

ABSTRACT

The rapid growth of English in Indonesia has reached almost every place. One reason supporting that growth is tourism. English provides not only knowledge but also a better living for people working in tourism. It is not surprising that people in a small place like Prambanan speak English which is different in forms from one person to another. This fact makes the writer eager to know the correlation between English spoken by the tourism service personnels in Prambanan and their social background such as sex, age, education and job. This thesis also aims to describe the patterns of the relationship between English and those social factors.

In composing this thesis, the writer conducts a sample survey on some people working as tourism service personnels in Prambanan such as guides, souvenir sellers, food sellers, etc. The writer used a participant observation and an interviewing technique to observe the respondents' English as well as their social backgrounds. Besides, a questionnaire is used to complete the work. In order to check the validity of the data, the writer observes another group which is also working in tourism. This triangulation is done in the Sultan's Palace and Malioboro St., Yogyakarta. The results of the observation show some similarities both in phonology and syntax - the two elements that become a limit in this study.

The findings show that most of the respondents' English, in this case in phonology and syntax, is 'deviant' in the pronunciation of the English words with voiced and voiceless -th, in the words ended in consonant cluster, and in the past tense suffix. They also simplify English vowels and diphthongs, and pronounce them like Indonesian vowels and diphthongs.

Stress and intonation do not work in the respondents' English. In syntax, they also make many variations in articles, sentence formation, tenses, question word questions, plural, prepositions, comparison, concord, and passives.

From the analysis it can be concluded that the variations those respondents make are correlated with their social factors. Age is the clearest factor that is correlated with the form of English produced by the respondents. The older the respondent is, the more deviant the English sentences he produces will be. Formal education, i.e., those from the elementary up to university levels, does not guarantee the form of the respondents' English, but knowledge in English will help them a lot to produce better English. It is also found that job is related to their English. The respondents who use English more frequently at work have better English, but they generally only master some parts of the language which are often used in that occasion. Female respondents show that they make more careful speech by giving a lot of pauses in their speech, but their competence in syntax is better than the male respondents although they have the same educational background.