AN ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS: THE USE OF TENSES AND PASSIVE VOICE IN ESSAY WRITING MADE BY STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY OF LETTERS JEMBER UNIVERSITY IN THE 2005/2006 ACADEMIC YEAR

THESIS

**A Thesis presented to the English Department, Faculty of Letters,
Jember University as One of the Requirements to Get
the Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree
in English Studies**

Written by:

RINA NUR ASNAH
NIM : 030110101049

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF LETTERS

JEMBER UNIVERSITY

2007

SUMMARY

"An Analysis Of Grammatical Errors: The Use Of Tenses And Passive Voice In Essay Writing Made By Students Of English Department Faculty of Letters Jember University In The 2005/2006 Academic Year", Rina Nur Asnah, 030110101049, 2007,49.

Using correct grammar is important both in spoken and written English. Therefore grammar occupies an important role where the language uses patterns to convey meaning. Studying grammar is the basic study of language. In Indonesia English is regarded as foreign language. It means that a leaner who is studying English is inevitable to make error. In this case the students of English Department as English learners also still make errors in studying English especially grammar. They do errors in the use of tenses and passive voice especially in their essay writing. This thesis intends to analyze the error and the ability of students in the use of tenses and passive voice.

In this study the method of the research is descriptive. The researcher uses essay writing test to obtain primary data. Exactly, the data are obtained by asking the students of 2005/2006 academic year, as respondents, to write a free topic in essay writing. The time given for doing the test is about 30 minutes in 300 words. In this test the students have to pay more attention in the use of tenses and passive voice. Through this test the researcher can analyze the error of tenses and passive voice that students make.

After the data are obtained, the next step is to analyze the errors and to show the ability of the students in using tenses and passive voice. The error data are shown in percentage form. According to the result of this study, the total errors of tenses and passive voice are 147. It can be classified into omission (46.28%) that has fair categorization, addition (5.44%) that has good categorization and misformation (48.24%) that has fair categorization. The general classification of tenses and passive voice error shows that simple present tense is classified into poor and the others are good. Based on this research the students of 2005/2006 academic year still make

errors in their essay writing. The students' error in simple present tense is they omit *s/es* for third person singular. Another error is the use of wrong structure in using simple present tense in their writing. From the description above, it can be concluded that the students of 2005/2006 academic year are good in using tenses and passive voice except in using simple present tense.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Firstly, I would like to express my best praise to Allah SWT, the most Beneficent, the Almighty and the Merciful. Because of His mercy and blessing, I can finish my study. He gives a chance and the most valuable time for me to finish this thesis.

Secondly, in the process of finishing this thesis, it cannot be separated from valuable help of many wondrous people. Therefore, I also would like thank to the following people:

1. Prof. Dr. Samudji, MA; the Dean of Faculty of Letters, Jember University, Drs. Syamsul Anam, MA and Dra. Dina Dyah K.,MA, the head and secretary of English Department for their permission, I can start to write this thesis.
2. Dra. Hj. Meilia Adiana, MPd, my first advisor and Drs. Wisasongko MA, my second advisor who supported and guided me kindly and patiently. They voluntarily spent their time to correct my thesis. So, I can achieve the writing of this thesis.
3. All of the lecturers of English Department who have given me their best teaching and knowledge during my study and all of the staffs who have given me their best service.
4. The librarians of Faculty of Letters, and the Central library of Jember University, who have permitted me to borrow and to copy a number of books with their familiarities and friendly attitude.
5. My beloved family who support me with their love, prayer and kindness.
6. All of my classmates and friends who have given me support for the success of my study.
7. All of friends of English Department Faculty of Letters in the 2005/2006 academic year who have been ready as respondents in my thesis research.
8. The member of Salsabila Moslem Apartment, the old and new. Mbak Lina, mbak Erni, mbak Nisa, mbak Titut, Dian (“Osteoporosis”), Irme

Windesere,S.S, Rmate (Bau), Anis (Menis and JJ), Lise, Fire, Asri etc. The new: Lista, Ayu etc. Thanks for the beautiful "Ukhuwah".

9. The LPMS-ers, the old committee, Catur Chatty, mas Agung, mbak Vina, mas Iem, mbak Eli, mbak Mei, mbak Dwie and etc. and the new, Cicik, Ubet, Sobib, Dewi, Nana, Nurul, Witing, Zaki, Anas and etc. Here I grow up. IDEAS always says "Menggurat Visi Kerakyatan". Never stop to say the truth. Viva Press!!
10. All of friends in "Mitreka Satata" (The Association of Nganjuk Students in Jember), mbak Santi, Indah, Helmi, Tigar, Yuan, Nitnot, Supri, Puguh, mas Bril, mas Supris, mbak Wiwin and the others. Laugh and cry together.
11. Thanks for Pakde Parlan at Halmahera and Uzlifatul, S.S is one of my best friend.

Finally, I expect suggestion and advice from the readers who would like to study tenses and passive voice for the improvement of this thesis.

Jember, November 15th , 2007 Rina Nur Asnah

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
FRONTISPIECE …….....		**i**
DEDICATION …….		**ii**
MOTTO ……		**iii**
DECLARATION ……		**iv**
APPROVAL PAGE …….		**v**
SUMMARY …….....		**vi**
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ……..…		**viii**
TABLE OF CONTENT ……..……		**x**
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION ……		**1**
1.1	The Background of Study …….....	1
1.2	The Problems to Discuss ……	3
1.3	The Scope of the Study …….	3
1.4	The Goals of the Study ……...	3
1.5	The Significance of the Study ……..	4
1.6	The Organization of the Thesis …….....	4
CHAPTER 2. THEORETICAL REVIEW ……		**5**
2.1	The Meaning of Errors ……..	5
2.2	The Source of Errors …….	6
2.3	The Categories of Errors ……...	6
	2.3.1 Omission ……...	7
	2.3.2 Addition …….....	7
	2.3.3 Misformation …….....	8
2.4	The Object of Error Analysis ……	9
	2.4.1 Tenses ……	9

a. Simple Present Tense ……..... 12
b. Present Continuous Tense …….. 13
c. Simple Past Tense …… 13
d. Simple Future Tense ……. 13
e. Perfect Tense …….. 14
2.4.2 Passive Voice …… 15
2.4.3 Hypothesis..... 16
CHAPTER 3. METHODOLOGY RESEARCH …… 18
3.1 Method of Research …… 18
3.2 Populations and Sample ……..... 19
3.3 The Type of Data ……..... 20
3.4 Data Collection ……..... 20
3.5 Type of Analysis …….. 21
CHAPTER 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION ……..... 23
4.1 Identifying Errors Data …….. 23
4.2 Evaluating Errors Data…. …..……..... 27
4.3 Explaining Errors Data ……..... 30
4.3.1 The Analysis in Using Simple Present Tense 30
4.3.2 The Analysis in Using Present Continuous Tense 35
4.3.3 The Analysis in Using Simple Past Tense ……. 35
4.3.4 The Analysis in Using Simple Future Tense ……. 37
4.3.5 The Analysis in Using Perfect Tense ……..... 37
4.3.6 The Analysis in Using Passive Voice ……..... 38
CHAPTER 5. CONCLUSION …… 41
BIBLIOGRAPHY …… 43
APPENDICES ……. 45