
**GRAMMATICAL BARRIERS IN WRITING A GERMAN ESSAY: A CASE STUDY OF
SECONDARY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Ester Sri Melanda¹, Juliyanti Margaretta², Riza Alamsyah
Universitas Negeri Medan

ester27melanda@gmail.com¹, juliyantisiregar94@gmail.com², rizaalamsyah@gmail.com³

Abstract

This research was conducted to identify the grammatical barriers most often carried out by high school students. This type of research is a case study research to reveal the grammatical errors obtained instead of writing essays. These researchers uses a qualitative descriptive study. The data in this study are the results of German sentences written by 10 students in an essay, which then identified and classified the error Grammatically reviewed by Morphology and Syntax. The types of grammar errors analyzed specifically: capitalization, conjugation, verbposition, personalpronomen and rrticle.

Keywords: *Students' Essay, Grammatical Errors, Error Analysis*

Introduction

Currently learning foreign languages is a necessity that must be owned, therefore educational institutions in Indonesia have implemented foreign language learning at the upper secondary level. One of them is German, but when to learn a foreign language there are many difficulties we feel, included when making a sentence. Most of the people said learning a language is an interesting thing. In practice, evaluation is very important. Be told important, because of the level of writing skills students are not only measured in terms of writing the symbols of letters only, but also measured in terms of student ability put words into sentences well according to the grammar pattern German. Therefore, the better mastery of student grammar and vocabulary, the better his abilities will be in composing sentences.

German subject has four language skills to be mastered by students as the goal of learning German. Those language skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing requires extensive knowledge and deep thought processes to produce words, sentences, and paragraphs at the same time good German grammar. According to Amelia (2013) that writing is difficult to learn because of the writer must involve an encompassing process plan, organize, and revise to present meaning in words or sentences. Grammar is the basis language and to construct a sentence well the grammar must be understood. Similarly with vocabulary, because without someone's adequate vocabulary is not can use a language with good.

The study of language error analysis has become one of the important topics that has been widely studied by previous researchers (Hinkel, 2018; Atmowardoyo, 2018; Khalifa, 2018; Lan, 2019; Karim et al., 2018). In the same vein, (Al Tameemy, 2019; Navidinia, 2019; Sari et all., 2019; Mohammed, 2019) One of the main causes of learners experiencing language errors is the problem of language interference. Writing is considered as the most complicated skill to be mastered required not only great vocabularies but also grammar, as Harmer (2004:31). However, writing courses

challenge students and teachers. Important to know that the problem of interference in language learning can be overcome by knowing the tendencies of errors experienced by learners due to this interference factor.

Most students stated that grammar is very difficult especially when it comes to writing, these problems have an impact on students' writing performance. There are many factors that cause this learners of German as a foreign language make mistakes and sometimes the first language they speak becomes one of the causes of the disorder. The structure used in Indonesian and the structure used in German is different. Therefore students have the potential to produce grammatical writing errors.

Method

In this study, researchers used case study research. According to Rahardjo (2017: 5) concluded that a case study is a series of scientific activities carried out intensively, detailed and in-depth about a program, event, and activity, at both levels an individual, a group of people, institutions, or organizations to acquire knowledge in-depth about the event. In general, the target of case study research is things that are actual (Real-Life) and unique. Not something that has passed or the period past. This study uses a single variable, namely students' errors in composing German sentences. The purpose of this study is to reveal the uniqueness or uniqueness of the characteristics contained in the case researched. In data collection, students are selected from the intermediate proficiency group to facilitate the collection of essays that can be analyzed, the author only uses 10 freizeit themed holiday essay writing assignments to analyze grammatical errors.

Discussion

In accordance with the formulation of the research problem, researchers here will discuss about what errors often appear in students' written essays and what are the causes the occurrence of these errors. Discussion this research is reviewed from morphological errors and syntax in student essays.

Definition and Error classification	Identification of errors	Correct sentences and explanation of rule
Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Da, kaufe ich die eine Hut und die eine Brille - Wir frühstückten mit Brot und ein Glas Milch - Ich habe kein lust - Ich habe der Pech 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Da, kaufe ich eine Hut und Brille - Wir frühstückten mit Brot und einem Glas Milch - Ich habe keine lust - Ich habe ein Pech

Conjugation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Er waren Reisekrankheit - Wir gehe Skifahren - Ich habe nach Medan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Er war Reisekrankheit - Wir gehen Skifahren - Ich war nach Medan
Verb position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wir ein Pizza habe gegessen - hat ein Der See Rätsel - Sonntag wir nach Hause gehen - Mein Großvater und ich Reis pflanzen auf den Feldern - Wir viele Kuchen kaufen - morgen milch Trinke - Gestern wir fahren nach münchen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wir haben ein Pizza gegessen - Der See hat ein Rätsel - Sonntag gehen wir nach Hause - Mein Großvater und ich pflanzten Reis auf den Feldern - Wir kaufen viele Kuchen - morgens trinke ich Milch - Gestern fahren wir nach münchen.
Personal pronomen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ihn sehr toll - Ich fühle mir glücklich und aufgeregt - Wir haben mein Großmutter besucht - Ich bin mit meine Papa, meine Mutter und meine Cousine zusammen - Onkel gab ich Fahrrad und Geld 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - es ist sehr toll - Ich fühle mich glücklich und aufgeregt - Wir haben meine Großmutter besucht - Ich bin mit meinem Papa, meiner Mutter und meiner Cousine zusammen - Onkel gab mir Fahrrad und Geld
Capitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mein vater fährt sehr schnell - Ich sehe eine rote rose - Das wetter ist so kalt - Ich habe mein handy beim Strandbesuch Verloren - Ich trage ein neues rotes kleid. - Gestern wir fahren nach münchen. - montag esse ich ein pizza mit meine Freunde. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mein Vater fährt sehr schnell - Ich sehe eine rote Rose - as wetter ist so kalt - Ich habe mein Handy beim Strandbesuch Verloren - ich trage ein neues rotes Kleid - Gestern wir fahren nach München. - Montag esse ich ein Pizza mit meine Freunde.

- im may fliegen wir nach Bali. - im May fliegen wir nach Bali.

Article

German language consists of 4 articles. including singular, der (masculine), die (feminine), das (neutral) and die (plural). der article: this article is aimed at a masculine object or that is male, for example: der Computer, der Mann, der Wasserhahn, der Kopf. The die article: intended for an object that is female or called feminine, for example: die Frau, die Maedchen, die Mine, die Spuele. The das article: is intended for an object that is neither male nor female or called neutral, for example: das Auto, das Radio, das Waschbecken, das Fenster. The article "der" is usually used to describe an object ending in -er (Stecker, Computer). The article "die" is usually used to refer to an object ending in -e, -eit, -ion, -ung, -thek (Jacke, Tasche, Religion, Bibliothek). The article "das" is usually used to describe an object that comes from international words such as (Radio, Hotel) but there are also other examples such as (Auto, Buch, Handy).

Articles in German are divided into two types, namely, bestimmte articles and unbestimmte articles. Bestimmte article consists of 4 articles, namely, "der" (masculine), "die" (feminine), "das" (neutral) and "die" (plural). Article "der": this article is intended for masculine or male objects, for example: der Computer, der Mann, der Wasserhahn, der Kopf. The article "die": is intended for an object that is female or called feminine, for example: die Frau, die Maedchen, die Mine, die Spuele. The article "das": is intended for an object that is not male or female or called neutral, for example: das Auto, das Radio, das Waschbecken, das Fenster. The article "der" is usually used to describe objects that end in -er (Stecker, Computer). The article "die" is usually used to refer to objects ending in -e, -eit, -ion, -ung, -thek (Jacke, Tasche, Religion, Bibliothek). The word "das" is usually used to say an object that comes from an international word like (Radio, Hotel) but there are other examples like (Auto, Buch, Handy). In bestimmte articles, all plural nouns use the article "die". And the second, Unbestimmte article. Unbestimmte articles consist of "ein" and "eine". Ein or eine can be interpreted as "a", or "a" etc. which are singular in essence. Therefore, in the Unbestimmte article there is no plural form. The way to determine how to use the right ein and eine is that we can see from the Bestimmte Article used by that noun. If the noun uses the der or das article, the unbestimmte of the article is "ein". If the noun uses the article die, then the article unbestimmte is "eine". For the Unbestimmte article itself is used if the object in question is still unclear about its existence, or its ownership, etc. Example: ein Buch. In this sentence we do not know whose book it belongs to or where it is. To make the negative sentence, you can use kein or keine. the proper use of kein or keine can be done by looking at the unbestimmte article of the noun. If the unbestimmte article of the noun is "ein" then the negative sentence uses "kein". If the unbestimmte article the noun is "eine" then the negative sentence uses "keine". Example :

- Das ist ein Computer → das ist kein Computer,
- Das ist ein Monitor → das ist kein Monitor,
- Ich habe eine Zeit → ich habe keine Zeit.

Based on the explanation above, it can be seen that students still experience many errors in using articles in the correct German language. Based on the errors described by the researchers in the table above, one of them is, "Da, kaufe ich die eine Hut und die eine Brille". In that sentence, the student misused the article, the student used both types of articles in German in the same sentence and this is not allowed in a good and correct sentence arrangement in German. In composing sentences in German, it is not allowed to use both types of articles, namely the best articles and unbestimmte articles in the same sentence. Therefore, the proper sentence formation is "Da, kaufe ich eine Hut und Brille".

Conjugation

Based on the sentence that has been written students as above, belong to the type classification superficial errors. Because in a sentence the students cannot follow the rules German grammatic learning has been taught correctly. The sentence mentioned above is wrong because the verb "gehen", is not conjugated with true based on the subject, videlicet 'wir'. Where the word "wohnen" should be written with The suffix 'n', as well as "waren" is not properly conjugated based on the subject 'ich'.

Verb position

The sentence above belongs to the wrong type error classification location. This can happen because of students only pay attention to meaning rather than sequences the grammatical of the German language which has been studied. The sentence is wrong, because there is no verb in it. the correct composition is VF + V1 + E + A + V2.

* Wir ein Pizza habe gegessen

from the sentence above the verb is in the third position, the correct verb "habe" should be in the second position.

Personalpronomen

In German, personal pronouns or personal pronomen are differentiated into 3, including:

- Personal Pronomen in the Nominativ case
- Personal Pronomen in the case of Akkusativ and
- Personal Pronomen in Dativ's case.

Personal Pronomen in the Nominativ case consist of: (ich = me), (du = you), (er = he is masculine), (sie = he is feminine), (es = he is neutral), (wir = us), (ihr = you), (sie = you), and (sie plural = them). Personal Pronomen in this case are the most basic personal pronomen and must be memorized for beginner learners in German. The second is Pronomen's personal in Akkusativ's case. In this case the Personal Pronomen changes shape, sure: ich -> mich, du -> dich, er -> ihn, sie -> sie, es -> es, wir -> uns, ihr -> euch, Sie -> Sie, sie plural -> sie, for example in a sentence :

- I love you (Ich liebe dich)
- You love me (Du liebst mich)

And the last one is Pronomen's personal in Dativ's case. These personal pronomen are also different and undergo changes like the Akkusativ case. Here are some of the changes that occurred in Dativ's case: ich -> mich -> mir, du -> dich -> dir, er -> ihn -> ihm, sie -> sie -> ihr, es -> es -> ihm, wir -> uns -> uns, ihr -> euch -> euch, Sie -> Sie -> Ihnen, sie plural -> sie -> sie. An example of using Personal Pronomen in Dativ's case is:

- My grandma help me (Meine Grossmutter hilft mir)
- How are you? (wie geht es dir?)

This personal pronomen is one of the personal pronomen which must also be memorized, because changes in the form of a personal pronomen can occur at any time and it is adjusted to the form and case of the sentence.

From the data that has been explained in the table above, it is the student's mistake in using Personalpronomen in German sentences in the Akkusativ case:

- Ich fühle **mir** glücklich und aufgeregt ".

The mistake that the student made in the sentence above was the use of a personal moment where the respondent wrote "mir", the correct person should be the Dativ form of 'mich'.

Capitalization

In the essays created by the students, there were several mistakes in the use of capital letters in German. In the sentence above, students write the words "Vater, Rose, Wetter, Handy, Kleid, München Montag, Pizza and May" using a lowercase prefix. This is one of the most common mistakes when writing sentences in German. Because, according to the existing rules in German, where all nouns, names of people, names of days, months of place names and for person pronouns (you) start with a capital letter. Therefore, in writing the words "Vater, Rose, Wetter, Handy, Kleid, München, Montag , Pizza and May" must start with a capital letter.

Conclusion

The results showed that the students' mistakes were mainly based on forming sentences. Students' understanding of German sentence composition is also weak and often forms sentences that cannot be understood. mistakes made in implementing the sentence the structure of the rules in German. Therefore, we can conclude that these participants have problems obtaining normal grammarmrules in German especially in essay writing. This further demonstrates that error analysis can help teachers to identify specifically and in general language problems that students have, so they are can focus more on this breed error. Other factors are also behind the internal error essays of students especially: regarding grammar rules, the vocabulary is still lacking, until it is technical problem. Things like this can happen because most of the student usually pay less attention to these aspects, because usually they are only translate the sentences they compile in Indonesian to in German, so it creates a lot of mistakes

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