

**AN ERROR ANALYSIS OF PREPOSITION USED
BY THE SECOND YEAR STUDENT OF SMP 9 PEKALONGAN
IN 2006/2007 ACADEMIC YEAR**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language and human beings are two unseparated components. Human life perpetually can run well because they use language to communicate something one another. English is one of the languages used in a variety of business, politics, science, medicine, education, and other fields of life. We know if English is an international language which many people in many countries use that to communicate with the other people from many other countries. The role of English in the development of these fields is undoubtedly very important. And for this reason, English is the foreign language taught in many countries all over the world and becomes their second language.

Nowadays, most of the world affairs such as education, economics, sport, science, medicine and security use English. That's why, Indonesian students have to make English as compulsory subject taught at school, institute, college and university. It is a foreign language for Indonesian students that must be mastered. The teaching of English as a foreign language for Indonesian students takes rather differently from the teaching of Indonesian as a mother tongue. It is because students to some extent have special concept of their native language that is different from the English. In facts, many students in Indonesia can only use English passively not orally.

Recently, in this year our government has a plan to use English in daily learning process (except Indonesian language) to teach some senior high school in center of java and other region in Indonesia. The latest the government also has given the lesson of English at the elementary school. From that, we know if our government knows how important the English languages for the student to face up the global era.

Children who are studying their mother tongue have not barriers. Their mind is empty of formulation of any languages. But for students who are studying a foreign language, their minds are full of other language, the concept of which does not appear to be adequate for this new language. They have to learn, for all of the similarities of the languages. The native language and the new one have many differences in sound, writing system and structure.

In English language, many prepositions are used in some sentences and they have the similar meanings in Indonesia.

Since the problem of these sentences and notices how completely different the meanings of the sentences are:

1. My friend met *in* Paris.

(In indicates a place)

2. My Teacher lives *on* jalan Kunti.

(On indicates a place)

3. She lives *at* 19 Manila streets.

(At indicates a place)

4. I saw him *on* Saturday. (Correct)
I saw him *in* Saturday. (Incorrect)
(On used with a day of the week)
5. I saw him *on* September 16. (Correct)
I saw him *in* September 16. (Incorrect)
(On used with a day of the month)
6. A glass of coffee *on* the table (Correct)
A glass of coffee *in* the table (Incorrect)
(On indicates the surface of something).
7. I saw him *in* September. (Correct)
I saw him *on* September. (Incorrect)
(In used with a month)
8. I saw him *at* night. (Correct)
I saw him *on* night. (Incorrect)
(At used with a part of the day considered as a point).

From those sentences, some of the students are unable or confused to choose and use the right preposition in the sentences. English has some prepositions that refer to position meaning, that if they are translated into Indonesia, they have the same meaning. Besides that, each of prepositions has a various meaning and usages that make the teacher get difficulties to explain or teach. It is also impossible for students to learn a foreign language without making a mistake or errors. Because in learning foreign language, making errors is common, acceptable, and important part in order to the teacher

improves the teaching method and the learners getting feedback of the acquisition.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in observing the kinds of errors made by the learners in constructing the sentence using prepositions. The problems faced by students in learning preposition, and also the problems that the teacher faces in teaching them. That is the reason why the writer intends to write briefly about prepositions.

The writer chooses this title for his paper in the hope that it can help the teachers of English in teaching preposition and for the students of Junior High School or SMP in learning preposition.

B. Problem Statement

In line with the background, the writer formulates the problems as follows.

1. What kinds of error on the use of preposition by the second year students of SMP 9 Pekalongan?"
2. What is the dominant error made by the second year students of SMP 9 Pekalongan?"

C. Objectives of the Study

This study is intended to find out:

1. To identify the kinds of error made by the learners in the use of preposition
2. To know the dominant error made by the learners.

D. Benefits of the Study

The result of the research is expected to give theoretical and practical benefits.

1. Theoretical Benefit
 - a. The findings of this study are expected to improve the students using the preposition correctly and enrich the theory of teaching English to the secondary students.
 - b. The findings of this study are expected to help English teachers to improve their teaching skills using the right method.
 - c. To give contribution to the development of literary studies in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta especially for English Department.
2. Practical Benefit

The writer hopes that the result of the experiment will be useful for teachers and readers who are analyzing teaching English to the secondary students.

E. Research paper organization

The writer organizes this research paper in order to make easier to understand. The research paper consists of five chapters, there are described as follows.

In the first chapter, the writer presents the background of study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefits of the study, and research paper organization.

In the second chapter the writer presents theoretical foundation covering; notion of preposition, kinds of preposition, and error analysis.

In the third chapter the writer discusses or explains about type of research, subject of the study, data and source data, technique of collecting the data, and the technique of data analysis.

In the fourth chapter the writer presents the data analysis of error made in the use of preposition by the second year students of SMP 9 Pekalongan and discussion of the findings.

The last chapter, the writer concludes the findings and gave some suggestions for further study.