Subject-Verb Agreement Error in Students' Argumentative Writing

Abstract

Hasni Fitri Utami Ponamon, 2017. Subject-Verb Agreement Error in Students' Argumentative Writing. English Department, Letters and Culture Faculty, Universitas Negeri Gorontalo. Advisor (1) Sri Widyarti Ali., S.Pd., M.Hum, (2) Zulkifli Tanipu., S.Pd., M.A.

Subject verb agreement as the basic feature of English grammar takes a role as the fundamental aspect of English grammar that used to create the agreement between the subject and verb. The verb of a sentence needs to agree with the number of subject to create the agreement. Further, this agreement is a must in English sentence because the disagreement could affect the syntactic rule of a sentence and produce the ungrammatical sentence. Even though the subject verb agreement is the basic of English grammar, it is unavoidable that the students are still constructing the disagreements and producing the error. Hence, this study is conducted to find what are the types of subject verb agreement error occurred in students writing. This study applied qualitative method to explore and analyze this phenomenon through argumentative essay written by the participants. There are four types of subject verb agreement (Azar, 1999), as a result three types are found as errors; Basic subject verb agreement, subject verb agreement using "there+tobe" and subject verb agreement using some irregularities. Moreover, the result of interview indicates that carelessness and lack of knowledge become the factors that lead the students to produce the errors. Regarding these result, the students are suggested to increase their awareness and practice repeatedly to reduce the errors.

Key words: subject verb agreement error, argumentative writing, qualitative method

Abstrak

Hasni Fitri Utami Ponamon, 2017. Kesalahan Kecocokan Subyek-Kata Kerja pada Tulisan Argumentasi Siswa. Jurusan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Sastra dan Budaya, Universitas Negeri Gorontalo. Pembimbing (1) Sri Widyarti Ali, S.Pd., M.Hum, (2) Zulkifli Tanipu, S.Pd., M.A.

Kecocokan Subyek-Kata Kerja sebagai sifat dasar tata bahasa dalam Bahasa Inggris memiliki peran sebagai aspek dasar tata bahasa Bahasa Inggris yang digunakan untuk membuat kecocokan antara subyek dan kata kerja. Kata kerja suatu kalimat haruslah cocok dengan jumlah subyek untuk membuat kecocokan. Kemudian, kecocokan ini merupakan suatu keharusan dalam kalimat bahasa Inggris karena ketidakcocokan dapat mempengaruhi aturan sintaksis suatu kalimat dan menghasilkan kalimat yang tata bahasa nya tidak tepat. Meskipun kecocokan subyek-kata kerja merupakan dasar dari tata bahasa Inggris, tidak dapat dipungkiri bahwa siswa masih membuat kalimat yang tidak cocok dan kesalahan. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini dilaksanakan untuk menemukan apa saja kesalahan kecocokan subyek-kata kerja yang terjadi pada tulisan siswa. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk menjelaskan dan menganalisa fenomena ini melalui esai argumentasi yang ditulis oleh peserta. Terdapat empat jenis kecocokan subyek-kata kerja (Azar, 1999), sebagai hasil terdapat tiga jenis yang ditemukan sebagai kesalahan; kecocokan dasar subyek-kata kerja, kecocokan subyek-kata kerja menggunakan "there + to be" dan kecocokan subyek-kata kerja menggunakan beberapa ketidakberaturan. Selain itu, hasil wawancara menunjukkan bahwa kecerobohan dan kurangnya pengetahuan menjadi faktor yang membuat siswa membuat kesalahan-kesalahan. Terkait hasil ini, siswa disarankan untuk meningkatkan kesadaran dan berlatih secara berulang-ualng untuk mengurangi kesalahan tersebut.

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Statement of Authorship

- 1. This study is an original work of the author and no previous study to seem likely same as this.
- During conducting this study, the writer believes that she never committed
 plagiarism. All statements or ideas shared by the experts are well-cited
 and can be found in references sheets.
- 3. If somebody found disagreement between point 1, 2, and 3, the writer agrees the degree to be taken off.

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