AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

AN ERROR ANALYSIS OF MECHANICS IN THE STUDENTS' COMPOSITIONS
(A Case Study at the Fourth Semester of English Educational Study Program
of State Islamic College of Jurai Siwo Metro)

BY

FITRIA OKTAVIANA
Student Number. 0845247

TARBIYAH DEPARTMENT
ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM

STATE ISLAMIC COLLEGE
(STAIN) OF JURAI SIWO METRO
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By :
FITRIA OKTAVIANA
STUDENT NUMBER. 0845247

Tarbiyah Department
English Educational Study Program

Sponsor : Drs. Kuryani, M.Pd.
Co-Sponsor : Yusti Arini, M.Pd.

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ABSTRACT

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This research is conducted on the basis of the result of observation in the Writing subject toward the Fourth Semester Students of English Educational Study Program of state Islamic College of Jurai Siwo Metro. The major problem that found is most of the students get score C in Writing 3. Then, the next problem found in the students' compositions are the mechanical errors. Based on the observation, it needs to be investigated what are the real problems happened in the real setting. The problem formulation of the research are *"What are the mechanical errors commonly found in the students compositions at the Fourth Semester of English Educational Study Program of State Islamic College of Jurai Siwo Metro?"* and *"What are the students' problems in writing at the Fourth Semester of English Educational Study Program of State Islamic College of Jurai Siwo Metro?"*.

The argumentative compositions become the product that the researcher analyzes to get the students' mechanical errors. This composition can explore the students' opinion so that those can be expressed into their writing. The mechanical errors are *capitalization*, *punctuation*, and *spelling*. Those are very important to guide the readers in understanding the text message.

The research type is Qualitative in the form of field qualitative by applying Miles and Huberman Models, namely collecting the data, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The researcher collects the data by conducting observation to get 30 students' compositions, interview 16 students, and documentation.

The mechanical errors found are in *capitalization* is 42.4%, *punctuation* is 17.1%, and *spelling* is 40.5%. There are 16 participants in interview. Most of them have the similar answer in every question. Some of them admit that got bad score because they cheated in writing test because they didn't understand yet about the material.

The students' difficulty in writing is in *capitalization* usage. In conclusion, the students' problems in writing are the difficulties in understanding grammar and mechanics, the difficulties in finding and exploring the ideas, and the technique in teaching *Writing* is monotonous.

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ABSTRAK

Oleh:

FITRIA OKTAVIANA

Penelitian ini berdasar pada observasi terhadap Mahasiswa Semester Empat Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris di Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri (STAIN) Jurai Siwo Metro. Permasalahan utama yang ditemukan yaitu banyaknya mahasiswa yang mendapat nilai C dalam mata kuliah *Writing 3*. Dalam karangan mahasiswa, ditemukan beberapa kekeliruan dalam penggunaan mekanik. Berdasarkan observasi, peneliti merasa perlu untuk mengkaji masalah yang lebih mendalam di lapangan. Masalah yang diteliti adalah *"Apa kesalahan mekanik yang sering muncul dalam karangan mahasiswa Semester Empat Program Studi Bahasa Inggris di Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri (STAIN) Jurai Siwo Metro?"* dan *"Apa sajakah masalah dalam mata kuliah Writing yang dihadapi mahasiswa Semester Empat Program Studi Bahasa Inggris di Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri (STAIN) Jurai Siwo Metro?"*.

Peneliti menganalisa karangan argumentatif mahasiswa untuk menemukan kesalahan dalam mekanik. Mahasiswa akan lebih mudah mengekspresikan dan menuangkan pendapat mereka dalam bentuk tulisan dengan jenis karangan tersebut. Kesalahan mekanik tersebut meliputi penggunaan huruf kapital *(capitalization)*, tanda baca *(punctuation)*, dan ejaan *(spelling)*. Ketiga hal tersebut sangat penting dalam membantu pembaca memahami makna yang terkandung dalam teks.

Kualitatif lapangan merupakan jenis dari penelitian ini yang menerapkan Model analisis data dari Miles dan Huberman, yaitu *collecting the data, data reduction, data display,* dan *conclusion drawing*. Peneliti melaksanakan observasi untuk mendapatkan 30 karangan mahasiswa, mewawancara 16 partisipan, serta mendokumentasikan hasilnya.

Persentase kesalahan mekanik yang terjadi yaitu pada *capitalization* 42.4%, *punctuation* 17.1%, dan *spelling* 40.5%. Dari 16 partisipan yang telah diwawancara, hampir semua mahsiswa mengaku bahwa nilai mereka buruk karena mencontek dan karena belum memahami materi *Writing*.

Kesulitan yang dialami mahasiswa dalam menulis yaitu pada penggunaan huruf kapital *(capitalization)*. Sehingga, dapat disimpulkan bahwa masalah yang dihadapi mahasiswa dalam mata kuliah *Writing* yaitu kesulitan dalam memahami *grammar* dan *mechanics*, kesulitan dalam menemukan dan menggali gagasan, dan teknik dalam mengajar *Writing* yang monoton.

CURRICULUM VITAE



The name of the writer is Fitria Oktaviana, she was born in Banarjoyo, October 27, 1990. She is the third child of Marsono and Sukarni.

She was enrolled her study at Kindergarten School of Pertiwi Banarjoyo on 1995 and graduated on 1996 and the next study was at State Elementary School 2 Banarjoyo on 1996 and graduated on 2002. Then, she continued her study at State Junior High School 1 Batanghari on 2002 and graduated on 2005. She continued her study at State Senior High School 1 Batanghari on 2005 and graduated on 2008. On 2008 she was registered as an S-I student of English Educational Study Program of State Islamic College (STAIN) of Jurai Siwo Metro.

The writer followed the college organization (UKM), there was UKM Jurai Siwo English Club (JS-EC) as the member of Creativity Division in 2009-2010 and the treasurer of Developing Division in 2010-2011. She was also the member of Publishing Division in 2010-2011 and the member of Internal Harmonization Division in 2011-2012 of UKM LDK (Lembaga Dakwah Kampus) Al-Ishlah.