## ABSTRACT

Siti Khoiriyah. 321 412 152. 2016. Analysis of Punctuation Errors In Using Comma Found In The Background of Study On the Students' Skripsi (*A Study Conducted in English Department of State University of Gorontalo*). Skripsi. English Department, Faculty of Letters and Culture, State University of Gorontalo. It was supervised by Prof.Dr.Hj Moon H. Otoluwa, M.Hum and Sri Rumiatiningsih Luwiti, S.Pd. M.Pd.

This study is aimed to find out the kind of punctuation error made by English department students in using comma in the background of study on the students' skripsi. This study is concentrated on describing the errors in placing comma made by students in writing, because the comma is used and misused more than any other punctuation mark. It was correlated to Dutwin's theory (2010, p.97) He classified into 12 rules of comma usage. The method of this study is descriptive qualitative method. The sources of data in this study are the skripsi written by English Department students Class of 2011. This study used Library research in collecting the data. As a result, based on the analysis from 11 skripsi there are 39 errors of using comma found in the background of study on the students' skripsi. Moreover, the researcher found that there are 4 kinds of rules in using comma which commonly used by students in the matter of omission and addition. Error of using Rule 1 the use of comma to separate items in a series was the most dominant errors in the students writing. This research gives contributions to the lecturers in teaching writing skill and also useful for the students to be aware on their error in placing punctuation particularly in the use of comma.

## Keyword: Error analysis, Punctuation, Comma

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