
THE DESCRIPTION OF STUDENTS' ABILITY IN ORDERING ADJECTIVE ON DESCRIPTIVE TEXT MATERIAL AT THE SEVENTH GRADE OF UPTD SMP NEGERI 2 GUNUNGSITOLI UTARA IN 2022/2023

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ABSTRAK

Menulis deskriptif adalah aktivitas untuk memberikan informasi kepada orang lain, yang bertujuan untuk menggambarkan hal, orang, dan tempat. Adjective order termasuk dalam fitur bahasa pada materi teks deskriptif. Metode penelitian kualitatif adalah metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Fokus dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui kemampuan siswa dalam mengurutkan kata sifat pada materi teks deskriptif dan untuk mengetahui faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi kemampuan siswa dalam mengurutkan kata sifat pada materi teks deskriptif. Selanjutnya, informan penelitian ini adalah 21 siswa kelas VII-C UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara tahun ajaran 2022/2023. Kemudian, lembar kerja siswa dan lembar wawancara adalah instrumen yang digunakan untuk penelitian. Berdasarkan instrumen tersebut, ditemukan bahwa rata-rata siswa mendapat nilai sangat buruk (52%) dan diikuti dengan nilai buruk (48%), dan tidak ada satu pun siswa yang mendapat nilai baik atau sangat baik dalam mengurutkan kata sifat. Lebih lanjut, faktor rendahnya kemampuan siswa disebabkan oleh dua faktor, yaitu: faktor kurangnya pengetahuan, dan faktor kurangnya kosakata. Setelah melakukan analisis, kemampuan siswa kelas VII-C UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara dalam mengurutkan kata sifat tergolong rendah. Kemudian faktor yang mempengaruhi kemampuan siswa dalam mengurutkan kata sifat adalah kurangnya pengetahuan dan kurangnya kosakata. Tindakan guru merupakan hal yang penting bagi siswa dalam meningkatkan pengetahuan siswa dalam belajar bahasa Inggris, khususnya dalam kata sifat.

Kata kunci: Penelitian Kualitatif, Menulis, Teks Deskriptif, Urutan Kata Sifat

ABSTRACT

Writing descriptive is the activity to give an information to the other, which aims to describe things, people, places. Adjective order is included as the language feature on descriptive text material. Qualitative research method is the method that was used for this research. The focuses of this research was to find out the students' ability in ordering adjective on descriptive text material and to determine the factors affecting the students' ability in ordering adjective on descriptive text material. Furthermore, the informant of the research were 21 students of Class VII-C of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023. Then, the students' worksheet and the interview sheets were the instruments that were used for the research. Based on the instrument, it was found that the students' average got the score very poor (52%) and followed by poor score (48%), and no one of the students who achieved good or excellent score in ordering adjective. Furthermore, the factors of the students' ability were caused by two factors, namely: factor of lacking of knowledge, and factor of lacking of vocabulary. After conducting the analysis, the ability of the students in class VII-C of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in ordering adjective were low. Then the factor

influence the students' ability in ordering adjective were lacking of knowledge and lacking of vocabulary. The teacher's action is important to the students in increasing the students' knowledge in learning English, particularly in adjective order.

Keywords: *Qualitative Research, Writing, Descriptive Text, Adjective Ordering.*

INTRODUCTION

English is an international language that is used in the world. In English one of the skills that needs to be mastered is writing skill. Writing skill takes place as the activity to transfer the idea through the written text. As claimed by Adam (2021), saying that writing is considered as an important skill. This statement is further supported by the law in Article 23, 2006. It says that the goal of teaching English writing is students are able to express the meaning in the interpersonal and transactional discourse, in the form of recounts, narrative, procedure, descriptive, news item, report, analytical exposition, spoof, explanation, discussion, and review in the context of everyday life (*Depdiknas, 2006*). Writing in students' second language can be something difficult for the students, where the students often use their first language in school.

Writing is not only learned for the educational process but also to communicate with others in life. Writing is necessary if you want to convey your ideas to others. In teaching writing, descriptive text is included as the material that should be taught by the teacher and learnt by the students. And one of the language features of the descriptive material is adjective. This is based on the essential opinion by Arriyadi (2018), says that adjective order is necessary in teaching adjective to students. It means that adjective order should be understood, so that it can be determined well when the students use the adjective.

In the syllabus of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara particularly at the seventh grade, there are four skills that should be learnt by the students, one of them is writing. In the syllabus, the core competence expects the students to compose the descriptive text about people,

animals, thing, by understanding the social function, structure, language feature that contain to the content.

Descriptive text is the material that should be learned by the students, which the material of this text aims to describe the things. In the language feature of descriptive text, the adjective has an important role to modify noun. Problem that is more often found in adjective when the students try to order the adjective to describe the noun. Case of Indonesian students, ordering adjective is a difficult thing because the students must know the first adjective until the last adjective before noun, (Arriyadi, et al. 2018). The meaning of the sentences will be ambiguous when the order of adjective done randomly.

Based on the finding in the field when the researcher conducted third internship on March until June 2022 and conducted the pre-observation on January 2023, there are some kinds of problems done by the students. One of them is in applying adjective order. The problem that is usually done by the students is the adjective order grammatically. The students did not understand to classify the position of adjective, for example, "My father has hair black straight short beautiful". The sentence was wrong because the order was incorrect. The sentence should be "My father has beautiful short straight black hair". According to Ginting (2020), the applicable provisions that are used to determine the order of adjective are: Determiner – Opinion – Size – Age – Shape – Color – Origin – Material - Purpose. Based on the example above the sentence does not follow the rule of the ordering adjective. Meanwhile, the rule of the example above is: noun (hair) – color (black) – shape (straight) – size (short) – opinion (beautiful). The correct one is opinion (beautiful) – size (short) – shape

(straight) – color (black) – noun (hair). From the incorrect sentence, the meaning on it makes the readers misunderstand.

These adjectives are important for writing skills. They can be used to make the meaning of the sentences in the text understandable to the reader. The problem of the example above is probably same with the problem that has been found by the researcher, Ginting, et al. (2020), which aims to find out the ability of the students who are still considered lacking in describing a matter in descriptive text. And the result of the research is the research found several factors of the lack of knowledge about grammar related to the adjective order. And he suggests that the next researcher can contribute to the development of the world of education, especially in English. So from the research it is decided that the factor of lacking in describing the descriptive text because of ordering of adjective. And the second research conducted by Arriyadhi, et al (2018), the research aimed to find out the result of using Color Coded Writing (CCW) on adjective order, which the result of this research is the technique affected the students' mastery in adjective order, and the researchers expected that the next researcher use the research as the reference to the next researches to find out the theory of adjective order.

Therefore, based on the suggestions that have been given by several previous researchers, the researcher has conducted research related to ordering adjective on descriptive text material. The research was done collecting the data using qualitative research. The instruments of research used were students' worksheet and interview. Thus that the researcher found out more detailed information and describe the phenomenon that happens to the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara. This qualitative research is entitled "**The Description of Students' Ability in Ordering Adjective on Descriptive Text Material at the**

Seventh Grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023".

From the elaboration of the background of the research, the researcher identified the focuses of the research namely; the description of the students' ability in ordering adjective and to determine the factor that affects the students' ability in ordering adjective on Descriptive text material at the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023.

Based on the focuses of the research, the researcher questions were formulated in following questions:

1. How is the students' ability in ordering adjective on Descriptive Text material at the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023?
2. What are the factors affecting the students' ability in Ordering Adjective on Descriptive Text material at the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023?

METHOD

In conducted this study, the researcher used the qualitative method for get the data. According to Atmowardoyo in Utami (2022), "Descriptive research involves collecting data for the following purposes; test hypotheses or answer questions about the current state of the topic in the study". It means that descriptive research aims to collect the data based on the question that was proposed and it is based on the data from the field. Based on the explanation the location of the study was UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara that is located in Tetehosi Afia, and at the school there were 25 teachers, one of them is English teacher, and then there were 21 students of the class VII-C. This study has been conducted on May until June 2023 The time allocation refers to the education calendar of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara, which for preparing all of the research in the field the researcher started to attended a meeting about how

to write a research proposal on February, and next the researcher has been guided by the proposal advisor on March, and it has been approved to be presented in the proposal seminar forum on March, then attended seminar forum on April, after that the researcher attended the field to collect the data in the middle of May till in the middle of June.

Procedures of collecting data

In collecting the data, the researcher used two instruments of the research, both of them were students worksheet and interview sheet. The worksheet are made by the researcher. In this case, the researcher gave an example of descriptive text, after the example has been given, the researcher gave the students a picture, after picture has been given to them as the media to describe the things, the students wrote a description of a picture by using two or more adjective, then they ordered the adjective based on their knowledge that has been learnt by the teacher. After that the students' worksheet is collected, and it has investigated to collect the data in find out the students' ability in ordering adjective. In collect the data by the students' worksheet. The quantitative research is used as the tools in calculating the data, it is collected based on the scoring of adjective by Abdollah in 2018, and it is classified based on the theory by Mustakim and Ismail (2018) to find out the classification score based on the level of the students' ability

In collecting the data by using interview, the researcher was interviewed the students' based on their ability in ordering the adjective.

Technique of Analyzing the Data

In analyzing the students' ability, the quantitative data was used to know the students' ability in ordering the adjective. The following was the rubric of scoring adjective ordering from Abdollah (2018),

Table 1. Scoring Adjective Order

Name of	S	Ordering Adjective	total
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No.	Student	t	D	OS	A	S	C	O	M	P	N	score
1	S1											
2	S2											
3	S3											
4	S4											
5	S5											
6	S6											

The researcher used the rubric to score the result of students worksheet to get the final score after summing up each score for each criterion. Then it was counted by using the formula:

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\%$$

Based on the scoring rubric, the students score was categorized into score criteria:

Table 2. Classification of the Students' Score.

Score	Classification
86-100	Excellent
71-85	Good
56-70	Fair
41-55	Poor
≤ 40	Very poor

Furthermore, In analyzing the data of interview, the researcher was conducted the unstructured interview which any given a freedom question to the respondent, and the interview are conducted to the two respondents, the first one to the students, to know the factors affecting their ability in ordering adjective, and the second one is to interview the teacher to know the reason of the students' ability in ordering adjective.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The Findings of Students' Worksheet

The researcher has taken the students' worksheet on Thursday, May 25th, 2023. The students' worksheet has done to answer the first focus of this research, which has been formulated by the question "How is the students' ability in ordering adjective on descriptive text material at the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023?". After that the researcher analyzed the students' writing based on the

students' activity on the worksheet with the rubric of Abdollah 2018, and the score of the students' achievement is explained as follows;

a. Determiner (D)

Based on the table score of the students in ordering adjective. The researcher found that determiner was as the most understood by the students in ordering adjective. It achieved about 85.88% of the right order in ordering adjective. Meanwhile the students ordered it in sentences, and perhaps it was caused because determiner is the first step for ordering adjective, while there was 14.11% score of the wrong place of determiner that was achieved by the students in ordering adjective.

b. Opinion (Op)

Based on the table score of the students in ordering adjective, the researcher found that in opinion there was 32.94% of the right ordering that was achieved by the students. And the wrong ordering was 67.05%.

c. Size (Sz)

In the position of size in ordering adjective, there was 21.17% of the right place of ordering that has been achieved by the students, while in the wrong place of ordering there was 67.05%.

d. Age (A)

Based on the score of the students, it indicates that there was 8.23% of the right placement of the age position, while the number of the wrong placement was 91.76%.

e. Shape (Sh)

In the position of shape in ordering adjective, there was 1.17% of the right placement of ordering that has been achieved by the students, while there was 98.82% of the wrong placement of the shape position that has been ordered in the ordering adjective.

f. Color (C)

Based on the score of the students. The position of color in ordering adjective

achieved 45.88% of the right placement in ordering adjective, while there was 54.11% of the wrong placement of color position in ordering that has been achieved by the students.

g. Origin (Or)

In the position of origin in ordering adjective, there was no adjective that should be ordered.

h. Material (M)

In the position of material in ordering adjective, there was no adjective that should be ordered.

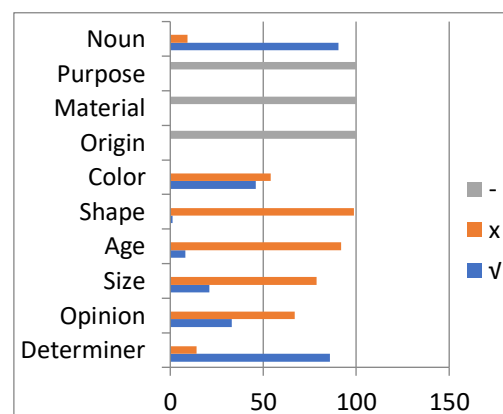
i. Purpose (P)

In the position of purpose in ordering adjective, there was no adjective that should be ordered.

j. Noun (N)

In the last position in ordering adjective, there was 90.58% of the right placement of ordering that has been achieved by the students, while in the wrong placement of ordering there was 9.41%.

Clearly it is seen in the Graphic below:



Graphic 1. Percentage of the students score in ordering adjective.

After presenting the students' score, the students' score was categorized into score criteria and it is seen in the table as follows;

Table. 3 Percentage of students' ability in ordering adjective

Score	Classification	Number of students'	Percent age
86-100	Excellent	0	0 %
71-85	Good	0	0%
56-70	Fair	0	0%
41-55	Poor	10	48%
≤ 40	Very poor	11	52%
Total		21	100%

The table describes the students' score in ordering adjective indicates there were 11 students (52%) who got very poor score, 10 students (48%) got poor score, and no one of the students (0%) got fair, good, and excellent score, in ordering adjective.

The Findings of the Interview Sheet

Table 4. The Response of Students' Interview

No	Order's Adjective Factor	Response	Number of Students	Percentage
1.	Lacking of Knowledge	The students was understand the meaning and the rules of adjective and adjective ordering	6	29%
		The students did not know anything about the adjective and adjective order	15	71%
2.	Lacking of Vocabulary	The students are trained in learning English and mastery the vocabulary that was used in adjective ordering	5	24%
		The students are not trained in learning English	10	48%
		The students could not mastery the vocabulary that was used in adjective ordering	6	28%

Based on the table above, it shows the factors influenced the students' ability in ordering adjective was caused by two factors, namely; lacking of knowledge, and lacking of vocabulary. In knowledge, there were 6 students (29%) who understood the meaning and the rules of adjective or adjective ordering, it is seen because of the students' response when the interview was conducted, the following are comments to the researcher during the interview session, "*Saya tahu adjective itu adalah kata yang menerangkan kata benda, dan urutan dari adjective ordering itu adalah, Derterminer, Opinion, Size, age, shape, color, origin, material, purpose, noun.*". Based on the students' responses it means that they were understood the adjective, while there were 15 students (71%) who did not understand anything about the adjective and the ordering adjective, it is seen because they do not know the adjective and the rule of adjective ordering. In vocabulary, there were 5 students (24%) who were trained in learning English and mastery of vocabulary in English, while there were 10 students (48%) who still were not trained in learning English, and 6 students (28%) who still did not master the vocabulary that is used in adjective ordering, and the explanation of the factors were explained in the description of the students' worksheet.

Description of the Students' Worksheet

Regarding to the theory, according to Atmowardoyo in Utami (2022), "Descriptive research involves collecting data for the following purposes; test hypotheses or answer questions about the current state of the topic in the study". In collecting data, the instrument of students' worksheet was used as the tool that was needed by the researcher. The researcher focused to describe the students' ability in ordering adjective, based on the data presented in Table 4.1 that was explained the students' score in adjective and Table 4.2 that was

explained the percentage of students' ability in ordering adjective through students' worksheet. The adjective that has been ordered was arranged by determiner, opinion, size, age, shape, color, origin, material, purpose, and the last is noun. It is supported by Andayani, (2018), "In other word, adjective in English has special rule or order word itself, the order of adjectives are: Determiners, opinion, size, age, shape, color, nationality/ origin, material, purpose, noun, and a single noun can be described as a list of adjective, when two or more adjectives are used to modify a noun, it is important to know about the order of adjective". It means that there are nine adjectives that are ordered in a sentence. If one the adjective are not to be ordered correctly as the rules based on the theory above, it is named by the wrong placement of the adjective.

Based on the data analyzed the researcher found that in placement of "determiner", the right placement achieved 85.88% in ordering the adjective. This means that most of the students are able to order the adjective 'determiner', it is because of the placement "determiner" is the first order in ordering adjective. It is supported by Abdollah (2018), "the adjective 'determiner' were correct to arrange because it is the first order in ordering adjective".

Furthermore, in ordering the adjective 'opinion' found that the students were not able to order the adjective, it showed that the correct placement of 'opinion' was 32.94%. Then, the order of adjective 'size' was little bit similar with adjective 'opinion' which the students achieved 21.17%, this means that the students were not able to order the adjective. The other side, the adjective 'age', and 'shape' were still low in placement the adjective in sentences correctly, the data showed that the adjective 'age' achieved 8.23% and adjective 'shape' achieved 1.17%, the arrangement of the adjectives made the students were confused in determining the

correct placement. Based on the students' worksheet, the example of the problem was seen from the sentence "the green old big leaves", actually by follow the rule of the position of adjective ordering, the adjective 'age' is placed before the adjective 'color', then the adjective 'size' is placed before the adjective 'age', so that the sentence is being "the big old green leaves". From the sentence, showed the students were not able to order the adjective. It is not only in a sentence, but most of the students did it in all of the sentences in describing a thing.

Moreover, the adjective 'color' is achieved 45.88% of the right placement in ordering adjective, it was showed that the students little bit understood about the position of this adjective. The adjective 'origin', 'material', and 'purpose' were not ordered in a sentence, it is one of the problem found by the researcher, because the these adjective were not ordered. Then, the adjective 'noun' showed 90.58% of the right placement that were placed in the correct position of adjective order. and because of the last order of adjective, 'noun' is one of the word that often remembered by the students in placing. Based on the explanation above, the highest percentage was the placement of 'noun' which the students' ability of the seventh grade achieved 90.58% and followed by fair percentage is 'shape' with 1.17%.

Based on Table 4.2 that is the percentage of the students' ability in ordering adjective. It was showed that there were 11 students (52%) who achieved very poor score in ordering adjective, and there were 10 students (48%) who achieved poor score in ordering adjective, and no one of the students (0%) got fair, good, and excellent score in ordering adjective. Therefore, based on the focuses of the research, which focused on the students' ability in ordering adjective. It is concluded that the students ability in ordering adjective on the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara was low.

Description of the Students' Interview

Based on data in Table 4.3 about the students' responses of interview is aimed to know the factors influenced the students' ability in ordering adjective. The theory by Ginting (2020) and theory by Rahel (2020), the factors that influenced the students' ability in ordering adjective are lacking of knowledge and lacking of vocabulary. In the factor that influenced the students in lacking knowledge, there were 71% of the students who still did not know anything about the adjective included the rules of the adjective, it is because the answer of the students when the researcher did the interview said that the students did not know the adjective, and the students were telling the rules of the adjective in the wrong placement, and 29% of the students understood the adjective then based on the answer of the interview, it showed that the students explain the correct placement of the adjective.

In the interview sheet, it was found the result of the research shows there were 24% of the students who were trained in learning English, because of their response said that they have learnt English when they were in the elementary school and they have been trained about English, and they know the vocabulary that is used in the adjective particularly in ordering adjective. And there were 48% students who were not trained in learning English, it was because of the students' responses that said that they have no interest in learning English, and several of the students said learning English makes them was boring, and the other answer were said that actually the students was interesting in learning English a little bit, but when they are trying to learn it, it makes them difficult because of lack of vocabulary, It is supported by Abdollah (2018), "Most of the students got problem in ordering adjective, because the most of the students still lack in vocabulary". By the theory above, it showed that vocabulary is one the problems that was faced by the students, thus that the students were

interested in learning the other subject such as art, sports, and the other. The following are comments to the researcher during the interview session: "*Saya suka bahasa Inggris Pak, namun karena kosa katanya yang banyak dan juga perbedaan kalau dibaca dan di tulis itulah mengapa saya mengabaikan bahasa inggris dan lebih suka pelajaran seni budaya*", "I like English Sir, but because the vocabulary is too much and the differences when reading and writing that's why I ignore English and more like the art lesson". And there were 28% of the students who could not master the vocabulary that is used in adjective order.

Based on the description of the students' interview, it is concluded that the factors influenced the students' ability in ordering adjective were lack of knowledge and lack of vocabulary that is used in the adjective order,.

Conclusions and Recommendation

Conclusions

Related to the result of the students' worksheet and the interview of the students of Class VII-C in UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara, some of the students still lack in ordering the adjective. After conducting the students' worksheet, it was found that the ability of students in ordering adjective got score very poor (52%) and followed by the poor score (48%), and there is no one of the students who can achieve the good or the excellent score in ordering adjective.

Furthermore, the result of the research findings also indicate that the major factors that influenced the students ability is because of the factor knowledge, which the students did not know anything about adjective and adjective order include the rules of the adjective order, and the percentage of the factor was 71%. And the second factor followed by the factors of lacking of vocabulary. Which the students are not trained in learning English, and then the students could not mastery the vocabulary that is used in adjective order.

Regarding to the explanation above, it is concluded that the students' ability in ordering adjective on descriptive text material at the seventh grade of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara in 2022/2023 was low category, and it was caused by two factors, namely; lacking of knowledge and lacking of vocabulary.

Recommendations

There are several recommendations from the researcher after conducting the research, namely:

1. For the English teacher of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara

By this research, the researcher hopes the English teacher makes the students aware of the students error in ordering adjective based on the students' ability in ordering adjective that has been showed in the findings, and the researcher hopes that the teacher can use various ways to teach the lesson, so that the students can order the adjective correctly in the descriptive text material.

2. For the students of UPTD SMP Negeri 2 Gunungsitoli Utara

The students must change the mindset about the students perception that English was a very difficult to be learnt, and the students can ask questions to the teacher when the students find the difficulties in ordering adjective.

3. For the next researchers

This research is used as the references to observe and identify more about the adjective order. And the next researchers are also expected to be able to cover the limitation about this research as well as, particularly of the problem made by the students who still lack in ordering the adjective and find out why rule of Origin, Material, Purpose in adjective order are not ordered in sentences like as the students' ability of this research. Furthermore, the researcher hopes the next researcher can prepare anything as good as possible in doing research and can follow up the research.

4. For the University of Nias

This research is used to make the students of university of Nias produces a better quality as the critically and scientifically students. Therefore, this research is expected to make the university of Nias will have the good rank, particularly in the field of the research.

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