

ABSTRACT

Surono, Hery. (1993). *A Discourse Error Analysis: English Business Writing at College*. Yogyakarta: Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Language and Arts Education, Sanata Dharma Institute of Teacher Training and Education.

English business writing has been a prominent subject to teach at colleges due to its importance in international communication in recent globalization era. In line with Lado's contrastive analysis (1981), however, Indonesian learners still find a lot of problems in their learning due to differences in the target language and their mother tongue.

Consequently, there is a tendency, as hypothesized in this research, for the learners to produce errors when the differences between the two languages occur. This research is concerned with the college students' difficulties resulting discourse errors, i.e. register, textual, referential errors, which are produced in their English business writing. This research is then to verify whether or not the number of those three errors is distributed equally, subject to Lado's theory.

A discourse error analysis therefore is applied to identify, analyze, and gather the discourse errors which are produced by college students and then later are consulted to an analysis of variance so as to test the research hypothesis.

Based on the computation carried out, significantly this research verifies that the number of register, textual, and referential errors is different from one another. Textual errors are verified as the most productive, and referen-

tial and register errors follow respectively. This verification helps modify a manual which is very useful for material development.

This research specifically concentrates on register, textual, and referential errors merely; it is expected therefore for any other research study working on any other discourse errors to carry out. Furthermore, the manual and material generated in this research, being a by-product finding, are therefore still not tried out nor tested so as to test their quality. Another research to test how well the suggested manual and material apply is very much welcome.

