose of this research is to find out whether Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense. This research applied a descriptive method. The population of this research is the Phase E students of SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan, and cluster random sampling technique was used to select the sample that consists of 26 students. The instrument for collecting the data is writing test. The students were asked to write simple sentences in the simple past tense in 60 minutes. To know whether the test is reliable, the researcher used inter – rater technique. The reliability index of the test is 0.99 indicating that the test is reliable. Then the test was valid in terms of content as it covered the material that the students had learned.

The result of this research, in general revealed that 25 out of 26 (96,15%) students made errors in the form of omission, addition, misformation, and misordering. There were 8 (30.77%) students who made errors of omission, 12 (46.15%) students made errors of addition, 23 (88.46%) students made errors of misformation, and 3 (11.53%) students made errors of misordering.

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that the Phase E students at SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan still made errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense. The teachers should give more explanation and exercises about writing simple sentences especially about the use of verb form because they still did not understand and were confused about them. The students should improve their skill in writing simple sentences especially in applying correct grammar. Further researchers are expected to find out and analyze the factors which cause the students made errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tens

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the introduction, which consists of the background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, the research questions, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study, and the definition of the key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Problem

As a non-English speaking country, Indonesia uses English a foreign language. As a foreign language, English is commonly used in many countries in various aspects of life, such as in the fields of culture, economy, business, politics, etc. Therefore, English is a language that needs to be known by a country. Nugraha (2020), mention that English is an international language and it is a foreign language used to communicate between countries.

In learning English, students need 4 skills, namely: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition to four skills, students learn about grammar. Grammar is one of the most critical components of the English language. Grammar can analyze the form and function of words or sentences. Mart (2013) says that accurate understanding of language structure is a basic part of learning a foreign language, so teaching grammar is an important aspect of teaching foreign languages.

Studying grammar also includes tenses. According to Satria & Gatot (2020), " Grammar is the key to understanding the linguistic system of a foreign language. It also included the study of tenses, sentence structure, and the part of speech accordingly". There are several tenses in general, namely : simple present tense, present continuous tense, present perfect tense, present perfect continuous tense, simple past tense, past continuous tense, past perfect tense, past perfect

continuous tense, simple future tense, future continuous tense, future perfect tense, future perfect continuous tense, simple past future tense, past future continuous tense, past future perfect tense, past future perfect continuous tense.

Simple past tense is a type of tense that tells events or activities that started and ended in the past. Simple past tense used past tense verbs and adverbs of time corresponding to simple past tense, such as yesterday, last year, last month, and ago. Sari (2020) mention that simple past tense is used when we write about our activities that already happened in the past. The past tense is also used for activities that occurred during a period in the past.

When students write sentences in the simple past tense, they must know how to arrange affirmative, negative, and interrogative sentences. Fadilah (2019) states that the low level of student's understanding of simple past tense material is one of the reasons which influence the errors in making the sentence of the simple past tense. In learning English, students sometimes made errors. Based on the researcher's experience as a student doing teaching practice in 2022, many students still make errors in using the simple past tense. The types of errors that were commonly made by the students in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense were omission, addition, misformation, misordering. For example, in the sentence "He write a letter yesterday", the word "write" should be "wrote" because "wrote" is the past form of the word "write". So, the correct sentence becomes "He wrote a letter yesterday". This error occurs due to a need for more understanding in using this tense.

Many students have errors in the use of tenses because they need more mastery of tenses. Moreover, they also make errors related to verb forms. Research conducted by Tuminah et al. (2021) entitled "Analysis of Error Using Simple Past Tense on Recount Text Class VIII B Students of SMP Pelita Ngabang in the Academic Year 2019/2020 Landak District," reveals that

there some types of errors made by students in using simple past tense on recount text, including omission, addition, misformation, and misordering. The research subject was class VIII B SMP Pelita Ngabang in Landak District. The results of this study show that there are 19.17% of omission errors, 26.02% of addition errors, 27.39% of misformation errors, and 27.39% of misordering errors.

The research conducted by Intan (2019) entitled " Error Analysis in Writing of the Tenth Grade Students of MAN 1 Palu" reveals that the most typical errors made by students of the tenth grade of MAN 1 are selection, omission, and addition. The selection error comprises 26 errors or 63.41%, omission error comprises 11 errors or 26.82%, and addition error comprises 4 errors or 9.75%. Meanwhile, the researcher wants to do research about the types of errors (addition, omission, misformation, and misordering) in simple sentence in the simple past tense.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher wanted to research and analyze more deeply the types of errors that arise in writing past tense sentences for students at SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Students must learn how to write sentences, paragraphs, and essays. Each sentence comprises one or more clauses and expresses a complete thought. There are four kinds of sentences in English. Nugraha (2020) mentions that in English, there are several kinds of sentences according to the number of predicates: simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, compound-complex or multiple sentences. According to Rustipa (2017) the type of sentence is determined by the type of clause used to form it. The first simple sentence consists of one independent clause (one clause). The second is a compound sentence containing two or more independent clauses. The third is a complex sentence with an independent clause joined by one

or more dependent clauses. And the last is a compound-complex sentence consisting of two or more independent clauses and one dependent clause.

Based on the background of the problem that the researcher has stated above, there are several errors that students need to correct in writing simple past tense. The errors are omission, misformation, addition and misordering. Omissions are sentences that do not contain some elements that must exist in the sentences. For example, the sentence "My mother a teacher" should be "My mother is a teacher". Misformation is marked by the use of wrong morphemes and structures where the user used one grammatical form instead of another. Example: "Tina check the package last night" should: "Tina checked the package last night". An error of addition happened due to the occurrence of an element that does not need to exist. Example: I ate with bread and egg this morning, it should be: I ate bread and egg this morning. The error of misordering is marked by misordering for a morpheme or a group of morphemes in the sentence. Example: They went for a vacation to Bali last month; it should be: They went to Bali for a vacation last month.

1.3 The Limitation of the Problem

Because the scope study about the research problem is quite broad, the researcher limit this research to students make errors writing in simple sentences in the simple past tense. The researcher focus on students make errors writing in simple past tense sentences in affirmative, negative, and interrogative forms in the Phase E at SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan.

1.4 The Formulation of the Problem

The formulation of the problem in this research is: What are the errors made by the Phase E students in writing simple past tense at SMAN 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan?

1.5 The Research Questions

In line with the formulation of the problem, the researcher developed questions for this study:

1. Do the Phase E students of SMA 2 Sutera make omission errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense?
2. Do the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make misformation errors in writing simple sentences in the past tense?
3. Do the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make addition errors in writing simple sentences in the past tense?
4. Do the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make misordering errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense?

1.6 The Purpose of Study

In general, this research aims to determine the errors of the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera, Kabupaten Pesisir Selatan, in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense. More specifically, the objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To find out whether Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make omission errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense.
2. To find out whether the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make misformation errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense.
3. To find out whether the Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make addition errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense.
4. To find out whether Phase E students at SMA 2 Sutera make misordering errors in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense.

1.7 The Significance of the Research

The results of this research are expected to be valuable for teachers, students, and researchers in the future.

For teachers, the findings of this study are expected to be a reference for them, to improve students' errors to write simple sentences in the simple past tense, and teachers can provide material effectively based on the curriculum and student difficulties.

For students, students know their errors in writing, especially in writing simple sentences in the simple past tense.

For future researchers, this research can also be used as a basis, information, and reference for future researchers in research on other aspects/topics.

1.8 The Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstandings in this study, the following definitions are defined:

1. **Writing** is one of the four skills in English and is important because writing can make us express anything in writing; writing can help us to have ideas after we read the information.
2. **A simple sentence** is a sentence that contains only one clause, that is, one subject and one verb phrase.
3. **Simple past tense** is tense that explains the incidents and actions that happened in the past time.
4. **Error** is a deviation from writing due to differences in the language system between the first and second languages.
5. **Omission errors** are the absences of language elements that must exist in the sentences.
6. **Addition errors** is the occurrence of elements that do not need to exist.

7. **Misformation errors** is the wrong uses of morphemes and structures where users uses one grammatical form.
8. **Misordering** is the wrong arrangement of morphemes or words in a sentence.
9. **Phase E students** are first grade students in the merdeka curriculum. Phase that is intended for grade first grade, either at SMA, SMK, or equivalent.