THESIS

AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION

(A Case Study on the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA N 4 Kupang in the School Year 2014/2015)



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WIDYA MANDIRA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
2014

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"Be a strong wall in the hard times and

Be a smiling sun in the good times"

(Rambu Sede)

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ABSTRACT

This study is entitled" AN ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION (A case study at the eleventh grade students of SMA N 4 Kupang in the School Year 2014 / 2015). It aims at answering the following questions (1) what are the kinds of grammatical errors in English conversation made by the eleventh grade students of SMA N 4 Kupang in the school year 2014/2015? (2) What are the most grammatical errors occurred in the English conversation made by the eleventh grade students of SMA N 4 Kupang in the school year 2014/2015? The method of analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. The study was conducted at SMA N 4 Kupang. The subject of this study is the eleventh grade students. In collecting the data, the students were give chance to choose their own topics to talk to their partner. The conversations were recorded using MP3 audio recorder. Then the data were analyzed by using the linguistic category taxonomy. From the data analysis, it is obtained the following conclusions: (1) The kinds of grammatical errors in the conversation are: morphological and syntactical errors. (2) The most grammatical errors in the conversation are: (a) Syntactical errors consist of 53 errors or 74.65% which are predominated Verb Phrase: 21 errors or 29.50%, and followed by Noun Phrase: 18 errors or 25.35%, Miscellaneous: 7 errors or 9.86%, Verb-and-Verb Construction: 4 errors or 5.63%, and the last is Transformation 3 errors or 4.23%. Noun Phrase is predominated by pronoun 7 errors or 9.86%, and followed by proposition: 5 errors or 7.04% and determiner 2 errors or 2.82%. Verb phrase is predominated by simple past tense: 9 errors or 12.68% and followed by simple future tense: 4 errors or 5.63%, simple present tense: 2 errors or 2.82%, present perfect tense: 2 errors or 2.82%, disagreement of subject and tense: 2 errors or 2.82%, disagreement of subject and number: 2 errors or 2.82%. Verb-and-Verb Construction has 4 errors or 5.63%. Transformations are negative transformation: 1 error or 1.41%, question transformation: 1 error or 1.41%, and passive transformation 1 error or 1.41%. Miscellaneous is predominated by word order: 4 errors or 5.63%, and followed by conjunction: 2 errors or 2.82%, and fragment: 1 error or 1.41%. (b) Morphological errors consist of 18 errors or 25.35% which are predominated by basic verb: 8 errors or 11.27%, and followed past participle: 3 errors or 4.23%, simple present tense: 2 errors or 2.82%, noun: 2 errors or 2.82, possessive case: 1 error or 1.41% and third person singular: 1 error or 1.41%. (3) Some errors types found in Politzer and Ramirez's, however, do not exist in this study, such as, Comparative incorrect, Nominalization, and there transformation. On the other hand, some errors types found in this study do not occur in the guideline classification, such as errors in infinitive present prefect, basic or common verb, simple future, modal auxiliary, and passive transformation. Based on the result above, the writer offers some suggestions: (1) The student of SMA N 4 Kupang should pay attention to the rules of grammar in their conversation, because the grammatical rules of a language pay an important role to convey and receive the message. (2) The English Teachers of SMA N 4 Kupang should help the student to see and avoid making the same types errors in their grammatical performance.

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