THESIS

A STUDY ON GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN STUDENTS' DESCRIPTIVE WRITINGS



MODESTA FEMILIA MOA REG. NO. 12116035

ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES FACULTY
WIDYA MANDIRA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
2021

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Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Education

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MOTTO

"If you can't fly, then run
If you can't run, then walk
If you can't walk, then crawl
But whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward"

-Marthin Luther-

DEDICATION

This thesis is particularly dedicated to my beloved:

- 1. Father, Fransiskus
- 2. Mother, Bernadeta
- 3. Sister, Fresty
- 4. Almamater Widya Mandira Catholic University

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Kupang, December 2021

The Writer

ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled "A Study on Grammatical Errors in Students' Descriptive Writings". It was conducted to answer the following questions: (1) What are the kinds of grammatical errors made by the students of SMPN 2 Bola- Sikka in writing a descriptive text(2) What is the most dominant kind of error made by students of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka in writing a descriptive text? Based on the problems stated above, the objectives of the study were as follows: (1) To find out the kinds of grammatical errors made by the students of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka in writing a descriptive text. (2) To find out the most dominant kind of error made by the students of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka in writing a descriptive text. The subjects of this study were the eighth grade students of SMPN 2 Bola especially VIII A. There are 23 students in that class but the writer only chose 12 students which taken randomly by using whatsapp application. The method applied in this study was descriptive method and the instrument used was writing task. The students were given chance to write a descriptive text based on the topic chosen. The taxonomy used by the writer in analyzing the data was surface strategy taxonomy, consisting of omission, addition, misformation, and misordering. The result of the analysis showed that: (1) The errors committed by the eighth grade students especially VIII A of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka were omission 35 (43. 75%), addition 13 (16. 25%), misformation 27 (33. 75%), and misordering 5 (6. 25%). The total number of error was 80, (2) The most frequent error was omission. Based on the result of this study, the following were the suggestions for the teachers in general especially of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka, the writer, and the students of SMPN 2 Bola-Sikka. (1) The teacher should teach the students how to write a good text especially in writing descriptive text and give the students chance to practice it. So the students should not only focus on the generic structure of descriptive text but also on grammar, (2) The writer, as a prospective teacher should know kinds of text of English and their function and generic structure. As a prospective teacher, the writer should build her knowledge and develop both the writing skills and grammar aspect in English, (3) The students have to learn more on how to write a good descriptive text by concerning the grammatical aspects regarding tenses, verb, noun and preposition. The students should not only focus on the generic structure of descriptive text but also focus on grammar.

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