

ABSTRACT

Adelia Anasta Sia, Adverbial Particles and Prepositions in University Reading Texts: Meaning and Frequency Distribution. English Language Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta: 1993.

English prepositions are taught in the SMP, in the SMA and in the university. However, university students often find it difficult to interpret their Indonesian meanings in reading texts. Since prepositions may have the same forms as adverbial particles and each of them may have more than one meaning, it is not easy for the students to master the meanings of these particles.

The objective of this research was to find the distribution of particles in university reading texts in terms of their being adverbial and prepositional and their meanings. This was done in order to know the Indonesian specific meanings and generic meaning of each preposition and those of each adverbial particle, the most frequent preposition and adverbial particle and which one of these particles has higher occurrences.

The sample of the research was taken from eight books used in different disciplines and two articles from two magazines. The particles and their Indonesian meanings which appeared in the sample were put in the data inventory.

There were two designs applied in this research. The descriptive design was used to present a descriptive statistic of specific meanings of each particle and the occurrences of prepositions and adverbial particles. The ex-post facto design was used to compare the occurrences

of prepositions and those of adverbial particles. In this design, a test was conducted to see whether the hypothesis which stated that prepositions have higher occurrences than adverbial particles was verified or not. For this purpose, the chi-square test was used.

The result of this research showed that each particle may have more than one meaning. One of the meanings was frequently used than the others. From the distribution of particles, preposition *OF* and adverbial particles *UP* and *OUT* were the most frequently used. The result of the hypothesis testing showed that there were significant differences between the occurrences of the two particles. So the hypothesis was verified. Based on this statistical analysis result, it could be stated that prepositions have higher occurrences than adverbial particles.

In reference to the result of the research, it is suggested that the English teachers focus their teaching more on prepositions than adverbial particles. The prepositions which are more frequently used and their meanings are introduced first with the emphasis on the generic meanings of the prepositions. After the students are able to master these prepositions, they are given the less frequently used prepositions. Then adverbial particles which are more frequently used can be presented.