

GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN THE “PORTAL NASIONAL REPUBLIK INDONESIA” WEBSITE

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ABSTRACT

This research aims at investigating the grammatical errors that occur in the English version of an official Indonesia website “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia”. In particular, it attempts to classify the errors based on *Surface Strategy Taxonomy* proposed by Dulay, Burt, and Krashen (1982). The data used in this research are taken from four articles on the website, : *Indonesia at a Glance*, *President & Vice*, *United Indonesia Cabinet*, and *Palaces*. The result shows errors in sixteen linguistic categories in the *Surface Strategy Taxonomy* which are divided into: *omission*, *addition*, *misformation*, and *misordering*. From all the four parts, the most frequent errors are in the part of *misformation* (188 errors; 78.96%) followed by *omission* (39 errors; 16.38%), *addition* (8 errors; 3.36%), and *misordering* (2 errors; 0.84%). From the linguistic categories, the three most frequent errors are the “spelling” with 74 errors (31.08%), then “parallelism” with 62 errors (26.04%), and “determiner” with 21 errors (8.82%). The research concludes that the author needs to develop his accuracy in using english in order to keep the reputation of the website.

Keywords: grammatical error, *Surface Strategy Taxonomy*, official Indonesia website, error analysis

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan mengidentifikasi kesalahan tata bahasa dalam situs resmi Indonesia, yaitu “Portal Nasional Indonesia”. Secara khusus, penelitian mengklasifikasikan kesalahan-kesalahan berdasarkan *Surface Strategy Taxonomy* yang diungkapkan oleh Dulay, Burt, dan Krashen (1982). Data riset yakni artikel Indonesia at a Glance, President & Vice, United Indonesia Cabinet, dan Palaces. Ditemukan enam belas kategori kesalahan tata bahasa yang selanjutnya diklasifikasikan ke dalam *Surface Strategy Taxonomy*. Secara spesifik yakni: *omission*, *addition*, *misinformation*, dan *misordering*. Dari keempat bagian ditemukan kesalahan-kesalahan yang paling banyak terdapat pada bagian *misformation* (188 kesalahan; 78.96%), lalu *omission* (39 kesalahan; 16.38%), *addition* (8 kesalahan; 3,36%), dan *misordering* (2 kesalahan; 0.84%). Dalam kategori kesalahan tata bahasa, penelitian ini menemukan tiga kesalahan terbanyak yang sering terjadi yaitu spelling dengan 74 kesalahan (31.08%), parallelism dengan 62 kesalahan

(25.42%), determiner dengan (29 kesalahan; 11.89%). Data di atas, menunjukkan bahwa kesalahan yang paling banyak terjadi pada bagian *misformation of spelling*. Hasil penelitian membuktikan bahwa pemahaman penulis dalam menggunakan bahasa Inggris masih perlu dikembangkan dengan tujuan untuk menjaga reputasi website itu sendiri.

Kata kunci: kesalahan tata bahasa, Surface Strategy Taxonomy, situs resmi Indonesia, analisis kesalahan

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Grammar needs careful attention in written articles especially those to be published on the official websites. If there are many errors found, it will affect misunderstanding to the readers and it will also affect the reputation of the websites. This means that the owner or anyone who is responsible for the quality of the websites should check the language accuracy before the articles get published.

There are a number of causes of grammatical errors as identified by some linguists, such as Richards (1974), Sager (1983), and Ellis & Barkhuizen (2005). Richards (1974) argues that “interlanguage errors exist because of the interference of the learner’s mother tongue.” From his argument, it can be concluded that the mother tongue of the learners is the cause of the occurrence of errors. Sager (1983) claims that “the most serious errors are those resulting from the incompetence in a second language”. His claim is supported by Ellis & Barkhuizen (2005) by stating that “the cause of the occurring errors is because the learner has not yet learned how to master grammatical form.” Hence, the learners should have good competency in the second language and they should be careful with their grammar as it is one of the important parts in learning the second language.

Considering that grammatical errors must be avoided in writing, the researcher investigates errors in an Indonesia’s official website. The website is chosen because it contains information about Indonesia in English which means that the website is crucial as it plays a significant role in introducing Indonesia to the world. However, the websites has errors. The following are some examples of errors found (underlined words) on the website:

1. The evacuation, treatment, and medication of the population at the natural disaster affected areas.
2. The Indonesian archipelago became an important trading area at least since the 7th

century, when the Kingdom of Sriwijaya established religion and trade relations with China and India.

3. Increased diversification, distribution and access to energy so that each of the Indonesian people are able to obtain energy according to the needs and capabilities of purchasing power.

The first example shows error occurring in using preposition which should be “in”. Then, the second error shows the incorrect use of “Simple Present Perfect”. The proper form should be “has become” instead of “became”. The last one is the error in using the subject verb agreement, which should be “...each of the Indonesian people is able to obtain energy...”.

Those examples of the errors have motivated the researcher to analyze the grammatical errors found on the website in order to explain why they are classified as errors, and the offers the correct form for all the errors. All the attempts are given to make this official website better because it relates to the reputation of the website. More importantly, the correction toward the errors helps the users to browse and search information about Indonesia on the website without difficulties.

Research Goals

The researcher has the following objectives:

1. To identify the errors that occur in the “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia” website.
2. To provide explanations for the errors that have been classified based on linguistic features using Dulay, Burt, and Krashen s taxonomy or Surface Strategy Taxonomy (1982).
3. To present the correct forms of all errors discovered.

Research Methods

This paper researched Indonesian website “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia”. The website was accessed on November 11, 2014. The researcher collected the data from four sections out

of the seven sections on the website. Only some sections are used. Due to the unavailable English version provided in the rest three sections. That is why only four sections from all the seven sections of the website that can be used as the source of the data. The four sections are: *Indonesia at a Glance*, *President & Vice*, *United Indonesia Cabinet*, and *Palaces*.

All the data from the four sections are identified and classified based on Dulay, Burt, and Krashen’s taxonomy or Surface Strategy Taxonomy (1982). The data are shown and presented in tables, with the number of errors and the kind of errors. In some cases, there is more than one error found in one sentence, and all are counted.

Theoretical Approach

Dulay, Burt, and Krashen (1982) propose a taxonomy called “A Surface Strategy Taxonomy”. It shows the tendencies of the second language learners who might omit, add, misform, or misorder items in their sentence. Indeed, there are four types of Surface Strategy Taxonomy and the explanation of each of them by Dulay et al. (1982) is provided below.

A. Omission

Omission is the kind of error when an absence of an item occurs in a well-formed utterance. For example: The man goes his bedroom after he studies. The sentence is incorrect because the preposition “to” that should appear after the verb “goes” is omitted.

B. Additions

Addition is the kind of error when a presence of an item appears in a well-formed sentence. This type is divided into three points, they are: double marking, regularization, and simple addition.

1. Double marking: When two items rather than one are marked for the same feature, such as “He does not knows my name.”
2. Regularization: When a marker that is typically added to a linguistic item is erroneously added to exceptional items of the given class that do not take a marker, such as “The sheeps are now sleeping.”

3. Simple addition: When an error is not a double marking nor a regularization, such as “The ball you search is not in over here.” More detailed examples are given below.

Linguistic Item Added	Example
3 rd person singular -s	The fishes does not live in the water
Past tense (irregular)	The train is gonna broke it
Article a	a this
Preposition	In over here

C. Misformation

Misformation is the kind of error when the morpheme or structure is incorrectly used. This type is similar to the addition type since there are three parts included in this type, they are: regularization, archi-forms, and alternating forms. The explanation is shown below:

1. Regularization: When a regular marker is used in place of an irregular one, as in runned for ran or gooses for geese. More detailed examples are provided in a table in below.

Linguistic Item Added	Example
Reflexive Pronoun	hisself (himself)
Regular past	I falled (fèll)
Plural	gooses (geese); childs (children)

2. Archi-forms: When the selection of one member of a class of forms occurs to represent others in the class, such as “That dogs bark so loudly in the park.”
3. Alternating forms: When the use of archi-forms often gives way to the apparently fairly free alternation of various members of a class with each other. The examples of alternating forms are provided in the following page.
 - (a) Demonstrative: Those dog, this cats.
 - (b) Pronoun :
 - Masculine for feminine (or vice versa), as in: he for she.
 - Plural for singular (or vice versa), as in: they for it.

- Accusative for nominative case (or vice versa), as in: her for she.
- (c) Verb (Participle): - I seen her yesterday.
 - He would have saw him.

D. Misordering

Misordering is the kind of error when there occurs incorrect placement of a morpheme or group of morphemes in an utterance, such as “He is all the time late; What John is doing?”

Presentation

Introduction describes the background of the study, research goals, research methods, and theoretical approach. Following the section, it presents the results and discussion of the error analysis in the “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia” website. The last is the section of conclusion that

discusses the main results and the suggestion for the “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia” website.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Error Analysis in the “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia” Website

Table 1 below clearly explains the name of each four sections, they are: “Indonesia at a Glance”, “President & Vice”, “United Indonesia Cabinet”, and “Palaces”. The most words and errors are possessed by the “Indonesia at a glance” (4,080; 115). It is then followed by the “Palaces” (2,365; 78). The next one is “President & Vice” (607; 24) and the last is the “United Indonesia Cabinet” (562; 20). Those two sections are clear enough to show that they have the least words and errors.

Table 1. The frequency of errors in the “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia” website

The Sections	Total Words	Total Errors	%
Indonesia at a Glance	4,080	115	2.82
President & Vice	607	24	3.95
United Indonesia Cabinet	562	20	3.56
Palaces	2,365	78	3.34
TOTAL	7,614	237	3.11

Table 2 below shows the four types of Surface Strategy Taxonomy; omission, addition, misformation, and misordering along with the errors that have been identified based on the types of taxonomy in each four sections. As the table 1 already presented, the data provided are somewhat similar to the data of table 2 has. It is because the researcher also put the errors’ percentage besides the number of errors on it. For the most and the least number and per-

centage based on the four types of Surface Strategy Taxonomy, it is started with the *misformation* (188 errors; 78.96%), *omission* (39 errors; 16.38%), *addition* (8 errors; 3.36%), *misordering* (2 errors; 0.84%). This shows that the author tends to make errors in misformation since there appears inability to use morpheme or structure in a correct way.

Table 3. The distribution of errors based on the Surface Strategy Taxonomy and linguistic categories

Types of Error	Number of Errors & Its Percentage Based on the Four Types of Surface Strategy Taxonomy + Total									
	Omis	%	Addi	%	Misfo	%	Misor	%	No.	%
1. Determiner	20	8.40	1	0.42	0	0.00	0	0.00	21	8.82
2. Preposition	8	3.36	1	0.42	9	3.78	1	0.42	19	7.98
3. Pronoun	8	3.36	0	0.00	2	0.84	0	0.00	10	4.20
4. Spelling	0	0.00	0	0.00	74	31.08	0	0.00	74	31.08
5. Number	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	2.52	0	0.00	6	2.52
6. Parallelism	0	0.00	0	0.00	62	26.04	0	0.00	62	26.04
7. Conjunction	2	0.84	3	1.26	2	0.84	0	0.00	7	2.94
8. Active Voice	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.84	0	0.00	2	0.84
9. Tense	0	0.00	0	0.00	9	3.78	0	0.00	9	3.78
10. Verbal	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1.26	0	0.00	3	1.26
11. Noun	1	0.42	0	0.00	1	0.42	0	0.00	2	0.84
12. Adjective	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.42	1	0.42	2	0.84
13. Repetition	0	0.00	3	1.26	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1.26
14. Capitalization	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	2.10	0	0.00	5	2.10
15. Complex Sentence	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	2.52	0	0.00	6	2.52
16. Subject-Verb Agreement	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	2.52	0	0.00	6	2.52
TOTAL	39	16.38	8	3.36	188	78.96	2	0.84	237	100

Table 3 above shows that there are 237 errors found on the website as they are distributed into sixteen linguistic categories. As mentioned before, the categories are alongside with the taxonomy in order to discover the number and the percentage.

First, the explanation is started from the highest frequency of errors. This first rank belongs to the “spelling” that all the errors are only within the category of “misformation”. It produces 74 errors (31.08%). The errors are indeed quite many for an official website should not produce. This should be very paid attention by those who take responsibility for the articles on the website. The wrong spelling might affect the readers to have misunderstanding when they read words containing the spelling errors. They should check the articles frequently to make sure that their spelling was not erroneous.

The second most frequency of error lies on the “parallelism” which contains 62 errors (26.04%). This type is as the same as the previous type that it is only within the part of misformation and for the rest three types of taxonomy, they have no occurrence of errors at all. It clearly explains that “misformation” bears such high number of errors out of the 237 errors. The errors then should be fixed as soon as possible, otherwise the number of the readers who come to an unpleasant experience of “sensing” the errors of parallelism will increase.

On the third, there is “determiner” with total 21 errors, they are distributed into two: omission and addition. The most occurrence lies on omission with 20 errors, while addition only bears 1 error. From the number calculated, it places the determiner in the third rank. According to Simbolon (2013):

Determiner (definite and indefinite articles) may seem as minor priorities for people with English as their second or foreign language since the probability of an error related to them to cause miscommunication is relatively small.” Though it is stated so, the author should care for the articles in terms of “determiner”.

On the fourth, “preposition” holds the position where all the errors are divided into all four types of taxonomy. The first one that has the most occurring errors is misformation (9 errors) followed by omission with eight errors, and the rest two share the same number of error which is only one.

The fifth position belongs to the “pronoun” with 10 errors. For the distribution, there are eight errors taking place in omission and the rest two are in misformation. Following the pronoun, there is “tense” that takes in the sixth position. It is slightly different comparing to the pronoun because tense possesses nine errors which all are distributed into misformation as well. In addition, there are eight dealing with the past tense and the rest one deals with the present perfect tense.

The researcher discovered that errors in conjunction are in the seventh position. Conjunction type shares seven errors divided into three. First, there are three errors taking place in addition. Second, omission and misformation hold the same score; two errors. In addition, the researcher found the errors in some kinds of conjunction that have been termed by linguist previously, they are: (a) coordinating conjunction with two errors, (b) subordinating conjunction with two errors, (c) correlative conjunction also with two errors, and (d) conjunctive adverb with only one error.

Number, complex sentence, and subject-verb agreement take over the eighth position in table 3. The errors they produce are six for all of them are recruited by misformation. Focusing more on the errors of complex sentence itself, the errors are only a few, but according to Simbolon (2013), “they may be incomprehensible for the readers since it hinders a successful communication of ideas.”

For the next, capitalization holds the ninth position. It is placed on the third lowest rank since it only has five errors (2.10%) that all are recruited by misformation. On the tenth, verbal and repetition take over the position because both of them share the same amount of errors as much as three errors (1.26%). Especially for the verbal, it is classified into two types; they are infinitive and gerund that both share one error.

Lastly, on the first place of the least occurring error, there are noun, adjective, and active voice type. They consist only two errors (0.84%). The three of them distribute their errors as well into the Surface Strategy Taxonomy. The noun has one in both omission and misformation, while the adjective shares its two errors to misformation and misordering, and the active voice errors are recruited only by misformation.

1. Omission

In the omission type of error’s classification, there are five linguistic categories found involved, such as determiner, preposition, pronoun, conjunction, and noun. There are errors indicated in those five linguistic categories. Below are the proofs along with the examples and also the explanation of the errors in the case of determiner.

1.1. Determiner

According to Marcella (1972), determiners consist of a small group of structure words without characteristic form. She found that there are five types of determiners:

1. article: indefinite and definite
 - (a) indefinite : a, an (a window, an eagle)
 - (b) definite : the (the dictionary)
2. possessives (my brother, Clara’s pen)
3. demonstratives (that child, these students)
4. numbers (three children, the seventh group)
5. words of indefinite quantity (some workers, more exercises)

There are 28 errors discovered in determiner type and based on Marcella stated above, the researcher shows and explains the errors involved below.

- (1) Commander of 17th Infantry Brigade, Kujang I of the Army Strategic Reserves Command. (list) (PV-18)

The example above is incomplete since there is no determiner before the “17th”. Usually, before the cardinal numbers, there is determiner “the” (definite article) used. Indeed, it is necessary to put “the” before the cardinal number. Finally, the sentence is correct since it is read as “Commander of the 17th Infantry Brigade, Kujang I of the Army Strategic Reserves Command.” For additional information, the example above does not exactly look like a complete sentence. To be clear, the sentence has been formed and transformed into a list.

Another example is presented below.

- (2) As it lies between two continents and two oceans, Indonesia is also called “Nusantara” (archipelago in between). (IAG-01)

As it can be seen from the above example, the error lies on the missing of article an before the word “archipelago”. The reason why “an” should be attached to the sentence is because the “Nusantara” needs to be clearly introduced by the words “archipelago in between” and the “an” makes the introduction clear and complete. The sentence itself should be “As it lies between two continents and two oceans, Indonesia is also called “Nusantara” (an archipelago in between). Furthermore, one more example is provided and can be seen below.

- (3) To improve the quality of services for mothers and children under the age of five years by strengthening existing programs such as the Integrated Service Posts (Posyandu). . . (list) (IAG-21)

The last example shown above is the type of “words of indefinite quantity” as mentioned earlier

by Marcella. It is best to add “some” in the sentence since it has a definite function as the partner of “such as”. Thus, the sentence should be changed into “To improve the quality of services for mothers and children under the age of five years by strengthening some existing programs such as the Integrated Service Posts (Posyandu). . .” Regardless the explanation of the error, the example above has the same occurrence with the first example that the “sentence” is made in the form of list by the writer.

2. Addition

This type contains eight errors distributed into four linguistic categories, they are: determiner, preposition, conjunction, and repetition. In this section, the preposition is provided as the proof of being erroneous.

2.1 Preposition

Leech & Svartvik (1975) stated that “prepositions are words which as their name implies are placed before a noun phrase.” The most common English prepositions consist of one word, such as at, in, on, of, by, for, and etc.

- (10) Review and improve regulations concerning law enforcement, including. (list) (IAG-100)

Previously, there have been given examples of the preposition type, such as on, in, at, of, by, etc. However, there is one more that should be known besides them. The preposition meant is “including”. In the “Oxford Dictionaries Online” and in the “Cambridge Dictionaries Online”, the word “including” is considered as a preposition, though some might be confused in assuming that it is a verb, not a preposition. In the case of the above example, the word is unnecessary to put since there are no other words following. That is why, the preposition “including” should be eliminated and the sentence should be “Reviewing and improving regulation concerning law enforcement.”

2.2 Conjunction

“In grammar, a conjunction (abbreviated CONJ or CNJ) is a part of speech that connects words,

sentences, phrases, or clauses” (Wikipedia 2013). The conjunction itself is divided into some parts, such as coordinating (and, or, but, etc), subordinating (though, unless, in order to, etc), correlative conjunction (either...or, neither...nor, etc), and conjunctive adverb (meanwhile, otherwise, moreover, etc). However, the errors detected only in two parts, they are: coordinating conjunction and conjunctive adverb. Below is the example of coordinating conjunction error.

- (11) To encourage community participation (especially the parents of students) in making policies and in the implementation of quality education and in accordance with the aspirations and challenges of the current era and in the future. (list) (IAG-19)

The word “and” that is already explained before is regarded as a coordinating conjunction. However, the use of the conjunction “and” is over since the sentence has already had one and it is enough if not putting one more “and” as a connector in the list above. Therefore, the second “and” that is found should be eliminated in purpose to make the sentence in the form of list sound perfect. Indeed, the changing absolutely occurs as “To encourage community participation (especially the parents of students) in making policies and in the implementation of quality education in accordance with the aspirations and challenges of the current era and in the future.

3. Misformation

In this part of misformation, there are nine types of error need to be described in the way as similar as omission and addition part, they are: preposition, pronoun, spelling, number, parallelism, conjunction, active voice, tense, verbal, noun, adjective, capitalization, complex sentence, and subject-verb agreement.

3.2 Pronoun

According to Rodney Huddleston (1984) “Traditional grammar has a number of different subclasses of pronoun: we will be looking at them

in turn later in the chapter, but it will be helpful to begin by identifying at least their central members”:

1. Personal pronouns: *I, me, we, us, you, he, him, she, her, it, they, them*
2. Reflexive pronouns: *myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself, herself, itself, themselves*
3. Possessive pronouns: *my, mine, our, ours, your, yours, his, her, hers, its, their, theirs.*
4. Demonstrative pronouns: *this, these, that, those*
5. Interrogative and relative pronouns: *who, whom, whose, what, which*, together with compounds in *-ever- whoever, etc.*
6. Indefinite pronouns: *anybody, anyone, anything; somebody, someone, something; everybody, everyone, everything; nobody, no one, nothing, none.* 5

One more central member introduced is based on Frank (1972) below as being placed on the seventh number.

7. Expletive “It” and “There”

- (15) The palace is situated on 28.86 acres level land. 290 meters above sea level, the palace is in a city blessed with mild climate, a cool city where people come to refresh themselves. (Pala-18)

The underlined words are erroneous because “the palace” has been mentioned before as the definite subject. It should not be repeated. If there is a subject repeated in the next sentence or even is still in the same sentence, it is best to choose a pronoun whose function to refer to the subject. In this case, the researcher decided to choose the pronoun “it”, considering it is the best form. Therefore, the sentence should read “The palace is situated on 28.86 acres on 11 level land. 290 meters above sea level, it is in a city blessed with mild climate, a cool city where people come to refresh themselves.”

3.3 Number

The English number system comprises “singular” which denotes “one”, and “plural”, which denotes

“more than one”. The singular category includes common non-count nouns and proper nouns. Count nouns are “variable”, occurring with either singular or plural number (*boy~boys*), or have “invariable” plural (*cattle, people*) (Quirk & Greenbaum 1973). It will be clearer if an example is provided and given below.

- (18) This statement is expressly stated in Article 1 of the 1945 Constitution. Indonesia has experienced several changes of state form, namely: a federal state form, a unitary or a parliamentary system of government, semi-presidential, and presidential. (IAG-07)

Instead of “form”, the proper answer for the noun should be “forms”. The suffix –s should be attached to the “form” since there is more than one kind of state form mentioned. Therefore, the sentence is necessary to be changed into “This statement is expressly stated in Article 1 of the 1945 Constitution. Indonesia has experienced several changes of state forms, namely: a federal state form, a unitary or a parliamentary system of government, semi-presidential, and presidential.”

3.4 Parallelism

When coordinate conjunctions are used, the expectation is that each of the items joined will have the same grammatical form. Faulty parallelism occurs when different grammatical structures are used coordinately for the same grammatical function. Such faulty parallelism is especially common in noun or adjective functions (Marcella Frank 1972). The example and the explanation of the error in misformation of parallelism can be seen below.

- (19) To continue enhancing the quality of teachers, lecturers and researchers in order to become pillars of education who are able to sharpen the intelligence of the nation, capable of creating an innovative environment, and transmit an intellectual mindset that is of high degree, qualified, and ever growing to their students. (list) (IAG-17)

The parallel structure in the example is in the series of infinitive. The underlined words should be

“create”. Then, the sentence in the form of list is parallel viewed based on the infinitives provided in the sentence (*sharpen, create, and transmit*). Thus, the sentence should read “. . . pillars of education who are able to sharpen the intelligence of the nation, create an innovative environment, and transmit an intellectual mindset that is of high degree, qualified, and ever growing to their students.”

3.5 Verbal

Verbal type has been identified by the researcher containing two types of errors, they are: participles (present participle or gerund and past participle) and infinitive. The example can be taken from Wikipedia (2013). “First, the present participle (forms such as *writing, singing* and *raising*; these same forms also serve as gerunds and verbal nouns) and the second is the past participle (forms such as *written, sung* and *raised*; regular participles such as the last, as well as some irregular ones, have the same form as the finite past tense).” The errors on verbal found only in the present participle and infinitive form. There is no error on past participle discovered and it encourages the researcher to give two examples, the first one refers to the infinitive and the second one refers to present participle.

- (24) Invites the entire community, households and businesses to actively protecting the environment to ensure sustainable economic growth. (list) (IAG-112)

Instead of using the present participle as represented by “protecting”, it is best to omit the suffix –ing to make it functional as an infinitive. The reason why the infinitive should be used is because there is preposition “to” preceded by an adverb “actively”. The adverb there is not the matter, but the preposition “to” is. If ones write a verb right after “to”, it should require an infinitive or verb 1. That is why the sentence needs to be changed into “Inviting the entire community households, and businesses to actively protect the environment to ensure sustainable economic growth.”

3.6 Adjective

Adjectives are words that describe or modify noun in a sentence, for example: “the beautiful rainbow” and “the graceful princess”. In this part of misformation of adjective, an example is provided below.

- (27) . . . the problems that have a bearing between the field of coordination with the other Coordinating Minister, submit reports and information materials. . . (UIC-04)

The example above shows the limitation of the writer in determining the proper part of speech, whether it should be a noun or an adjective. In this case, the writer should change the underlined word that functions as a noun into an adjective. It is necessary to be changed because the preceding word of materials “information” is a noun, not an adjective, which is supposed to be used in order to be able to describe the word “materials” itself. Therefore, the sentence should read “. . . the problems that have a bearing between the field of coordination with the other Coordinating Minister, submit reports and informational materials. . .”

4. Misordering

In this part, the researcher has investigated the errors and the final total number that is found is two. The two errors are in misordering of preposition and adjective type. Since the two linguistic categories have been provided explanation, the next part will be the discussion of the errors.

4.1 Preposition

- (33) Negara Palace is a witness of numerous historical events, among them are the moment when General de Kock laid out his scheme to bring to an end Prince Diponegoro’s fight. (Pala-07)

The preposition “to” in the example above is in the wrong order. It should be put after the word “end”, so it can be functioned as the explanation of what thing that should be ended in the context of

example above; it is the Prince Diponegoro’s fight. Thus, the sentence should read “Negara Palace is a witness of numerous historical events, among them there are the moment when General de Kock laid out his scheme to bring an end to Prince Diponegoro’s fight.”

4.2 Adjective

- (34) Improving regulations and Up Election and Election, in order to achieve an honest, election, fair and can prevent citizens who lost the right to participate in elections. (list) (IAG-92)

The order of the adjective “fair” above is not in the exact position as it should be. The adjective must be preceded by the noun “election” because the election should be described by the adjective “fair” besides the adjective “honest”. After all, the two adjectives are the absolute characteristic of an election in Indonesia. Hence, the sentence should be changed into “Improving regulations and Up Election and Election, in order to achieve an honest, fair election, and can prevent citizens who lost the right to participate in elections.”

CONCLUSION

The result of this research shows that there are 237 errors in four sections of the official Indonesia website “Portal Nasional Republik Indonesia. The errors are categorized into: *omission*, *addition*, *misformation*, and *misordering*.

Based on the findings, the highest frequency of errors is found in the section “President & Vice” with 24 errors or 3.95%, followed by the “United Indonesia Cabinet” with 20 errors (3.56%), the “Palace” containing 78 errors with 3.34%, and “Indonesia at a Glance” (115 errors; 2.82%). The types of errors are *misformation* with 188 errors (78.96%), *omission* with 39 errors (16.38%), *addition* with eight errors (3.36%), and *misordering* with two errors (0.84%).

By doing further research using the Surface Strategy Taxonomy, the researcher found out that

there are sixteen linguistic categories, such as determiner, preposition, pronoun, spelling, number, parallelism, conjunction, active voice, tense, verbal, noun, adjective, repetition, capitalization, complex sentence, and subject-verb agreement. The three most frequently occurring errors are found in the linguistic categories of spelling, parallelism, and determiner. If they are combined with all four types of Surface Strategy Taxonomy, the most to the least frequent errors is on misformation of spelling (74 errors; 31.08%), misformation of parallelism (62 errors; 26.04%), and omission of determiner (20 errors; 8.40%). Based on the results, there are only two types of taxonomy found (omission and misformation) since the other two categories are not that frequent in resulting errors.

In conclusion, any error matters in the “world of writing”. As it is a serious problem the researcher suggests the Ministry of State Secretariat of the Republic of Indonesia to do more intensive proofread for the articles on the website, particularly in the English version. It needs to take into account all types of grammatical errors, especially in the category of sixteen types of errors found in this research. The better the articles are written, the more satisfied the readers become. Moreover, it will keep the reputation of the national website.

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