

ABSTRACT

MG. DEWI YUNIVERSANTI, The Frequencies of Noun Premodifiers in Senior High School and University Textbooks, English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, 1995.

There are many kinds of noun premodifiers in English. They are very important in constructing English sentences. Noun premodifiers have important roles that make them an important grammar item to understand.

The objective of this research was to find the noun premodifiers which occurred in senior high school textbooks and compare them to the noun premodifiers which occurred in university textbooks. This research also tried to find the noun premodifiers which have the high, medium and low of occurrence. This work was conducted at the English Education Department of Sanata Dharma University from April 1993 to November 1994.

The sample of the research were taken from 500 sentences of the reading passages in six senior high school textbooks and 500 sentences taken from six university textbooks. All the noun premodifiers which appeared in the sample were tallied. Tables were made to make the work easier. Then from the tables, the classification of the noun premodifiers could be seen clearly. To know the result of this research, the comparison between the frequency of the noun premodifiers in senior high school and university textbooks was made.

The result of this reaserch showed that there are 1308 noun premodifiers in 500 sentences taken from six senior high school textbooks, and there are 3039 noun premodifiers in 500 sentences taken from six university textbooks. Each category has different frequency of occurrence. Altogether, they can be grouped in three frequency levels. In the observed data, the high frequency of noun premodifiers included central determiners and adjectives, the medium frequency included postdeterminers and nouns, and the low frequency included predeterminers, -ing participles, -ed participles, genitives and adverbs. However, in the expected data, the high frequency included central determiners and adjectives, but there were no determiners or premodifiers included in the medium frequency. The low frequency included postdeterminers, nouns, predeterminers, -ing participles, -ed participles, genitives and adverbs.

As a conclusion, it can be stated that learning the noun premodifiers it was better for the learners to know more about central determiners and adjectives, since, as it was proven in the analysis result that central determiners and adjectives occur most frequent among others. Accordingly, it is suggested that in learning teaching activities a teacher should introduce and include noun premodifiers in his/her teaching especially reading and vocabulary. The teacher should also give more additional reading passages to the learners in order to get more knowledge in the use of noun premodifiers in sentences.

