

Analysis of Spelling Errors in Descriptive Text Essays by 7th-Grade Students of SMPN 3 Pulosari Academic Year 2023/2024

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ABSTRAK

This study is based on the observation that 7th-grade students at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari are making errors in writing descriptive texts. The research aims to explain these errors occurring in their descriptive essays. Student assignments were used as the data source for this research. A qualitative approach and descriptive research design were employed. Documentation techniques, including images and relevant documents, were used to collect data for this research. The research process involved interacting with Indonesian language subject teachers, observing classrooms, requesting students to write descriptive essays, and collecting their work. The researcher then examined and analyzed the collected data. The research findings indicate that 17 students from class VII-A at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari made errors in repeated word usage (4 errors), prepositions (7 errors), pronouns (2 errors), and abbreviations (1 error) in their descriptive essays. These errors are considered incorrect in descriptive essay writing, showing that some students at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari need assistance to improve their descriptive essay writing skills.

Keywords: *Words; Writing Errors; Descriptive Text;*

INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool used by people to communicate with one another, express emotions, and transmit messages as information to those who receive them. According to Kosasih (2011:2), "Language can be understood as a series of sounds with specific meanings." Language is an essential part of human life because it enables communication, both written and spoken.

Language is the human communication tool expressed through thoughts, ideas, and concepts. It allows people to communicate, build good social relationships, and cooperate through a language used by all Indonesians (Kosasih, 2010:2). Language is also a cooperative agreement. Language plays a very important role for humans; generally, its function is as a communication tool for exchanging thoughts and can be said to be its main function. However, there are many different opinions about the function of language, including:

According to Widjono (2012:20-29), the characteristics of language are as follows: language as a communication tool, language as a means of self-understanding, language as a means of self-expression, language as a tool of reason, language as a tool for understanding others, language building intelligence, language promoting professions, and language as a means of creating new creativity.

Writing is a skill used to effectively communicate information in written form. It is a complex activity that requires the capability to write in different languages and organize work efficiently. According to Dalman (2015:94), a descriptive essay offers detailed and clear explanations about a subject, allowing readers to feel as if they are experiencing what the writer describes.

Writing is a discursive skill that expresses ideas through written language to communicate with others. Turrigan (1984:21) suggests that writing involves creating symbols that represent a person's language, enabling others to understand both language and graphical symbols by reading the text.

However, Sujanto (1988:56) states that writing is a language skill that relies on linguistic knowledge, including rules and vocabulary.

In summary, the purpose of writing is to convey news about specific events, to summarize and condense parts of the writing, to change readers' beliefs, to give them a better understanding of the topic, and to stimulate their thinking process.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used for this study is qualitative, and the study type is descriptive. The purpose of this method is to verify and analyze the content of the research titled "Analysis of Spelling Errors in Descriptive Text Essays by 7th Grade Students of SMPN 3 Pulosari Academic Year 2023/2024". The study took place at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari during the academic year 2023/2024, while the researcher participated in the Kampus Mengajar MBKM program activities.

Data for the study were collected from the compilation of student assignments for descriptive essays at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari during the academic year 2023/2024. The researcher employed descriptive essay documentation techniques to gather data through assignments. After the completion of the assignments within the specified time frame, the researcher promptly collected the results. The collected data were then analyzed, and the data reduction process was undertaken once a sufficient amount of data for processing and analysis was obtained. Following the data reduction process, the findings were presented in an organized manner to ensure clarity. The conclusion or verification phase represented the final step in data analysis, where the collected data were evaluated, classified, presented, and conclusions were drawn.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research findings indicate an analysis of spelling errors in descriptive essays by 7th-grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari for the academic year 2023/2024. The researcher utilized this data to identify spelling mistakes. The errors in the essays of 7th-grade students at SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari are as follows:

1. Repeated word usage errors: 4
2. Prepositional errors: 7
3. Pronoun usage errors: 2
4. Compound word errors: 1

Repeated Word Usage Errors

No.	Sentence	Description
1.	“Kelinciku balik-balik masuk kandang”	Should be written as bolak-balik .
2.	“Dia datang – datang langsung beristirahat”	Should be written as datang-datang .
3.	“Makanan kesukaan kura kuraku adalah buah dan sayuran”	Should be written as kura-kuraku .
4.	“Aku membeli ayam warna warni di depan sekolah”	Should be written as warna-warni .

Prepositional Errors

No.	Sentence	Description
1.	“Matahari bersinar di siang hari”	di should written as pada because it show time.
2.	“Bajunya disimpan didalam lemari”	didalam should written as di dalam because it show place,
3.	“Pagi hari ayahku berangkat kekantor ”	kekantor should writtem as ke kantor because it show place,
4.	“Aku pergi kesana untuk mencarinya”	kesana should be written as ke sana because it show place,
5.	“Mereka bermain ditaman ”	ditaman should be written as di taman because it show place,
6.	“Kucing itu senang bersembunyi dibalik sofa”	dibalik should be written as di balik because it show place,
7.	“Bonekaku ada dikasur ”	dikasur should be written as di kasur because it show place,

Pronoun Usage Errors

No.	Wrong	Right
1.	“Kucingku hilang dan ayah mencari kucingku di halaman rumah”	“Kucingku hilang dan ayah mencarinya di halaman rumah”
2.	“Sepedaku rusak jadi ayah memperbaiki sepedanya”	“sepedaku rusak jadi ayah memperbaikinya”

Compound Word Errors

No.	Sentence	Description
1.	“ Menyebar luaskan informasi itu.”	Should be written as menyebarkanluaskan .

The data analysis results reveal that 7th-grade students from SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari, comprising 25 students, made spelling mistakes in their descriptive essays. The findings indicate that the errors predominantly occurred in repeated word usage, prepositions, pronouns, and compound words. Therefore, the students' ability to write descriptive essays accurately in constructing sentences is inadequate. The fact that there are still numerous spelling errors can be observed in their explanations.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the research findings and discussion, the researcher concludes that 7th-grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Pulosari perform poorly in writing. Based on the descriptive essays of 17 students, the sentence structures were found to be largely incorrect. Helping students understand the entirety of a text accurately by allowing teachers to pay more attention to student achievement and letting students use methods they already understand. When writing ideas, students or writers should consider writing style, applicable rules, and using correct ideas or ideas to avoid writing errors.

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