

## ABSTRACT

Heribertus Priowibowo. 1999: *The Students' Errors in Learning the English Primary Verbs be, do and have as an Introductory Material in SMTP Pangudi Luhur Boro Yogyakarta*. Yogyakarta. Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education. Sanata Dharma University.

One important element of English is its grammar. English learners often find it difficult to learn. In learning English as a foreign language, students can not avoid making errors. These errors cannot be omitted since the students are not familiar with English because English contains some potential confusions. This research was intended to measure the students' competencies in one aspect of the grammatical element of the primary verbs *be*, *do*, and *have*, since the mastery of those verbs is necessary to bring about successful and meaningful communication in English.

The aim of this thesis was to find out whether the Junior High School students faced difficulties in learning the verbs *be*, *do*, and *have* or not. If they did, the kinds of difficulties and the sources of errors were identified. The survey was conducted to find out the answers of the problems. The writer assigned 2 kinds of tests, multiple-choice and completion tests to the *SMTP Pangudi Luhur Boro Yogyakarta*.

The results of the tests showed that only a small number of the students could achieve 75% or more of the correct answers. Since fewer than 85% of the students achieved 75% of correct answers, it could be concluded that the students fail in learning the verbs *be*, *do*, and *have*. The difficulties that the students faced were reflected from the students errors. Most errors were wrong forms, meanings and functions of the verbs. The writer identified some possible factors causing difficulties that the students faced in learning the verbs *be*, *do* and *have*. Those factors were: The nature of the target language, English; the interlingual transfer (interference) from the mother tongue, Indonesian; the intralingual transfer (overgeneralization) and the nature of teaching and learning material.

Finally, the writer suggested ways of teaching the verbs *do*, *be*, and *have*, in order to improve the students' achievements. And expectedly, the ways of teaching would be helpful for English learning in general.

