

ABSTRACT

Widiastuti, Paula. 2003. *A Study on the Difficulties in Mastering the Simple Present Tense and the Simple Past Tense Among the Third Grade Students of SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul Yogyakarta*. Yogyakarta: Sanata Dharma University.

This study was intended to investigate the difficulties faced by the third grade students of *SLTP (Sekolah Lanjutan Tingkat Pertama) Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul Yogyakarta* in mastering the simple present tense and the simple past tense. This topic was chosen because those tenses are familiar to the students, however, they face difficulties in mastering those tenses.

There are two research problems in this study. The first research problem is how much have the third grade students of *SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul* mastered the simple present tense and the simple past tense? The second research problem is what kinds of difficulties do the third grade students of *SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul* have in mastering the simple present tense and the simple past tense?

The method used in this study was survey. As the instrument, a test was designed and administered to the subjects of the research. The test result was analyzed to know the students' achievement and to investigate the difficulties they face by analyzing the errors they made.

The research findings show that the students' achievement was not satisfactory. In general the third grade students of *SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul* face difficulties in mastering those tenses. According to the standard of learning mastery in *Petunjuk Pelaksanaan Mata Pelajaran Pengelolaan Kurikulum* issued by Department of Education and Culture, a student is considered successful in mastering a particular learning if she or he achieves more than 75% of the total scores of the test. Whereas, according to the research result, only 29.76% students who achieved 75% or more of the possible correct answers

The difficulties faced by the students of *SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul* in learning the simple present tense were the difficulties in using the auxiliaries, adverbial of time, the agreement between the subjects and the verbs, negative and interrogative forms. Meanwhile, the students' difficulties in mastering the simple past tense were the difficulties in using the auxiliaries, regular verb, irregular verb, adverbial of time, negative form, and interrogative form. Based on the difficulty index, the students found most difficult part in the agreement between the subjects and the verbs (0.41) and adverbial of time (0.37) in mastering the simple present tense. Meanwhile, in mastering the simple past tense, the students found the most difficult part in using adverbial of time (0.29) and negative form (0.29).

The teachers are suggested to give clearer concept, explanation and exercises in learning those tenses. Moreover, the students should have more exercises in learning those tenses. By doing so, the students can internalize the rules of those tenses easier. For further researchers, they are hoped to concern about the teaching and learning of English tenses, especially relating to the techniques of how to overcome the difficulties in mastering the tenses. Further researchers also can investigate the factors causing the difficulties in learning the tenses by distributing questionnaires to the students to avoid guessing in investigating those factors.

ABSTRAK

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Studi ini bertujuan untuk menemukan kesulitan-kesulitan yang dihadapi murid-murid kelas tiga SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul dalam mempelajari simple present tense dan simple past tense. Topik ini dipilih karena murid-murid mengalami kesulitan-kesulitan dalam mempelajari simple present tense dan simple past tense.

Dalam studi ini terdapat dua rumusan masalah. Pertama, seberapa kemampuan murid-murid SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul dalam mempelajari simple present tense dan simple past tense? Kedua, kesulitan-kesulitan apa saja yang dihadapi murid-murid SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro Bantul dalam mempelajari simple present tense dan simple past tense?

Metode yang digunakan dalam studi ini adalah survei. Sebagai instrumen dalam studi ini, sebuah tes disusun dan diberikan kepada responden untuk dikerjakan. Hasil tes dianalisa untuk mengetahui prestasi murid dan untuk mencari kesulitan yang dihadapi para murid dengan menganalisa kesalahan dalam mengerjakan tes.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pada umumnya murid-murid menghadapi kesulitan-kesulitan dalam mempelajari simple present tense dan simple past tense. Berdasarkan standar penguasaan pembelajaran dalam Petunjuk Pelaksanaan Mata Pelajaran Pengelolaan Kurikulum yang dikeluarkan oleh Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan RI, seorang siswa dianggap berhasil dalam suatu pembelajaran apabila ia mencapai skor lebih dari 75% dari total jawaban benar. Sementara menurut hasil penelitian hanya 6 responden dari 67 responden yang berhasil mencapai skor lebih dari 75% dari total jawaban benar. Dengan melihat hasil itu, dapat disimpulkan bahwa penguasaan simple present tense dan simple past tense murid-murid SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro tidak memuaskan.

Kesulitan-kesulitan yang dihadapi murid-murid SLTP Kanisius Bambanglipuro dalam mempelajari simple present tense yaitu: kesulitan dalam menentukan kata kerja bantu, kata keterangan waktu, kecocokan penggunaan subyek dan kata kerja, bentuk kalimat negatif dan interogatif. Sementara kesulitan-kesulitan dalam mempelajari simple past tense kesulitan dalam menentukan kata kerja bantu, kata kerja beraturan dan tidak beraturan, kata keterangan waktu, bentuk kalimat negatif dan interogatif. Berdasarkan index kesulitannya, kesulitan yang banyak dihadapi dalam mempelajari simple present tense adalah kecocokan penggunaan subyek dan kata kerja (0,41) dan kata keterangan waktu (0,37). Sedangkan kesulitan yang banyak dihadapi dalam mempelajari simple past tense adalah kesulitan dalam memilih kata keterangan waktu (0,29) dan bentuk negatif (0,29).

Untuk para guru disarankan agar memberikan konsep, penjelasan, dan latihan yang lebih banyak. Begitu pula dengan para murid untuk banyak berlatih sehingga mereka bisa menguasai simple present tense dan simple past tense dengan lebih mudah. Untuk para peneliti, disarankan untuk mengambil topik yang berhubungan dengan teknik pembelajaran untuk bisa mengajarkan tense lebih efektif. Para peneliti juga bisa meneliti faktor-faktor yang menyebabkan para murid mengalami kesulitan dalam mempelajari tense tersebut dengan menyebarkan kuesioner kepada para murid.