

**A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON THE ABILITY IN IDENTIFYING
REFERENT USED IN READING PASSAGES AT THE SECOND YEAR
STUDENTS OF MAN KLATEN**



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by

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This research is about the student ability in identifying referents. The objective of this study is to describe the student's ability in identifying referents used in reading passages at the second year students of MAN KLATEN.

The writer uses descriptive method to present the data. The data of this research is in the form of students' answer. The data is collected by test. The test is used to get the description about students' ability in identifying referents used in reading passages. The test is in the form of completion test. In analyzing the data, the writer uses numerical devices and category system.

The result of this research shows that the students' ability in identifying referents used in reading passages is 50,47%. This belongs to fair level. The analysis of each pronoun categories are; 56,78 % for personal pronoun, 59,52% for possessive pronoun, 50% for reflexive, 48,21% for relative pronoun, and 47,95% for demonstrative pronoun. All of those percentages refer to fair levels. However, indefinite pronoun belongs to different level that is poor level with the percentage 37,85%. The conclusion that can be drawn from this research is that the ability of the second year students of MAN KLATEN in identifying referent used in reading passages is average to fair.

Key word: Students' ability, Pronoun referent.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Language is an important thing in human life. People can communicate with others by using language. People can express their emotions, ideas, and thoughts by language. They can build relationship among people in the world to improve all aspects in their lives. Therefore, they need one language as an international language for communication that is English.

English is the most widely language used in many affairs, such as business, politics, education, science, and technology. Due to the important role of English in all affairs, English is taught and learnt in non English speaking countries, including Indonesia. In Indonesia, English is the first foreign language. It is taught and learnt not only as one school subject but also as an instrument to reach a purpose that is gaining Science and technology, which are mostly written in English

In studying English, we should remember that there are four basic language skills. There are listening, reading, speaking, and writing. In language mastery, grammar plays an important role that can not be ignored as grammar will always exist in the four language skills. In addition, the four language skills are necessary to be supported by grammatically correctness. Consequently, in order to be able to produce good four language skills, a learner must have an adequate grammatical ability.

However, the understanding of English as a foreign language is different from that of our native language, Indonesian. One of the differences is grammar, especially in using referent.

Referent is a relationship which is hold, between expression and entities, properties, or situations in the out side world (Lyon, 1997:168). In English, as in the other languages, it would be clumsy and boring to repeat the same word or phrase every time you use it. Instead of repeating the same word or phrase several times after it has been used, we can usually refer to it rather than repeat it. For this purpose, we use referent words (King & Stanley, 1983:330).

Based on the reason above, the writer is interested in conducting a research entitled: **A Descriptive Study on the Ability in Identifying Referent Used in Reading Passages at the Second Year Students of MAN KLATEN.**

B. Previous Study

There are some researchers who have conducted the study about student ability, but with different object. One of them is Slamet Riyadi (2005) who has conducted the research entitled “An Analysis on the Ability in Using Pronouns at the Second Year Students of SMK Muhammadiyah I Baturetno Wonogiri”. From his research, he concludes that the ability of the second year students of SMK Muhammadiyah I Baturetno Wonogiri in using pronoun belongs to fair category. Among the seven types of pronouns, only interrogative pronoun is mastered by the students. All of the students are able to use interrogative pronoun correctly.

The other researcher is Fitriatika Nurul Zurida. Her research is entitled “A Descriptive Study on the Tenses Mastery of the Second Semester Students of English Departement of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta in 2005/2006 Academic Year”. Based on the result of her research, the percentage of the

students' mastery in using tenses is 40.05%. This means that the student mastery in using tenses is bad.

In this research, the writer would describe the ability in identifying referent used in reading passages at the second year students of MAN KLATEN.

C. Problem of Study

Based on the background of the study, the problem statement is
“How is the students' ability in identifying referent used in reading passages?”

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem of the study above, the objective of the study is to describe the students' ability in identifying referent used in reading passages.

E. Limitation of the Study

In conducting this research, the writer needs to limit the scope of study. This study describes how is the students' ability in identifying referent used in reading passages. The writer limits the study on personal, possessive, relative, reflexive, demonstrative and indefinite pronoun.

F. Benefit of the Study

By doing this research, there are some benefits that can be gained. It has two major of benefit, namely practical and theoretical benefit.

1. Practical Benefit

This study has some practical benefits. Those practical benefits are the student will know their ability in identifying referent used in reading passages, the reader will get more knowledge about pronoun referents and give useful feedback to English teacher.

2. Theoretical Benefit

This study will enrich the theory of English language teaching especially in teaching pronoun referents.

G. Research Paper Outline

This research consists of five chapters. The first is introduction, which consists of the background of study, problem of study, objective of study, limitation of study, benefit of study, and research paper organization.

The second chapter is the review of related literature, which consists of reference, referent word, pronoun, and cohesion referent. The third chapter is research method, which covers the type of the study, object of the study, subject of the study, method of collecting data and technique of analyzing data. The fourth chapter consists of research finding and discussion. In this chapter, the writer presents research finding and discussion of the finding. The fifth chapter presents conclusion and suggestion. The writer draws the conclusion and proposes suggestion taken from the result of the research.