ANALYSIS OF TYPES OF SENTENCES
IN STUDENTS' DESCRIPTIVE WRITINGS

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ABSTRAK

Studi ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis kalimat dan jenis kalimat yang sering digunakan oleh mahasiswa dalam menulis paragraf deskripsi.Data studi ini diambil dari mahasiswa semester 2 progam Dual-Degree STIKOM Bali dalam kuliah Bahasa Inggris II. Teori yang digunakan dalam studi ini adalah teori English Grammar, Tipe-tipe kalimat, dan teori Writing. Terdapat sepuluh data tulisan mahasiswa yang dianalisis yang diperoleh dengan metode pengumpulan data dokumentasi. Berdasarkan hasil studi ini, terdapat dua karangan mahasiswa yang menggunakan dua jenis kalimat yaitu; Simple Sentence, dan Compound Sentence. Selain itu, terdapat lima karangan mahasiswa yang menggunakan tiga jenis kalimat yaitu; Simple Sentence, Compound Sentence, dan Complex Sentence. Hanya tiga karangan mahasiswa yang menggunakan empat jenis kalimat yaitu; Simple Sentence, Compound Sentence, Complex Sentence, dan Compound-Complex Sentence.Terdapat 151 kalimat dalam karangan deskriptif mahasiswa. Jumlah Simple Sentence sebanyak 107 kalimat, Compound Sentence sebanyak 18 kalimat, Complex Sentence sebanyak 22 kalimat, dan Compound-Complex Sentence hanya 4 kalimat. Jumlah jenis kalimat yang paling banyak adalah Simple Sentence, kemudian diikuti oleh Compound Sentence, kemudian Complex Sentence, dan terakhir Compound-Complex Sentence. Dengan demikian, jenis kalimat Simple Sentence paling banyak digunakan oleh mahasiswa dalam karangan deskripsi. Hasil studi ini diharapkan dapat digunakan sebagai referensi pada penelitian selanjutnya pada topik yang sama.

Keywords: karangan, paragraf deskripsi, jenis kalimat

I. Introduction

English is an international language which is used by people in many countries around the world. Since this language is spoken in many countries, then it is necessarily taught to the students starting from elementary school until high school education in Indonesia. The purpose of teaching this language is to help students to find jobs when they finish their study, since mastering English is part of the minimum requirement in applying for a job.

Since this research is about English language to be mastered by the students, it is better to know how many skills the learners should learn to master the language appropriately. There are generally four skills to be trained to master English language. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Since English has its standard of pronunciation which can be different from its writing system, then this skill could be a problem for the Indonesian students. As well as speaking skills, the students have to learn the English phonetic symbols to be able to speak using the correct pronunciation. However, the highest and the most difficult skill is the writing skill. In writing, the students have to think about the diction, the theme, grammar, and etc. According to Quirk (1985: 37-47), "Grammar is a complex system, the parts of which cannot be properly explained in abstraction from the whole. In this sense, all parts of grammar are mutually defining, and there is no simple linear path we can take in explaining one part in terms of another". He also states that "It is usually assumed that the sentence is the highest-ranking unit of grammar, and hence that the purpose of a grammatical description of English is to define, by means of whatever descriptive apparatus may be necessary (rules, categories, etc.), what counts as a grammatical sentence in English. It seems that grammar is the most important thing that the learner has to understand because it will reflect the meaning of the writing. That is why, there are many students facing many problems and frequently making error particularly in writing. Types of sentences that the students use in their writing is also important to analyze to see their ability in constructing sentences. According to Rozakis (2003), to be a sentence, a

group of words should represent the three main components of the sentence each with its characteristics. A sentence must have a subject, a predicate and a complement or object. A subject and a predicate should express complete idea. According to Rozakis (2003), there are four types of sentences in English: (1) simple, (2) compound, (3) complex, and (4) compound-complex.

Therefore, this study was focused on the descriptive writing of the students to identify the types of sentences that they used in their writing. Based on the ideas in the background above, in learning the target language (i.e. English), there tend to be some problems for the learners, particularly in doing an English writing task. There were two problems discussed in this study that can be formulated as follow:
1. What are the types of sentences used by students in their descriptive writings?
2. What is the most common type of sentences used by the students in their descriptive writings?

II. Materials and Research Method
2.1 Data Presentation
The students are assigned with a descriptive writing task. There are 10 writings by 10 students analyzed in this paper, focusing the analysis and discussion particularly on the types and the most common type of sentence structures used by the students in their descriptive writings.

Data 1
In this writing, there are three types of sentences used by the student. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 8 sentences of the three types. Most of them are complex sentences, followed then by simple sentences. Only 1 type of compound sentence is found in the first paragraph. Paragraph 2 consists of 7 sentences of the three types. Most of them are simple sentences, followed then by complex sentences. The last sentence is a compound sentence.

Data 2
There are two paragraphs in this student's' descriptive writing. This student used 3 types of sentences in his writings. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 10 sentences. The type of sentences mostly used by the student in this writing are simple sentences, followed then by compound sentences, and then complex sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 11 sentences. Most of the sentence types used in this paragraph are simple sentences, followed then by compound and complex sentences.

Data 3
There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 3 types of sentences in this writing. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 13 sentences. All the sentences in paragraph 1 are simple sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 3 sentences. Each sentence is of different type from each other; there is one simple sentence, one compound sentence, and one complex sentence.

Data 4
There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 2 types of sentences in this writing they are simple sentences, and compound sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 8 sentences. All of the sentences in this paragraph are of simple type. Paragraph 2 consists of 3 sentences. They consist of 2 simple sentences and 1 compound sentence.

Data 5
There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 3 types of sentences in this writing. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 7 sentences. The types of sentences mostly used by the student in this paragraph are simple sentences, compound sentences, and then followed by complex sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 6 sentences. Most of the sentences used in this paragraph are simple sentences, and then followed by complex sentences.

Data 6

There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 4 types of sentences in this writing. Paragraph 1 consists of 11 sentences. The most type of sentences used by the student in this writing are simple sentences, and then followed by compound sentences and compound-complex sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 6 sentences. The types of sentences that are used in this paragraph are simple sentences, and complex sentences.

Data 7

There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 2 types of sentences in this writing. They are simple sentences, and compound sentences. Paragraph 1 consists of 7 sentences. The types mostly used by the student in this writing are simple sentences, followed then by compound sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 3 sentences. Most of the sentence types being used in this paragraph are simple sentences, and then followed by compound sentences.

Data 8

There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 4 types of sentences in this writing. Paragraph 1 consists of 7 sentences. The types of sentences mostly used by the student in this paragraph are simple sentences, and then followed by complex sentences. Paragraph 2 consists of 8 sentences. Most of the sentence types being used in this paragraph are simple sentences, and then followed by compound and compound-complex sentences; and the last type is complex sentence.

Data 9

There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The student used 4 types of sentences in this writing. The number of sentences in the first paragraph is less than those in the second paragraph. Paragraph 1 consists of 7 sentences, while the second paragraph consists of 12 sentences. The most type of sentences used in the first paragraph are simple sentences and then followed by compound-complex type of sentences. In the second paragraph, the most type of sentences being used are simple sentences, and then followed by complex sentences, while the last is compound sentence.
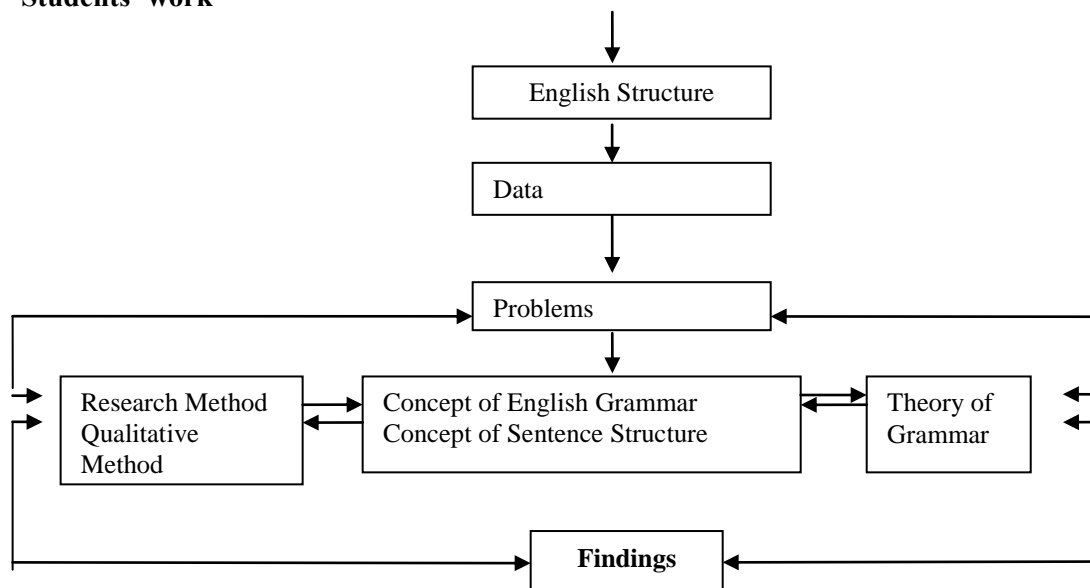
Data 10

There are two paragraphs in this student's descriptive writing. The number of the sentences of the first paragraph is less than that in the second paragraph. The first paragraph consists of 9 sentences, while the second paragraph consists of 11 sentences. The student used 3 types of sentences in this writing. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. In the first paragraph, the most type of sentences being used are simple sentences and then followed by complex sentences. In the second paragraph, the most type of sentences being used are simple sentences and the followed by compound sentences.

2.2 Research Method
2.2.1 Research Design

Since this study is to identify the types of sentences and the common types of sentences in the students' writings, this study is then recognized as an experimental study. This study applied the quantitative and qualitative methods. Bogdan and Taylor (Moleong, 2007:3) mention that qualitative methodology is a research procedure that produces descriptive oral or written data from the people and their attitude and performance under observation. In this study, the quantitative method was used to analyze the language errors in the students' writings, which are presented in the form of table. The qualitative method was used to give the qualitative description of the errors presented in the table. The research procedure is presented in the form of the following research model:

Students' work

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                              ↓
                   ┌──────────────────────┐
                   │  English Structure   │
                   └──────────────────────┘
                              ↓
                   ┌──────────────────────┐
                   │        Data          │
                   └──────────────────────┘
                              ↓
                   ┌──────────────────────┐
         ┌────────→│      Problems        │←────────┐
         │         └──────────────────────┘         │
         │ ┌──────────┐    ↓                 ┌──────┐│
    →┌────────────┐ →┌───────────────────┐ ↔┌────────────┐←
     │ Research   │  │ Concept of English │  │ Theory of  │ ←
     │ Method     │↔ │ Grammar            │  │ Grammar    │
     │ Qualitative│  │ Concept of Sentence│  │            │
     │ Method     │  │ Structure          │  │            │
     └────────────┘  └───────────────────┘  └────────────┘
         │              ┌──────────────┐         │
         └─────────────→│   Findings   │←────────┘
                        └──────────────┘
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2.2.2 Data Source

Data source is the subject from which the data is taken. The data source in this study is one for obtaining primary data, which have been directly obtained from the writings made under the writing assignment by the semester-1 students of the 2014 intake in the International Program of STIKOM Bali. The total number of students for this batch is 20. Sampling technique was used in this study. From the 20 students assigned with the writing task, only 10 writings were included in the analysis of thisstudy. This number has already been presented above focusing on the types of sentences that the students used in their descriptive writings.

2.2.3 Method and Technique of Collecting Data

In this study, the method of documentation was used in collecting the data. The technique of taking notes was used in analyzing the types of sentences in the students' descriptive writings in order to find the commonly used types of sentences in their writings. The recoded data was classified based on the types of sentences and presented in the table.

2.2.4Technique of Analyzing Data

The steps of the data analysis were as follows. Firstly, the students' writing assignments were observed to identify the sentences being used. Secondly, the sentences were classified according to their types. Thirdly, from the classification of the sentences could be determined the common types of sentences that the students used in their writings.

III. Result and Discussion
3.1 Result

There were ten data as already presented above. Based on the presentation of the data above, there were found four types of sentences that were usually used by the students in their descriptive writings.

1. **Types of Sentences Used by the Students in Descriptive Writings**
   a) **Paragraph 1**

   The table below shows the types of sentences and their respective numbers used by the students in the first paragraphs of their descriptive writings.

Student Number	Simple Sentence	Compound Sentence	Complex Sentence	Compound-Complex Sentence
1	3	1	4	0

2	6	3	1	0
3	13	0	0	0
4	8	0	0	0
5	3	3	1	0
6	9	1	0	1
7	6	1	0	0
8	6	0	1	0
9	6	0	0	1
10	5	0	4	0
TOTAL	**65**	**9**	**11**	**2**

b) Paragraph 2

The following table shows the types of sentences and the number of respective types used in paragraphs 2 of the students' descriptive writings.

Student Number	Simple Sentence	Compound Sentence	Complex sentence	Compound-Complex Sentence
1	4	1	2	0
2	9	1	1	0
3	1	1	1	0
4	2	1	0	0
5	4	0	2	0
6	3	0	3	0
7	2	1	0	0
8	3	2	1	2
9	6	1	1	0
10	8	1	0	0
TOTAL	**42**	**9**	**11**	**2**

As shown in the table above, in the first paragraphs of the students' descriptive writings, they used simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, as well as compound-complex sentences. The number of each type of sentences is different. There are 65 simple sentences, 9 compound sentences, 11 complex sentences, and 2 compound-complex sentences.

In the second paragraph, the students also used four types of sentences. There are 42 simple sentences, 9 compound sentences, 11 complex sentences, and 2 compound-complex sentences.

2. Type of Sentence is most Commonly Used by the Students

The following table shows the numbers of simple senten ces, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound complex sentences used by the students in their descriptive writings.

Simple Sentence	Compound Sentence	Complex sentence	Compound-Complex Sentence
107	18	22	4

The table above shows the type of sentences that is most commonly used by the students in their descriptive writings. Simple Sentences are most commonly used, and then followed by Complex Sentences, Compound Sentences, and Compound-Complex Sentences. Those numbers are the total numbers of types of sentences used in the students' first and second paragraphs.

3.2 Research Discussion

Based on the above findings, it is necessary to discuss the types of sentences being used by he students in their descriptive writings. The first discussion is on the types of sentences, and the second discussion on the type of sentences commonly used by the students.

3.2.1 Types of Sentences

According to the finding on the types of sentences used by the students in their descriptive writing, there are four types under use. They are simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound-complex sentences. Each of the students' writings consists of two paragraphs. In the first paragraph they explained about technology and its definition, while in the second paragraph, they explained about the example of the technology development in details.

The number of the sentences used in the first paragraphs of the students' descriptive writings is 87 sentences. While the number of the sentences used in the second paragraph of the students' descriptive writings is 64, which is less than the number used in the first paragraph. It can be concluded that the students found it easier in presenting the general definition of technology than explaining the specific details of technology in paragraph 2.

Student number 9 used 21 sentences in this descriptive writing, then followed by the student number 10 using 20 sentences, student number 6 using 17 sentences, student number 3 using 16 sentences, students number 1, 8, and 9 using 15 sentences, student number 5 using 13 sentences, student number 4 using 11 sentences, and the last is student number 7 using only 10 sentences.

Most of their writings used only three types of sentences, namely are simple sentences, compound sentences, and complex sentences. Only 3 students' writings used four types of sentences, namely simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences, and compound-complex sentences.

3.2.2 Types of Sentences Most Commonly Used by the Students

Pertaining to the types of sentences used in the students' descriptive writings, it is found that the type which is most commonly used by the students is the Simple Sentence. The simple sentences are found in both paragraphs 1 and 2. In paragraph 1, 65 simple sentences are found, while in paragraph 2 the number of simple sentences in use is 42. Coming next in numbers are complex sentences, which are 22 sentences, and then the compound sentences. The sentences smallest in number used by the students are the compound-complex sentences, which is only 4 sentences.

In the first paragraph of the students' writings, particularly with the students numbers 3 and 4 in the student list, simple sentences are the only type being used in their paragraphs. It seems that the students found it easy in constructing simple sentences in their writings, particularly in descriptive writing. They used simple sentences in describing and defining the development of technology. There are two students using two types of sentences; Simple Sentences and Compound Sentences, five students using three types of sentences; Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences, and Complex Sentences, and only three students using the four types of sentences under observation in this study.

IV. Conclusion

Based on the two problems under concern in the study, the aims of this study are to identify the types of sentences used in the students' descriptive writings and to find out the types of sentences most commonly used by the students in their writings.

The result of the study shows that there are four types of sentences found in the students' descriptive writings. They are Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences, Complex Sentences, and Compound-Complex Sentences. From the 10 samples of the students' writings under study there are 5 writings employing three types of sentences, namely Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences, and Complex Sentences; 2 students used only 2 types of sentences, namely Simple Sentences and Compound Sentences; and the rest (3 writings) used the four types of sentences, namely Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences, Complex Sentences, and Compound-Complex Sentences.

Based on the total data under analysis, there are 151 sentences in the students' descriptive writings. The total number of Simple Sentences being used is 107 sentences, that of Compound Sentences is 18 sentences, that of Complex Sentence is 22, and that of Compound-Complex Sentence is 4 sentences. The highest number is that of Simple Sentences, followed then by Complex Sentences, Compound Sentences, and lastly by Compound-Complex Sentences.

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