An Analysis of Students' Ability in Grammar Mastery of Three English Tenses at the Tenth Grade Students' of SMKN 5 Padang

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini memaparkan hasil penelitian tentang kemampuan siswa SMK N 5 PADANG dalam Menggunakan Tenses Bahasa Inggris pada semester I kelas X TKJ, banyak siswa yang belum paham dalam kegiatan belajar mengajar. Ketika peneliti melakukan praktik mengajar, selama mengajar grammar, siswa tidak dapat memenuhi beberapa elemen grammar, termasuk tenses dan verb, banyak masalah yang dihadapi siswa dalam pembelajarannya, terutama dalam tenses bahasa Inggris. Metode penelitian ini adalah penelitian deskriptif, melibatkan pengumpulan data untuk menjawab pertanyaan dalam status objek penelitian saat ini. Data dikumpulkan dari 35 siswa kelas X TKJ SMK 5 Padang. Hasilnya, semester I kelas X TKJ di SMKN 5 Padang yang berjumlah 35 siswa memiliki kemampuan menengah dalam menggunakan tenses bahasa Inggris, ada enam belas siswa yang mendapat klasifikasi baik (61,53%), dan dua siswa yang mendapat nilai sangat baik. klasifikasi yang buruk. Data tersebut juga menunjukkan skor total masing-masing tense dengan skor rata-rata (62,88). Berdasarkan data tersebut, penyebab siswa mendapatkan kemampuan intermediate adalah dalam menggunakan bentuk verba dan bantu dalam tenses.

Kata kunci: *Penguasaan Tata Bahasa, Tenses, Siswa Kelas Sepuluh.*

Abstract

This study presents the results of research on the ability of students of SMK N 5 PADANG in Using English Tenses in the first semester of class X TKJ, many students did not understand in the teaching and learning activities. When researchers did the teaching practice, during teaching grammar, the students were not able to fulfil several element of grammar, including tenses and verb, many problems are faced by the students in their study, especially in English tenses. The method of this research is descriptive research, it involves collecting data in order to answer the question in the current status of the object of the study. The data was collected from 35 students of class X TKJ SMK 5 Padang. The result is that the first semester of class X TKJ at SMKN 5 Padang with a total of 35 students have intermediate abilities in using English tenses, there were sixteen students who got a good classification (61.53%), and two students who got a very bad classification. The data also shows the total score of each tense with an average score (62.88). Based on these data, the cause of students getting intermediate ability is in using the form of verbs and auxiliary in tenses.

Keywords: *Grammar Mastery, Tenses, Tenth Grade Student.*

INTRODUCTION

Grammar can be very important to the needs of people in their studies. Grammar is still considered the most important component of language. We can often communicate efficiently and understand in communication if we do not now have an understanding of the grammatical elements similar to how in apply that understanding in our actual speech. This study will be focused on discussion tenses in English grammar. Tenses can be understood as a grammatical category that emphasizes the use of verbs that are related to the time of use. In other words, an English speaker or user is expected to pay attention or consider the context of the time in the statement itself that will occur.

In this research, researcher will be focused on the three tenses. First, Simple present tense is the tense form used to state facts, habitual action (events that are repeated), general truth, or present (events that occur) at the moment, The verb used in this tense is the first form of verb or verb 1. Second, Simple past tense is a form of past tense in English. The sentence is used to describe a time in the past. The function of the simple past tense is to explain events or actions that have occurred or describe events that have ended in the past, to explain a habit in the past. Conveying feelings in the past. Conveying possessions in the past used in this tense is the first form of verb or verb 2. The last, simple future tense is tenses that are used to express something that will be done in the future or future or to show activities that will take place in the future. future. This means that these activities have not yet occurred. Activities in the simple future will occur and end in the future and show facts, the simple future tense always uses will/shall/going to.

Based on the researcher's experience of teaching practice in SMK 5 Padang in the academic year 2021/2022, many students did not understand in the teaching and learning activities. When researchers did the teaching practice, during teaching grammar, the students were not able to fulfil several elements of grammar, including tenses and verb, many problems are faced by the students in their study, especially in English tenses. here are the difficulties faced by the students. First, students found out that it is difficult to change between verb 1 and verb 2 in the use of simple past and simple present sentences, students often made mistakes by distinguishing the two verbs and also found it difficult to distinguish the pronunciation of verb 1 and verb 2 which ends with –ed for example verb 1 accept and verb 2 accepted. Second, students often made mistakes in using formulas without daring to determine between simple past and present perfect, the simple past uses more specific adverb of time while the simple present does not use a specific adverb of time. The last problem, Students did not know the meaning of each tense signal in a simple sentence. Simple past tense and doubt between past and present use of time signals, Students also have difficulty using singular and plural.

Many factors, such as teachers, students, learning materials and processes, usually influence the process of face-to-face teaching and learning of English. Several problems were fixed based on preliminary observations of SMK 5 Padang. The process of teaching and learning to present research questions such as: The first students find it difficult to change between verb 1 and verb 2 in the use of the simple past and simple present sentences, and often hesitate in adding "d" or "ed" for example Accept to Accepted. Second students often make mistakes in using formulas without daring to determine between a simple past and present perfect. In negative simple past tense sentences, the auxiliary did is used before the note, the word did has a very important grammatical function because it forms a sentence negative and interrogative sentences in the simple past tense pattern while in the simple present tense The basic error that is often encountered is the incompleteness between to be and -ing verbs. Then an error occurs when you use one of them. Are you going home?, which is correct "Are you going home?"

The last problem Students do not know the meaning of each tense signal in simple sentences.

Past tense a doubt between past and present use of time signals. Students also have difficulty using singular and plural, to achieve the objectives of learning English subjects, teachers must apply real material to students. On the other hand, students must be productive and active when daily classroom activities, especially when studying English classes or grammar. This is not only an expression of intention, but in order to make it clearer, the researcher tried to understand the problems of this chapter.

RESEARCH METHOD

The design of this research is descriptive research. According to Gay (2009:29) descriptive research involves collecting data in order to answer the question in the current status of the object of the study. This research will be discussed in some detail for two major reasons. First, a high percentage of research studies are descriptive in nature. Second, the descriptive method is useful for investigating a variety of educational problems and issues. Typical descriptive studies are concern with the assessment of attitude, opinions, preference, demographics, practice, and procedure.

The population of this research. The first students at SMK 5 Padang they are TKJ (Teknik Komputer jaringan). The source of the population is from the data of SMK 5 Padang with the total of 35 students in X TKJ Department. In this research, the researcher used total sampling. So, all the population are the sample. The instrument of the research is grammar test. The test in the form of an essay. There are 25 items of the test, 8 items talked about simple present tense, 8 items are about simple past tense, 9 items are about simple future tense. The test is used to find out the competence of students in grammar, especially in three basic tenses.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This study presents the results of research on the ability of students of SMK N 5 PADANG in Using English Tenses in the first semester of class X TKJ. The data was collected from 35 students of class X TKJ SMK 5 Padang. The students were given a test by the researcher on November 20, 2022 in class. The type of test is an essay consisting of 25 questions.

In the analysis of student Mastery, the researcher has identified student Mastery and calculated the number of errors for each. This data was obtained through a grammar test questionnaire that the researchers distributed to 35 respondents of class X students of SMKN 5 Padang. Then the researcher compiled the results of these calculations into a table and converted them into percentages. After that, the researcher interprets the data after processing the results. Based on the research, it can be said that there are 2 people who make mistakes in the simple past tense, 3 people make mistakes in the present tense, and 4 people who make mistakes in the simple future tense. can be seen in the table.

| SAMPLE | TENSES | | | SCORE |
	Simple Past Tense	Present Tense	Future Tense	
S-1	75	12, 5	66	51
S-2	62, 5	0	44	35
S-3	87, 5	0	66	51
S-4	75	0	44	39
S-5	75	0	44	39
S-6	75	0	44	39
S-7	37, 5	0	33	23, 5

S-8	50	37, 5	55	47, 5
S-9	25	37, 5	0	20, 8
S-10	37, 5	0	66	34, 5
S-11	62, 5	37, 5	55	51, 6
S-12	50	0	55	35
S-13	62, 5	37, 5	44	48
S-14	62, 5	0	22	28
S-15	62, 5	37, 5	33	44
S-16	50	0	22	40, 6
S-17	75	37, 5	33	48, 5
S-18	37, 5	12, 5	33	27, 6
S-19	50	0	44	31
S-20	37, 5	50	66	31
S-21	12, 5	0	22	11, 5
S-22	25	25	0	16, 6
S-23	75	0	44	39, 6
S-24	62, 5	50	100	70, 8
S-25	75	0	33	36
S-26	62, 5	12, 5	55	43
S-27	50	0	55	35
S-28	62, 5	0	33	31, 8
S-29	62, 5	0	44	35, 5
S-30	37, 5	0	33	25, 5
S-31	50	0	33	27, 6
S-32	37, 5	0	55	30, 8
S-33	100	75	88	87, 6
S-34	75	62, 5	77	71, 5
S-35	25	0	0	8, 5
Total Score	**2.009**	**575**	**1.547**	**1.356,7**
Mean	**57.41**	**16,42**	**44.97**	**38.76**

The results of the essay tests given to students will be presented in this section. This test is focused on simple past tenses, simple present tenses, simple future tenses. The test is given to students in the first semester of class X TKJ SMKN 5 PADANG. The test results want to interpret the assessment by percentage. Assessment is classified based on tenses. Therefore, the researcher explained for each part. The assessment of the test given is based on the tenses below.

Analysis the Students' Score in Simple Past Tense

In the current past tense, students are given 8 questions in the essay test. The test results are provided in the table below:

Table 1. The Students' Score in Simple Past Tense

No.	Classification	Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Very Good	90 – 100	1	2, 8%
2.	Good	70 – 89	9	25, 71%
3.	Fair	50 – 69	15	42, 85%
4.	Poor	30 – 49	6	17, 14%
5.	Very Poor	10 – 29	4	11, 42
	Total		**35**	**100**

In good category, there were 9 students got good in grammar test. In very poor category, there were 6 students. This table shows the test results in past tense for each student in class X TKJ SMKN 5 Padang. The results showed that in the current continuous form there were none students who got a very good classification. The best results show, in the data that there are nine students who get a good classification. That is, more than half of the total number of students are there. while in the fair classification seven students were there. In addition, there were six students who got poor classifications. Then, there were two students in the very poor classification.

Analysis the Students' Score in Simple Present Tense

There are 8 essay questions in simple present tense that have been given to students. The test is given to determine the students' ability to use English tenses. To find out the test results in the simple present tense, the researcher gave the students' scores in the table below.

Table 2. The Students' Score in Simple Present Tense

No.	Classification	Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Very Good	90 – 100	0	2, 8%
2.	Good	70 – 89	1	8, 71%
3.	Fair	50 – 69	3	8, 57%
4.	Poor	30 – 49	6	17, 14%
5.	Very Poor	10 – 29	25	71, 42%
	Total		**35**	**100**

In good category, there were 3 students got good in grammar test. In very poor category, there were 2 students. The table above explains that out of the 8 questions, none of the students got a very good classification. It looks different in a good classification, because based on the data, two students are there. That is, half of the number of students have been classified well. Furthermore, the data also shows one student who get a very good classification. As a result, there were none students in a very poor classification. The last data, on the twenty-five or fair classification, the data showed four students were there.

Analysis the Students' Score in Future Tense

Giving a test is one way for the author to determine the students' ability to use the simple future tense. This test consists of 9 questions in various options. After giving the test, the researcher shows the test results in the table below:

Table 3 The Students' Score Percentage in Simple Future Tense.

No.	Classification	Score	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Very Good	90 – 100	1	2, 87%
2.	Good	70 – 89	2	5, 71%
3.	Fair	50 – 69	10	28, 57%
4.	Poor	30 – 49	17	48, 57%
5.	Very Poor	10 – 29	5	14, 28%
	Total		**35**	**100**

In good category, there were 3 students got good in grammar test. In very poor category, there were 2 students. The test results in the future tense are described in the table above. The table shows how students scored in previous tests. The test results showed that there was none student who got a very good classification, and most of the students got a good classification. It showed the sixteen students were there. The same results are shown in the two classifications, namely in the very poor and fair classification. the seven students were there both from the classification. The results are further described in poor classification. It looks like two students got there. And on the very bad student classification, it looks like the four students were there.

Then, the researcher provides an interpretation of the findings in the previous section. The researcher presented the interpretation of the findings to explain them in detail. The findings show that the students' ability to use English tenses is in class X TKJ in the first semester of SMKN 5 Padang. Next The researcher provided the interpretation of the result in each tense. The result described how the ability of the students.

The Students' Ability in Using Simple Past Tense

In the data analysis shows that the results of students in using the past tense. Data obtained from the test. In the data, out of 35 students who took the test, none of the students got a very good classification. Most of the students including sixteen students got a good classification (73.07%) and two students got a very bad classification (7.69%). Then, the data findings also showed that seven students received a fair classification (15.38%) while there were tenth students who were poor (18.38%). The test results showed that there were some mistakes made by students in using the simple past tense.

Errors made by students in simple past tense such as in using verbs for Simple past tense always use Verb 2 or the second form of verbs such as the following example sentences, the use of verbs to be, namely Was and Were in front of the subject. Using information that explains the past time (last night, yesterday, last week.

The Students' Ability in Using Present Tense

The results of data analysis in the present tense are provided in the previous section. The data shows the results of the tests given to 35 English students of class X TKJ SMKN 5 Padang. Regarding the data, most of the students got a very good classification (3.38%) or based on the number of students the two students were there. of the students got a good classification (80.18%) or based on the number of students the twenty-four. Similarity was showed between fair and very poor classification. It saw from the total number of the students, there were four students with each percentage (15.38%). The data finding also showed five students in poor classification (7.69%) and none student was in very poor.

The data showed how the students' ability in using present tense. According the data, most of students got good but the data also showed there were five students got poor and four students in very poor classification. The data showed that nine students in low classification. It was caused that students did mistakes in using the form of have or has, and past participle. It similarity with Cahyanti (2011) stated the students make mistakes in using the form of perfect tenses have or has and the usage. In the previous chapter explained that, perfect tense was formed by using the auxiliary verb of have and the past participle form of the main verb have/has past participle. It was supported by George and Julia M. Burks (1980) who stated that the present perfect tense was a construction made up the auxiliary have + the past form of the main verb.

The Students' Ability in Using Future Tense

In the data there are results given to students after taking the test in the future tense. The same results in the data analysis indicate poor and very poor classification. Both described that tenth students were there (40.00%) and very poor four student were there (16.00%). Different results are shown in very good classification, that is two students there (8.00%). The data also showed fifteen students were in the good classification (60.00%).

Based on the data, there were only ten students with low scores and five students got very low scores. In the test, the students made mistakes in the addition information and in the addition of going to and going to be. This is supported by Lusmini, (2014) that the highest type of error in using the future tense is miss formation in the auxiliary verb, such as "James has been teaching at the university since June". The correct formation should be "James has been teaching at the university since June". Then, like "he is going to wash his car". The truth is definitely "he is going to be wash his car". This statement is also supported by Dulay, et al (1982) that students may omit necessary items or add unnecessary items; the item may be in the wrong shape, or in the wrong order. Further, students have problem in learning some tenses due to some reasons originated from their misunderstanding or misinterpretations of the lessons. Moreover, the researcher concluded that, students got middle ability in using English tenses because got misunderstanding in using form of tense. The students were less able in using the form either in auxiliary or in the verb.

The following are some of the problems faced by students when using tenses: 1) The student's problem in entering the Tenses formula. Most students are more likely to make mistakes when dealing with questions related to English tenses, especially in the simple past and simple future tenses. Students find it very difficult to distinguish past actions from events that will occur. In fact, students also tend to make mistakes in changing vocabulary from verb 1 to verb 2. 2) Mistakes made by students when using time signals in English Tenses. The students very rarely do practice problems so that many make mistakes and when is the right time to use these words in daily conversation. For example, in the simple past "I eat" then in the simple future "I will eat" but students still tend to make mistakes by making "I will Eat"

CONCLUSION

Regarding the findings and interpretations in the previous chapter, the researcher can draw the conclusion that the first semester of class X TKJ at SMKN 5 Padang with a total of 35 students have intermediate abilities in using English tenses. In the last data analysis in the findings section, the total score of students' in using English tenses is shown in both the percentage score and the average score.

Showed that there were sixteen students who got a good classification (61.53%), and two students who got a very bad classification. The data also shows the total score of each tense with an

average score (62.88). Based on these data, the cause of students getting intermediate ability is in using the form of verbs and auxiliary in tenses. The students misunderstood the form in using tenses.

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