

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS' ABILITY IN  
DETERMINING SUBJECT, PREDICATE, AND COORDINATING  
CONJUNCTION IN COMPOUND SENTENCE AT THE ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT OF BUNG HATTA UNIVERSITY**

Thesis

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Padang, July 2017

The Researcher

## ABSTRACT

**Yusviva Sari, Melya. 2017.** An Analysis of the Second Year Students' Ability in Determining Subject, Predicate, and Coordinating Conjunction in Compound Sentence at the English Department of Bung Hatta University

Advisors : 1. Dr. Lely Refnita, M.Pd.

2. Dra. Lisa Tavriyanti, M.Pd.

The purpose of this research was to describe students' ability in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence at the English Department of Bung Hatta University.

The population of this research was the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University. The total sample members were 30 students. They were chosen by using total sampling technique. In collecting data, the researcher used structure test. To make the test reliable, the researcher used inter-rater technique. It means that there were two scorers to check students answers. It was found that the correlation coefficient was 0.99. It means that the test was reliable. Then the test was valid in terms of content validity.

The result of this research showed that the students' ability at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence in general was low. It was proved by the finding that 46.7 % students had low ability. The ability of the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining *subject* in compound sentence was low. It was proved by finding that 60 % students had low ability. The ability of the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining *predicate* in compound sentence was low. It was proved by finding that 70% students had low ability. The ability of the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining *coordinating conjunctions* in compound sentence was very good. It was proved by finding that 86.7 % students had very good ability.

Referring to the results of this research, the researcher concluded that the ability of the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence in general was low. Dealing with the conclusion, the lecturers need to improve students' ability in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunctions in compound sentence and give more explanation about compound sentence and pay attention to first clause and second clause. The students should do more exercises about how to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence, and pay attention to the English

structure material. The last, the researcher suggested other researchers study about factors that made students unable to determine subject, and predicate in compound sentence.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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

### **1.1 The Background of the Problem**

English is very important and useful for everyone in the world to make communication easier. English is one of important subjects to achieve the goal of national education. In Indonesia, English is still a foreign language and it is not often used in Indonesian daily communication. English language teaching has a special position in schools. Especially in a big city or in a town, many people learn English. English becomes a compulsory subject in junior high school.

In Indonesia, English is also taught at every level of school from junior high school until college. It is intended to make students able to communicate in English and help students to communicate in international atmosphere. English language has two parts, language skills and language components. Language skills includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Language components includes pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar.

In order to learn English well, both the language skills and language components are interrelated each other. Grammar is one of the important subjects that must be studied by the students. By learning grammar, it will help them to know the components of the sentence. Especially in learning compound sentence

it is easier for the students to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction.

Grammar is also studied at the English Department of Bung Hatta University. The grammar covers Basic Grammar, Intermediate Grammar, and Advanced Grammar. In advanced Grammar the students study about compound sentence. According to Oshima and Hogue (1998:155), compound sentence is two or more independent clauses joined together. There are three ways to joined the clauses: compound sentence with coordinators, compound sentence with conjunctive adverbs, and compound sentence with semicolons. Compound sentences with coordinators or coordinating conjunctions have seven coordinators. There are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so. They are called “FANBOYS” coordinator.

Based on the researcher’s experience studying at Bung Hatta University, some of the researcher’s friends were still confused in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence. In addition, based on the result of informal interview and discussion that the researcher did with some students of the second year students at English Department, most of them are still unable to determine the subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction. As we know compound sentence has two or more independent clauses, so compound sentences have two or more subjects and verbs. For this reason, most of students fail to determine first subject, first predicate, second subject, second predicate and the coordinator. Some students were still unable to determine

subject if the subject was in the form of clause, and to determine predicate if the predicate was in the form of “be”.

Based on the description above the researcher was interested in conducting a research entitled “The ability of the Second Year English Students’ in Determining Subject, Predicate, and Coordinating Conjunction in Compound Sentence at the English Department of Bung Hatta University”.

## **1.2 The Identification of the Problem**

In learning English, there are three language components that students learn; they are pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar. Especially in grammar, there are some kinds of sentences that we should learn. They are simple sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence, and compound-complex sentence. Simple sentence is a group of words that contains at least one subject and one verb or predicate. A simple sentence contains one independent clause. A compound sentence contains two independent clauses and it is preceded by comma. A complex sentence contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. A complex sentence will include at least one subordinating conjunction. A compound-complex sentence combines complex sentence and compound sentence forms. A compound-complex sentence contains one or more independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.

There are three kinds of compound sentences. According to Oshima and Hogue (1998:155-159), they are compound sentence with coordinators, compound sentence with conjunctive adverbs, and compound sentence with semicolons. Compound sentence with coordinators or coordinating conjunction have seven

coordinators. There are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so. They are called “FANBOYS” coordinator.

Related to compound sentence, the students should learn the components of each clause and coordinating conjunction. Based on the interview conducted four months ago, toward the second year English students at Bung Hatta University and researcher’s friends, it can be identified that there are some problems found by the second year English students at Bung Hatta University and researcher’s friends. First, some of the the researcher’s friends were still confused to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence. Second, based on the result of informal interview and discussion that the researcher did with some students of the second year students at English Department, most of them were still unable to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction. Some of students were still unable to determine subject in form of clause, and to determine predicate if the predicate in the form of tobe “be”.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University do not have good ability to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence.

### **1.3 The Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the indentification above, the researcher limited her analysis on the second year students’ ability in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence at the English Department of

Bung Hatta University. The researcher focused on the students' ability to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction.

#### **1.4 The Formulation of the Problem**

Dealing with the limitation above, the researcher formulated the problem as follow; "How is the second year students' ability in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction at the English Department of Bung Hatta University?"

#### **1.5 Research Questions**

The research questions are formulated as follows:

1. How is the second year students' ability to determine subject in compound sentence?
2. How is the second year students' ability to determine predicate in compound sentence?
3. How is the second year students' ability to determine coordinating conjunction in compound sentence?

#### **1.6 The Purposes of the Research**

In general, the purpose of this research was to describe the ability of the second year students of English Department Bung Hatta University to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in a sentence. Specifically, the specific purposes of this research are:

1. To find out the second year students' ability to determine subject in compound sentence.
2. To find out the second year students' ability to determine predicate in compound sentence.
3. To find out the second year students' ability to determine coordinating conjunction in compound sentence.

### **1.7 The Significance of the Research**

The findings of this research are expected to give a contribution to the lecturers, the students, and the researcher. For the the lecturers, they know the students' ability to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compounds sentence. For the students, they will know more about their own structure ability to determine subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction. This research is also useful to increase researcher's knowledge in doing research in the future.

### **1.8 The Definition of Key Terms**

There are some terms in this research that should be clarified in order to avoid misunderstanding. The terms can be seen as follows:

1. Ability is the ability of the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University in determining subject, predicate, and coordinating conjunction in compound sentence.
2. Subject is usually a noun, a word that names a person, place, or thing.

3. Predicate is syntactical name marking/ identifying the verb used to express the action or that state of the subject. The predicate contains information about someone or something that is the subject. The verb or predicate usually follows the subject and identifies an action.
4. A compound sentence is two or more independent clauses joined together in any one of the three ways.
5. Coordinating Conjunction is the connection to sentence. They are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.