

ABSTRACT

AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN DESCRIPTIVE TEXT WRITING AT SMP NEGERI 3 NATAR

By

Sarah Ayu Annisa

Writing is one method of learning a language. Grammar and writing are inextricably linked. Grammar is one of the most important aspects of writing. As a result, it is not uncommon for students to make errors in their writing. In light of this, the purposes of this study were: (1) to find out the types of grammatical errors that second-grade students at SMP Negeri 3 Natar make when writing descriptive texts, (2) to identify the causes of difficulties that second-grade students at SMP Negeri 3 Natar face that lead them to make grammatical errors in their descriptive text writing. A descriptive qualitative design was used for this study. Based on the surface strategy taxonomy, the researcher assessed and characterized the errors of the students. The subjects were 32 students of class 8A from SMP Negeri 3 Natar in 2022/2023. The instruments of this study were a descriptive writing test with two different topics and an interview. The findings of this study show that students committed all types of errors in terms of surface strategy taxonomy: omission (25.7% and 39.5%), addition (8.6% and 6.5%), misformation (63.6% and 53.2%), and misordering (2.1% and 0.7%). Misformation was the most prevalent error category found in student writings, while misordering was the least common. The students' errors were caused by a lack of understanding the material, a lack of careness, first language interference, and forgetfulness.

Keywords: *error analysis, descriptive writing, surface strategy taxonomy*