

An Analysis of the First Year Students` Ability of SMA Kartika 1.5 Padang in Using Adverbs in Writing News Item Text.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to describe the ability of the first year students of SMA Kartika 1.5 Padang in using adverbs in writing news item text. The design of this research was descriptive. The number of population members of this research was 240 students. They were divided into eight classes; X1, X2, X3, X4, X5, X6, X7, X8. The research used cluster random sampling technique to choose the sample, and the sample of this research was students in class X3, and the number of sample was 31 students. The instrument used to get the data was writing test. The researcher found out the reliability of the try out test. It was found that the reliability index of the try out test was very high (0.92). It means that the instrument is reliable. The data of the research were students` score of SMA Kartika 1.5 Padang in using adverbs in writing news item text. Generally, the result of the data analysis of writing test showed that 18 students (58%) had moderate ability in using adverbs in writing new item text. Specifically, from data analysis of writing test, there were 24 students (77%) who had moderate ability in using adverb of time in writing news item text, and 18 students (58%) who had moderate ability in using adverb of place in writing news item text. It can be concluded that the students` ability of SMA Kartika 1.5 Padang in using adverbs in writing news item text was moderate.

Key Words: Ability, Adverbs, Adverb of time, Adverb of place, News Item

INTRODUCTION

English is widely used as an international language. It is also an important tool to do communication among countries in the world. It is an important subject at school, beginning from junior high school until university level. As an important subject at school, English is expected to be mastered by the students. Alderson and Bachman (2002:14) state that there are four skills in English that should be mastered. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing is an essential form of communication that is used to communicate indirectly. Students can express their ideas or experiences in kind of text, paragraph or essay.

Writing is the most difficult subject to be mastered by the students. Writing is more difficult than speaking, especially for the language learner. In speaking or doing verbal communication, the people can use expression, gesture and mimic to help speakers deliver message to the listeners.

On the other hand, in writing all of them cannot be used because the writer should consider several elements of writing such as content, form, grammar etc.

In writing, the students have to focus on grammar, vocabulary, content, diction (choice of words), spelling, punctuation and capitalization, mechanic. All of them are essential aspects in producing a good writing. According to Savage (1985:2), writing is the process of selecting, combining, arranging, expressing, and developing ideas in effective sentences, text or paragraph.

Based on the researcher's experience, when taking practice teaching at SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang, the researcher found that many students had problems in writing news item text. The problems are about generic structure, language feature in using simple past tense, action verb and adverb of time/ adverb of place. In addition, based on the informal interview between the researcher

and Mrs. WahyuElfiatni (the English teacher of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang), the students had problems when they used adverbs in the text, especially adverb of time and adverb of place in news item text.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested to conduct a research entitled “An Analysis of the FirstYear Students’ Ability of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang in Using Adverbs in Writing News Item Text”.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research was aimed to describe the students’ ability to use adverbs in writing news item text. Therefore, the researcher used descriptive method as the design of this research. According to Gay (1987: 189), the descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypotheses or to answer questions concerning the current status of the study. Furthermore, Gay (1987:189) states that in investigating many kinds of educational problem, descriptive research is useful.

The population of this research was the first year students of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang who have learned about news item text. The number of population

was 240 students and they were distributed into eight classes. The researcher chose them as the subject of the research because they had learned news item text.

The researcher used cluster random sampling because they had same materials in syllabus and same period of time in learning English subject. It meant their characteristic were the same.

To choose the sample, the researcher chose it randomly. The researcher wrote the name of each class in eight pieces of paper and put them in the box. Then the researcher took a piece of paper that was mixed up with closing eyes. The selected class was X.1 as try out class and X.3 as real test class.

The instrument that was used by the researcher to collect data was writing test. The researcher asked the students to write news item text by using adverbs. The students were given the instruction by the researcher to write news item text. The researcher gave some topics that can be chosen by the students. The topics were sports, disasters, politics, educations, economics, and your own topics.

The researcher gave 60 minutes to the students to do the test. Before giving the real test, the researcher did try out test to the students out of sample. It was done to find out whether the instruction was understood or not, time allocation was enough or not and to know the reliability of test.

To get validity of test, the researcher used content validity. It was because the test constructed based on curriculum, syllabus and teaching material. To analyze the reliability of the test, the researcher used inter-rater method. It means there were two assessors (the first assessor was the researcher and the second assessor was Mrs. WahyuElfiatni, the English teacher at SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang) in analyzing the answer sheet of students. It is done to minimize subjectivity in scoring. Beside that to analyze coefficient correlation students' score of two assessors, the researcher used Pearson Product Moment formula (Arikunto, 2012: 87).

The researcher gave try out test and the researcher found the coefficient correlation of the two assessors was 0.92. The test had high correlation and the test was reliable.

The data of this research were the students' scores in writing news item text test. In technique of analyzing data, the researcher analyzed the data based on writing test, the researcher presented raw score. Then calculated the students' score, the mean, standard deviation (SD), classified the students who got high, moderate, or low ability, and counted the percentage of students' ability.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

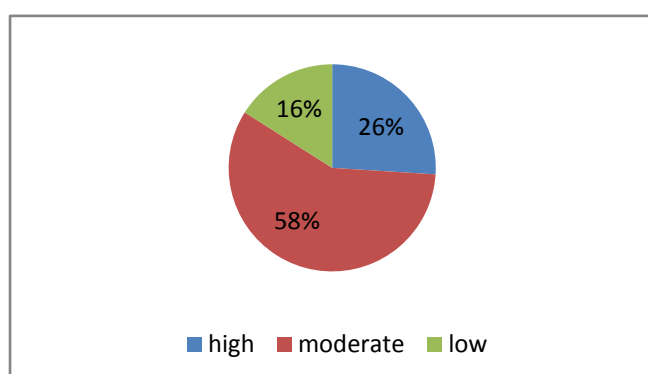
Findings

Students' Ability in Using Adverbs in Writing News Item Text

Based on the data analysis, it was found that highest score was 55 and the lowest score was 0. And then, the researcher calculated mean and standard deviation. The mean was 35 and standard deviation was 17. The result showed that 8

students (26%) had high ability, 18 students (58%) had moderate, and 5 students (16%) had low ability. It can be concluded that the students' ability was moderate. It can be seen clearly in the Diagram 1 below:

Diagram 1
The Students' Ability in Using Adverbs
in Writing News Item Text

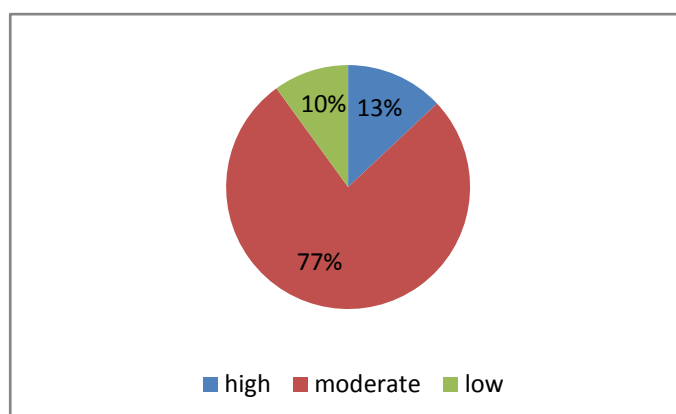


Students' Ability in Using Adverb of Time in Writing News Item Text

Based on the result of data analysis, it was found that the highest score was 30 and the lowest score was 0. After that the researcher counted mean and standard deviation. The mean was 16 and the standard deviation was 8. The result showed that there were 4 students (13%)

had high ability, 24 students (77%) had moderate and 3 students (10%) had low ability. It can be concluded that the students' ability was moderate. It can be seen clearly in the Diagram 2 below:

Diagram 2
The Students' Ability in Using Adverb
of Time in Writing News Item Text



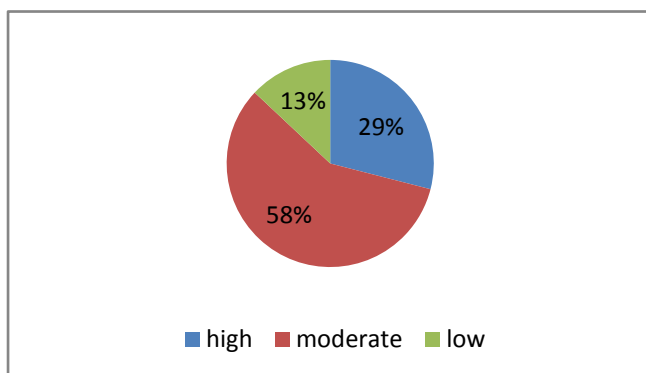
Students' Ability in Using Adverb of Place in Writing News Item Text

Based on the result of data analysis, it was found that the highest score was 30 and the lowest score was 0. After that the researcher counted mean and standard deviation. The result of mean was 18 and the standard deviation was 14. The

result showed that there were 9 students (29%) had high ability, 18 students (58%) had moderate and 4 students (13%) had low ability. It can be concluded that the students` ability was moderate. It can be seen clearly in the Diagram 3 below:

Diagram 3

The Students' Ability in Using Adverb of Place in Writing News Item Text



CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

After having discussion in the previous chapter, the researchers have conclusions.

1. In general, the ability of the first year students of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang in using adverbs in writing news item text was moderate. It was indicated by the

fact that there were 18 students (58%) who had moderate ability in using adverbs in writing news item text.

2. The ability of the first year students of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang in using adverb of time in writing news item text was moderate. It was indicated by the fact that there were 24 students (77%) who had moderate ability in using adverb of time in writing news item text.
3. The ability of the first year students of SMA KARTIKA 1.5 Padang in using adverb of place in writing news item text was moderate. It was indicated by the fact that there were 18 students (58%) who had moderate ability in using adverb of place in writing news item text.

Suggestion

Based on the result of the research, The researcher suggest for the English lecturer, students, and for further researcher as follows:

1. For the English teacher

The English teachers are expected to motivate the students, to give more exercise, explain about news item especially adverb of time and adverb of place specifically.

2. For the students They are suggested to learn more about news item and how to use adverb of time and adverb of place in writing news item text.

3. For further researcher The researcher suggested to find out the factors that improve the students` ability in using adverbs in writing news item text and find good solution to solve the problem.

as a partial requirement for getting Strata one (S1) degree from English Department, the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education (FKIP) Bung Hatta University.

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