

Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter presents five main sub chapters related to this study. Those are the background of this topic, research question, research objective, research significant and delimitation of research.

Basic Considerations

Language is one of the most important things for human being in the world. It has an important role, that is, as a major media to create the communication. Moreover, in this globalization era, English is very useful in helping people to make the communication easily with other people from foreign countries, by mastering four skills on that language, such as speaking, writing, reading and listening. As we are the foreign language learners, especially students of English department, we have the obligation to master the language.

One of the English skills, writing skill, plays an important role for the students in the process of learning a language. Writing skill contributes to learning by helping the students to remember what they are studying, by leading them to analyze and connect information and ideas from different sources, and by inspiring new insights and comprehension (Chooper cited in Ulf et, al 2014). However, based on the observation that has been conducted by the researcher, there are a lot of students who make some errors dealing with English grammar in their writing, especially in morphological terms. This case should not be ignored and when we learn English grammar or rules of English many advantages will be gained, for instance, it can help us in making the communication with other clearly, so that we can avoid misunderstanding in utterance or written language. In addition, it also can help us to do English test like TOEFL Test or etc. So, grammar as one of the important parts in writing may play essential role in how the writing is presumed.

Regarding to this research, the aspect that will be analyzed is morphological error in student's essay. The researcher is interested to study linguistics especially in morphology because it is the basis of sentences building. As defined by Margarita et.al. (2015) that morphology is one of the major components of grammar that aims to describe the structure of words and patterns of word information in a language. Additionally, the researcher thinks that before learning or analyzing about sentence, it is better to learn about the structure of word previously, and according to the researcher this topic would be very important for people who learn English.

This research is conducted on sixth semester students of English department. The reason of choosing them as participants is because they have passed writing and English morphology course. But although they have already passed those courses, based on the researcher's experience, there are some students who still commit the error in their writing, particularly in morphological aspect. This is caused by the less of comprehension about that field or the other influences. One of their faults in morphological aspect or organizing word formation, for instance in sentence "She *create* an essay" word *create* in this sentence have to be added with -s because the subject is the third person singular. However, this error can be categorized as morphological error that frequently occurs in their essay. Furthermore, based on their morphological error the researcher classifies into form of surface strategy taxonomy which is proposed by Dulay et.al (1982). Which are the classification of error can be categorized into omission error, addition error, misformation error and misordering error. These errors are suitable to be used in classifying the morphological error that appear in student essay writing. As we look on the example before that the student has omitted -s in the sentence.

From their errors, automatically, we can assume that of course there are some factors that cause those errors occurred. As according to Heift and Schulze (2007 cited in Leaoock et.al 2014) that, language learner can produce misspelling based on either in misapplication of morphological rules or other influences from their incomplete knowledge of the morphology of the language being learned.

Besides, they do not care either about the kinds of essay they are creating and they do not follow the correct steps that will provide all the sources for their compositions. They just care about the grade they will receive at the end of an assignment. Additionally, the students have passed the related courses, therefore they should have been able to fully master the basis of morphological rules. That is why it is necessary to know whether the students have achieved the level based on what they have learned. Besides that, it functions to improve their comprehension about grammar and can help them to be more careful in creating an essay particularly in arranging structure of word, because when the student has lack of skill in one of the components of writing, their writing may be unsatisfactory for the reader. Such Fairbairn and Winch (2011) said that even we have good ideas, but essay main gain a poor mark because we have been unclear in stating them. As the result, the writing will be unintelligible.

Research Questions

What are the types of morphological inflection error committed by student in their essay?

Research Objectives

To describe the types of morphological inflection error committed by student in their essay.

Significances of Research

The result of the research is expected to give practical and theoretical significances.

Practical Significance.

The result of the research is expected for the students and writing lecturers to improve students' writing ability. That is, the students are able to use the result as additional source to enrich their knowledge in identifying the types of morphological error that usually exist in the student writing. Therefore, the student is more aware in making the errors in their writing. The helpful result of the research is also giving the information to the lecturer especially for writing and grammar lecturer about morphological error that frequently presented by the students on their writing task. In addition, the lecturer known the dominant error found in student writing and expected to pay more attention on the errors.

Theoretical Significance.

This research can be used as a material to enrich the knowledge for those who want to conduct or analyze deeply about grammar, particularly about morphological inflection errors that usually found in student writing.

Delimitation of the research

The researcher focuses only on morphological inflection error in students' writing of essay on sixth semester students of English department at Universitas Negeri Gorontalo. The researcher classifies the error based on surface strategy taxonomy proposed by Dulay et.al (1982) which is classified into four types of error, these are omission, addition, misformation, and misordering. However, this research only limits into three types of error, omission, addition, and misformation, because the existence of misordering error in morphological especially in word formation is rarely occurred.