

ABSTRACT

Margareta, Iranda Lilis. 2022. *Error in the Use of Simple Past Tense Committed by EFL Students'*. Thesis. English Education Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Jember. Advisor: (1) Henri Fatkurochman, M. Hum. (2) Widya Oktarini, MA.

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Simple past tense is a tense that describes an event that happened in the past. Students in Indonesia still have difficulty in using simple past tense, they often have difficulty in distinguishing between regular and irregular verbs in the simple past tense. This can occur due to a lack of understanding and mastery of students towards grammar, resulting in error. Therefore, this research is conducted to investigate grammatical errors, especially in the use of the simple past tense by students.

The problem of this study is what type of errors are made by students of SMP Miftahul Ulum Rambipuji of using simple past tense? and what are the causes of the students make errors in using the simple past tense?. This study aimed to describe the type of errors made by students of SMP Miftahul Ulum Rambipuji of using simple past tense and to find out the causes of students to make errors in using the simple past tense.

This study is descriptive qualitative research method. The subject of this research was the eighth grade students at SMP Miftahul Ulum Rambipuji, comprised of 28 students. The instrument of this research were writing task, questionnaire, and interview.

It was found that 3 kinds of errors are committed by the students. The three errors were omission with 20 errors, addition with 2 errors, and misformation with 386 errors. Based on analysis of questionnaire and interview, it was found that the causes of student making error were overgeneralization, false concept hypothesized, and ignorance of the rules' restrictions

Based on the research result, it can be concluded that the most types errors were committed by students is misformation error, and the causes of students in making error in the use of simple past tense were overgeneralization, ignorance of the rules' restrictions, and false concept hypothesized.