ABSTRACT

English Articles Errors in University Students' Academic Writing

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This research aims to describe the types of English articles errors produced by university students in their writing. In this study, the writer used qualitative method as the research design. The data were obtained from students' writing in the form of soft file and the writings were analyzed under Corder (1984)'s theory of Error Analysis. The writer selected 10 paper of 10 students as data source of this study. The data were classified into 4 (four) types of errors, they are omission errors, addition errors, selection errors, and misordering errors.

The result of this study shows that university students made more errors in using English articles in three types of errors. The types of errors are omission errors of definite article 'the' that was made by 5 students; addition error of definite article 'the' that was produced by 3 students; selection error of definite article 'the' for indefinite article 'a/an' made by only 1 student; and selection errors of indefinite article 'a/an for definite article 'the' in the writing of 3 students. Furthermore, the most frequently used by University students is selection errors of indefinite article 'a' for definite article 'the' where most of them used indefinite article 'a' to something that the referent is clearly mentioned in the sentence.

Keywords: articles, error analysis, Corder's theory.