

ABSTRACT

Khalel, A., F. 2020. *An Analysis of the Third Year Students' Difficulties to Use Expressions of Quantity in Writing Positive Simple Sentences at the English Department of Bung Hatta University*

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The purpose of this research was to describe the third year students' difficulties to use expressions of quantity in writing positive simple sentences at the English Department of Bung Hatta University. Descriptive method was used as the design of this research. the population of this research was the third year students at the English Department of Bung Hatta University who registered in the academic year 2020/2021. The researcher used total sampling technique to select the sample, and the number of sample was 26 students. Instrument for collecting the data in this research was writing test in the form of writing sentences. To make the test reliable the researcher used inter-rater technique. The result of analysis showed that the test was reliable. It was supported by the fact that the coefficient correlation is 0.88. It was categorized as very high correlation. Then the test was valid in terms of content because it had covered all materials that students had learnt.

Generally, the students had difficulties in writing positive simple sentences by using expressions of quantity (both, a couple of, several, a number of). It was supported by the fact that 19 students (73,08%) had difficulties to write positive simple sentences by using expressions of quantity (both, a couple of, several, a number of). In detail, 13 students (50%) were found to have difficulties to write positive simple sentences by using both, 15 students (57,69%) were found to have difficulties to write simple positive statements by using a couple of, 16 students (61,54%) were found to have difficulties to write positive simple sentences by using several, 17 students (65,38%) were found to have difficulties to write positive simple sentences by using a number of. The students still had difficulties to distinguish the use of the expressions of quantity in writing simple sentences.

By having known that the students had difficulties to use expressions of quantity in writing simple sentences, the researcher gave suggestions to lecturers, students, and the future researchers. The lecturers are suggested to give more explanation about grammar especially in writing positive simple sentences and the use of expressions of quantity. The students are suggested to do more exercises to write positive simple sentences by using expressions of quantity. The future researchers are suggested to study the expression of quantity in writing negative, interrogative, or WH questions.