

ABSTRACT

F.X. Yulianto : A STUDY ON THE MASTERY OF THE ENGLISH PASSIVE VOICE AMONG THE FIRST SEMESTER STUDENTS OF THE EXTENSION COURSE OF SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY

For most Indonesian students, English is not an easy language to master. One of the problems which often makes the students find it difficult to master is the passive voice. Meanwhile, students should not ignore the elements of the passive voice since unless the students use correct passive elements, the message conveyed might not be understood or might be misinterpreted by the listener or the reader.

The objectives of this study were to discover the mastery of the English passive voice among the first semester Extension Course students of Sanata Dharma University and then to find out and analyze the errors committed by the students. Based on the findings, the writer suggested a way to teach the English passive voice to the students who are interested in mastering the English passive voice.

As for the methodology, the writer conducted a survey study on the students' mastery of the English passive voice. Here the writer assigned the test given to the first semester Extension Course students of the academic year of 1995/1996. In addition, there were two classes of SMA students of SMA Kolese de Britto, taken as a sample.

The findings showed that no group achieved 75 % or more of correct items. Since less than 85 % of the students achieved 75 % of correct items, the students concerned were considered as having difficulties in mastering the English passive voice.

In the discussion of the research findings, the data

obtained was analyzed in terms of error analysis. The sources of errors covered: (1) interference of the students' first language, (2) overgeneralization, (3) ignorance of rule restrictions, (4) incomplete application of rules, and (5) false concept hypothesized as presented by Richards (1974, p.173). As for the implication to language instruction, the writer presented an alternative way of teaching the English passive voice.

Finally, the writer suggested some treatments of each possible sources of errors. It implied that the success in language learning-teaching process depends not only on the lecturers, but also on the students themselves.

