

## Spelling errors found in descriptive writing among seventh-graders of lower secondary school in Klaten district

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**Abstract:** This study aims to investigate errors found among seventh-graders' descriptive writing of SMP N 2 Trucuk, Klaten district, Indonesia. This study used a qualitative descriptive approach. Data collected from notes-taking technique from which the seventh-graders produced errors in their descriptive writing. Data analysis qualitatively identified seventh-graders' descriptive writing. The results showed that there were errors found in the form of writing capital letters use, writing's compound words, prepositions [at, to, and from], and punctuation marks [.] Errors in using capital letters included in naming geography at the beginning of sentences, capital letters used in people's names, and writing capital letters in the middle of sentences. Combination spelling errors. Errors in writing prepositions (at, to, and from). Error using punctuation.

**Keywords:** descriptive writing, spelling errors, language skills, use of spelling.

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### Introduction

Humans use language to communicate and convey their ideas. According to Chaer (2006) language is a system of arbitrary sound symbols used by a speech community to communicate and identify themselves. As a system, language is formed by certain rules, rules, or patterns, both in the field of sound system, word form, and sentence structure. If these rules, rules, or patterns are violated, communication can be disrupted. Therefore, in using language to communicate, language skills are needed by the user. Language is an activity that involves the overall linguistic ability of the user. Language is a form of communicative action. The degree of communicativeness is determined by the ability to use language to capture ideas in the form of language. To meet the demands of language, it is necessary to obey the language used for the language used. The fulfillment of these demands opens up two language possibilities, namely language accuracy and language errors (Budiyo et al., 2021; Hidayat, 1986). In order to meet the accuracy of language required a language skill. Language skills are the most important skills. Aspects of language skills include listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Writing is an activity of recording spoken language into written language (Semi, 2009).

According to Tarigan (2008), writing is a language skill that is used to communicate indirectly, not face to face with other people. An essay is the result of the realization of one's ideas or appreciation in written language that can be read and understood by a reader (Riyanto, 2009). In the essay, one's ideas will be seen which are conveyed through the choice of words

used. Often found language errors in writing. This error is usually caused by the author's ignorance of how to write properly and correctly. Therefore, it is necessary to have an understanding of the study of written results in order to obtain an improvement on the written grammar in the language, for example writing spelling in a form of essay. The use of spelling in an essay is something that needs to be considered by a writer. The use of wrong spelling will lead to different meanings of words and different understandings. The use of spelling, if it is not in accordance with the rules, will result in language errors. Thus, the use of spelling becomes the initial reference in writing activities, such as in writing essays. An essay is a form of writing that expresses the thoughts and feelings of the author in a unified whole. An essay is defined as a series of thoughts or feelings expressed in a regular written form. According to Setyawati and Rohmadi, 2013; Supriyadi and Hidayat (1986) there are various kinds of essays in terms of content, including narrative essays, descriptive essays, exposition essays, argumentative essays, and persuasion essays. In addition, the description essay is also in accordance with the material in the Indonesian language curriculum of tenth-graders in the secondary school.

### **Methods**

This study are sentences that contained language errors, especially in writing compound words, writing prepositions, using period punctuation, and using capital letters. The source of the data in this study was a descriptive writing of the tenth-graders of lower secondary school (Kelas VII D SMP N 2 Trucuk, Kaltan district, Indoensia). Data collection in this study used the note-taking technique. Data analysis technique was an activity to analyse data that had been collected based on the method of analyzing language errors in student essays. Tarigan and Tarigan (2011) wrote, the work steps of language analysis that included the activity of collecting error samples, identified the errors contained in the sentence samples, explained these errors based on the theoretical basis that had been compiled, classified the error, and evaluated the overall level of the error. Data were in the form of sentences containing language errors, especially in writing compound words, writing prepositions, using period puctuations marks (.), and using capital letters.

Data collection used the note-taking technique. The note-taking technique is recording data using certain writing instruments and could be seen as an advanced technique (Sudaryanto, 2015). In other words, the note-taking technique is the recording of data that is declared problematic which has been marked, to be included in the data description so that it is easy to process for research purposes. In this case, the use of spelling errors, both from the use of punctuation points, and capital letters. In addition, it is also analyzed how to write word combinations and write prepositions. The note-taking activity is based on the method of analyzing language errors, especially the analysis of spelling errors which is focused on writing combinations of words, the use of prepositions (at, to and from), the use of punctuation marks, and the use of capital letters.

Data analysis qualitatively used activities to collect errors in samples, identified the errors that justified the guided spelling system, so-called by ejaan yang disempurnakan in Indonesian. This study also provided a description or the causes of errors relating to some respective error in contextual fields (Köpfer, 2022; Septiawan, 2020; Sugiyono, 2015; Supriani et al., 2019).

### **Results and Discussion**

In the descriptive writing there were some errors in spelling that were not in accordance with the applicable Indonesian language rules. Errors in this language element resulted mis-

understanding the meaning and function of words in sentences. The various errors in the use of Indonesian spelling in student description writing were as follows:

### Misuse of Capital Letters

There were five cases of errors in the use of capital letters in descriptive writing by the tenth-graders. The five cases were errors in the use of capital letters in geographic names followed by geographic names, errors in using capital letters in geographic names, errors in using capital letters at the beginning of sentences, errors in using capital letters in people's names, and errors in using capital letters in the middle of sentences. The following were errors in the use of capital letters in descriptive writing.

### Misuse of capital letters for geographical names followed by geographical personal names

Errors in using capital letters for geographic names followed by geographic self-names could be seen through the following data:

- (1) *Candi borobudur terletak di kota Magelang, Jawa Tengah.* (2: P1: B1)  
Borobudur temple is located in the city of Magelang, Central Java
- (2) *Candi borobudur merupakan salah satu 7 keajaiban dunia oleh UNESCO.* (2: P1: B1)  
Borobudur temple is one of the 7 wonders of the world by UNESCO
- (3) *Pantai ayah merupakan tujuan wisata pada tahun lalu.* (5: P1: B1)  
Ayah 's beach was a tourist destination last year.
- (4) *Di perjalanan menuju pantai ayah sangatlah indah.* (5: P2: B1)  
On the way to the beach Ayah is very beautiful.
- (5) *Di pantai ayah terdapat perahu layar.* (5: P4: B1)  
On my Ayah's beach there is a sailboat.
- (6) *Kalau kamu pergi ke gunung turis jangan lupa mampir di Rowo Jombor.* (6: P2: B9)  
If you go to the tourist mountain, don't forget to stop at Rowo Jombor
- (7) *Rawa jombor terletak di sebelah selatan kota Klaten, dan dekat dengan kecamatan bayat.* (13: P1: B1)  
Rawa Jombor is located in the south of the city of Klaten, and is close to the Bayat sub-district.
- (8) *Dan lawang sewu ini juga tempat untuk uji nyali karena bangunan ini angker, kata orang-orang setempat.* (17: P1: B3)  
...and Lawang Sewu is also a place to test your guts because this building is haunted, said local people.
- (9) *Itulah keindahan rowo jombor.* (20: P3: B4)  
That is the beauty of rowo jombor.
- (10) *Pantai indrayanti terletak di kabupaten Gunungkidul.* (22: P1: B1)  
Indrayanti beach is located in Gunungkidul district.

In data (1) and data (2), there were errors regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of borobudur. It was a unity from the previous word, namely the word of *Candi*, which referred to a place. The word borobudur should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word became Borobudur. This is in accordance with the Indonesian spelling system (*ejaan yang disempurnakan*) which stated that capital letters were used as the first letters of elements of geographic names followed by geographic self names. In data (3), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of father. The word was a unity from the previous word, namely the word of *pantai* (beach) which referred to a place. The word father should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word became *Ayah* (Father). In data (4), there was an error regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word "Beach of Father" which referred to a place. The word

of *pantai ayah* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word referred to *Pantai Ayah*. In data (5), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of "Beach of Father" which referred to a place. The word of *pantai ayah* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word led to *Pantai Ayah*.

In data (6), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of *gunung turis* which referred to a place. The word of *Gunung Wisata* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word became *Gunung Turis*. In data (7), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word *jombor*. The word was a unity from the previous word, namely the word *Rawa*, which referred to a place. The word *jombor* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word was *Jombor*. In data (8), an error occurred regarding capital letters, namely the word *Lawang Sewu* which referred to a tourist spot. The word of *lawang sewu* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word was *Lawang Sewu*. In data (9), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of *rawa jombor* which referred to a place. The word *rawa jombor* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word was *Rawa Jombor*. In data (10) above, an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of *indrayanti*. The word was a unity from the previous word, namely the word of *pantai* which referred to a place. The word *indrayanti* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word, so that the correct writing of the word was *Indrayanti*. The correct sentences from data (1) to data (10) were as follows:

- (1a) *Candi Borobudur terletak di kota Magelang, Jawa Tengah.* (2: P1: B1)  
Borobudur Temple is located in the city of Magelang, Central Java.
- (2a) *Candi Borobudur merupakan salah satu 7 keajaiban dunia oleh UNESCO.* (2: P1: B1)  
Borobudur Temple is one of the 7 wonders of the world by UNESCO
- (3a) *Pantai Ayah merupakan tujuan wisata pada tahun lalu.* (5: P1: B1)  
Ayah Beach was a tourist destination last year.
- (4a) *Di perjalanan menuju Pantai Ayah sangatlah indah.* (5: P2: B1)  
On the way to Ayah Beach, it is very beautiful.
- (5a) *Di Pantai Ayah terdapat perahu layar.* (5: P4: B1)  
On Ayah's Beach there is a sailboat
- (6a) *Kalau kamu pergi ke Gunung Turis jangan lupa mampir di Rowo Jombor.* (6: P2: B9)  
If you go to Gunung Turis, don't forget to stop at Rowo Jombor.
- (7a) *Rawa Jombor terletak di sebelah selatan kota Klaten, dan dekat dengan kecamatan Bayat.* (13: P1: B1)  
Rawa Jombor is located south of the city of Klaten, and is close to the Bayat sub-district.
- (8a) *Lawang Sewu ini juga tempat untuk uji nyali karena bangunan ini angker, kata orang-orang setempat.* (17: P1: B3)  
Lawang Sewu is also a place to test your guts because this building is haunted, people say local.
- (9a) *Itulah keindahan Rowo Jombor.* (20: P3: B4)  
That is the beauty of Rowo Jombor.
- (10a) *Pantai Indrayanti terletak di kabupaten Gunungkidul.* (22: P1: B1)  
Indrayanti Beach is located in Gunungkidul district

### Mistakes in Using Capital Letters at the Beginning of Sentences

Errors in the use of capital letters at the beginning of sentences could be seen through the following data.

- (11) *pada bagian selatan terdapat gubug kecil untuk peristirahatan.* (4: P1: B4)  
in the south there is a small hut for resting
- (12) *banyak orang yang berwisata ke sana, juga ada wisatawan mancanegara.* (4: P1: B4)  
many people travel there, there are also foreign tourists.
- (13) *di sekelilingnya pun banyak pohon-pohon yang tumbuh.* (8: P1: B2)  
There are many trees around it.
- (14) *menu makanan di pantai ini sebagian dari hasil laut dan sebagian dari Daging.* (11: P3: B4)  
the food menu on this beach is partly from seafood and partly from meat.
- (15) *selain digunakan untuk tempat rekreasi dan pariwisata juga digunakan untuk tempat pemancingan, rumah apung atau tempat makan-makan dan lain-lain.* (12: P1: B3)  
apart from being used for recreation and tourism, it is also used for fishing grounds, floating houses or places to eat and so on.
- (16) *di sana sangat panas.* (19: P1: B4)  
it is very hot there.
- (17) *hal ini di sebabkan karena jalanan yang sempit dan curam.* (21: P1: B5)  
this is because the roads are narrow and steep
- (18) *di sekitar jalan banyak sekali pohon besar dan Rindang yang tumbuh di sekitar Hutan.* (21: P1: B7)  
around the road there are a lot of big and shady trees growing around the forest
- (19) *pemandangan di sana begitu indah hingga membuatku terpesona.* (21: P3: B2)  
the scenery there is so beautiful that it fascinates me
- (20) *banyak pelajaran yang didapat dari candi Prambanan.* (23: P1: B5)  
many lessons can be learned from the Prambanan temple.
- (21) *dipantai baron kita bisa melihat ombak, berenang di tepi pantai.* (28: P1: B2).  
on baron beach we can see the waves, swimming on the beach.
- (22) *di dalam gua ada Lampu-Lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali.* (33: P2: B5).  
Inside the cave there are lights that are colorful and very beautiful

In data (11), there is an error regarding the use of capital letters at the beginning of the sentence,. The word should be written in uppercase or capital letters /p/. The correct writing was that in the south there was a small hut for resting. In data (12) there was an error regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of many. It should be written using uppercase or capital letters /b/. The correct writing was that there were many people who travel there, there were also foreign tourists. This was in accordance with the Indonesian spelling system which stated that capital letters were used as the first letters of words at the beginning of sentences. In data (13) there were errors regarding the use of capital letters, namely in the words around them. Surrounding words should be written in capital /d/ capital letters. The correct writing was that there were many trees around it. In data (14) there was an error regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of menu. It should be written in capital /m/ capital letters. The correct writing was that the menu on this beach was partly from seafood and partly from meat. In data (15), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, like in words other than. Words other than should be written using a capital letter /s/. Writing the correct sentence was that besides being used for recreation and tourism, it was also used for fishing grounds, floating houses or places to eat and others. In data (16), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, for example, the words of there. The preposition 'in' should be written using a capital letter /d/. The correct sentence writing was that it was very hot in there. In data (17), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, like 'hall'. It should be written in a capital /h/. The correct writing was that this was because the roads were narrow and steep. In data (18), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the preposition 'at'. It should be written in a capital /d/. The correct writing was that around the road there were lots of big

and shady trees that grew around the forest.

In data (19), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely in the word of scenery. The word scenery should be written in a capital /p/. The correct writing was that the scenery there was so beautiful that it fascinated me. In data (20), there was an error in writing capital letters, namely in many words. Many words should be written using a capital letter /b/. Writing the correct sentence was that there were many lessons to be learned from Prambanan Temple. In the data (21), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the preposition 'at'. It should be written in a capital /a/. The correct writing was that at Baron Beach we could see the waves, swimming on the beach. In data (22), an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the preposition in. The word /in/ should be written using a capital letter /i/. The correct writing was that in the cave there were colorful and very beautiful lights. This was in accordance with the Indonesian spelling system which stated that capital letters were used as the first letters of words at the beginning of sentences. The correct sentences from data (11) to (22), were as follows.

- (11a) *Pada bagian selatan terdapat gubug kecil untuk peristirahatan. (4: P1: B4)*
- (12a) *Banyak orang yang berwisata ke sana, juga ada wisatawan mancanegara. (4: P1: B4)*
- (13a) *Di sekelilingnya pun banyak pohon-pohon yang tumbuh. (8: P1: B2)*
- (14a) *Menu makanan di pantai ini sebagian dari hasil laut dan sebagian dari daging. (11: P3: B4)*
- (15a) *Selain digunakan untuk tempat rekreasi dan pariwisata juga digunakan untuk tempat pemancingan, rumah apung atau tempat makan-makan dan lain-lain. (12: P1: B3)*
- (16a) *Di sana sangat panas. (19: P1: B4)*
- (17a) *Hal ini disebabkan karena jalanan yang sempit dan curam. (21: P1: B5)*
- (18a) *Di sekitar jalan banyak sekali pohon besar dan rindang yang tumbuh di sekitar hutan. (21: P1: B7)*
- (19a) *Pemandangan di sana begitu indah hingga membuatku terpesona. (21: P3: B2)*
- (20a) *Banyak pelajaran yang didapat dari Candi Prambanan. (23: P1: B5)*
- (21a) *Di Pantai Baron kita bisa melihat ombak, berenang di tepi pantai. (28: P1: B2).*
- (22a) *Di dalam gua ada lampu-lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali. (33: P2: B5).*

### Capital Letter Error for Person's Name

Errors in using capital letters for people's names could be seen through the following data.

- (23) *Setelah ia menemukan bandung bondowoso, ia menanyakan kenapa ia membunuh ayahnya. (32: P3: B1).*  
After he found Bandung Bondowoso, he asked why he killed his father
- (24) *Mendengar kabar tersebut, roro jonggrang terkejut dan dia segera menghampiri bandung bondowoso yang berada di sekitar kawasan Candi Prambanan. (32: P2: B3)*

Hearing the news, *Roro Jonggrang* was surprised and he immediately approached Bandung Bondowoso which was around the Prambanan Temple area. In data (23) above, there was an error regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of bandung bondowoso. Capital letters were used as the first letters of the elements of a person's name. The word of bandung bondowoso should use capital letters or capital letters in the first letter to become Bandung Bondowoso. In data (24) above, an error occurred regarding the use of capital letters, namely the word of *roro jonggrang*. The word *roro jonggrang* should use capital letters or capital letters in the first letter to become Roro Jonggrang. The correct sentence was, as follows.

- (23a) *Setelah ia menemukan Bandung Bondowoso, ia menanyakan kenapa ia membunuh ayahnya. (32: P3: B1).*
- (24a) *Mendengar kabar tersebut, Roro Jonggrang terkejut dan dia segera menghampiri Bandung Bondowoso yang berada di sekitar kawasan Candi Prambanan. (32: P2: B3)*

### **Mistakes in Using Capital Letters in the Middle of Sentences**

Errors in the use of capital letters in the middle of a sentence could be seen through the following data.

- (25) *Di sana hanya kendaraan umum yang bisa melewati jalan di sekitar pantai dan Tebing.* (21: P1: B5)  
There only public *transportation* that can pass the road around the beach and cliffs.
- (26) *menu makanan di pantai ini sebagian dari hasil laut dan sebagian dari Daging.* (11: P3: B5)  
the food menu on this beach is partly from seafood and partly from meat.
- (27) *Batu itu biasanya untuk Foto-Foto dan bisa juga untuk duduk.* (16: P2: B7)  
The stone is usually for photos and can also be for sitting
- (28) *Suatu destinasi wisata yang Terletak di Jawa Tengah.* (21: P1: B1)  
A tourist destination located in Central Java
- (29) *Di sekitaran jalan banyak sekali pohon besar dan Rindang yang tumbuh di sekitar Hutan.* (21: P1: B7)  
Around the road there are lots of big and shady trees that grow around the forest.
- (30) *Pantai Indrayanti sangat Luas, besar dan sangat indah.* (21: P2: B1)  
Indrayanti Beach is very wide, big and very beautiful
- (31) *Pantai ini sudah terkenal hingga ke Mancanegara.* (21: P2: B2)  
This beach is well known to foreign countries.
- (32) *Bus Belum bisa masuk karena jalannya menanjak, menurun dan berkelok-kelok.* (29: P2: B2)  
The bus has not been able to enter because the roads are uphill, downhill and winding.
- (33) *Disana Banyak orang yang berkunjung untuk merasakan hangatnya air yang ada dikolam dan dikran.* (30: P2: B1)  
There are many people who visit to feel the warm water in the pool and faucet
- (34) *Didalam gua ada Lampu-Lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali dan di dalam gua terdapat candi yang sangat besar.* (33: P2: B5)  
Inside the cave there are lights that are colorful and very beautiful and in the cave there is a very large temple.
- (35) *Pantai In drayanti Mempunyai keindahan yang berbeda dengan pantai lain di Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta.* (1: P1: B1)  
Indrayanti Beach has a different beauty from other beaches in Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta.

In the data (25), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word Tebing. The letter /t/ in the word Tebing should be in lowercase, the word should be in the middle of the sentence. Correct writing was a bluff. In the data (26), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word meat. The letter /d/ in the word 'Meat' should be written in small letter with 'meat'. In the data (27), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word 'Photos' which is in the middle of the sentence. The letter /f/ in the word Photos should be written in lowercase to make photos. In the data (28), there is an error in the use of capital letters in the word Located in the middle of the sentence. The letter /t/ in the word Located should be written in lowercase to be located.

In the data (29), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the words 'Rindang and Hutan' in the middle of the sentence. The letter /r/ in the word 'Shady' and the letter /h/ in the word 'Hutan' should be written in lower case letters to make it 'shady' and 'forest'. In data (30), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word 'Broad', which was in the middle of the sentence. The letter /l/ in the word *Luas* should be written using lowercase letters to become 'broad' (*luas*). In the data (31), there was an error in the use of capital letters in 'foreign' word. The letter /m/ in the word 'Foreign' should be written using lowercase letters to become 'foreign'. In data (32), an error occurred in the use of capital letters in the word 'Not' in the middle of the sentence. The letter /b/ in the word 'Not' should be written using lowercase

letters to 'not yet'.

In data (33), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word 'Many' in the middle of the sentence. The letter /b/ in the word 'Many' should be written using lowercase letters to become 'many'. In data (34), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word of 'Lampu' in the middle of the sentence. The letter /l/ in the word 'Lamps' should be written in lowercase to become 'lamps'. In the data (35), there was an error in the use of capital letters in the word 'Have' in the middle of the sentence. The letter /m/ in the word 'Have' should be written in lowercase to 'have'. The correct sentences from data (25) to (35), were as follows.

- (25a) *Di sana hanya kendaraan umum yang bisa melewati jalan di sekitar pantai dan tebing. (21: P1: B5)*
- (26a) *Menu makanan di pantai ini sebagian dari hasil laut dan sebagian dari daging. (11: P3: B5)*
- (27a) *Batu itu biasanya untuk foto-foto dan bisa juga untuk duduk. (16: P2: B7)*
- (28a) *Suatu destinasi wisata yang terletak di Jawa Tengah. (21: P1: B1)*
- (29a) *Di sekitaran jalan banyak sekali pohon besar dan rindang yang tumbuh di sekitar hutan. (21: P1: B7)*
- (30a) *Pantai Indrayanti sangat luas, besar dan sangat indah. (21: P2: B1)*
- (31a) *Pantai ini sudah terkenal hingga ke mancanegara. (21: P2: B2)*
- (32a) *Bus belum bisa masuk karena jalanannya menanjak, menurun dan berkelok-kelok. (29: P2: B2)*
- (33a) *Di sana banyak orang yang berkunjung untuk merasakan hangatnya air yang ada dikolam dan dikran. (30: P2: B1)*
- (34a) *Di dalam gua ada lampu-lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali dan di dalam gua terdapat candi yang sangat besar. (33: P2: B5)*
- (35a) *Pantai Indrayanti mempunyai keindahan yang berbeda dengan pantai lain di Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta. (1: P1: B1)*

### Word Combination Error

The data for writing errors in the combination of words in Indonesian essays were in the following orders:

- (36) *Oleh karena itu, tidak rugi apa bila menjadikan Indrayanti sebagai pilihan destinasi saat liburan kali ini. (1: P1: B8)*  
Therefore, there is nothing to lose if you make Indrayanti your choice of destination while on vacation this time
- (37) *Dari pada jalan sebelumnya yang penuh dengan batu waktu itu. (1: P2: B2)*  
Than the previous road that was full of stones that time
- (38) *Itu sebabnya Pantai indrayanti selalu bersih, dari pada pantai lainnya. (1: P2: B8)*  
That's why Indrayanti Beach is always clean, compared to other beaches
- (39) *Para pengunjung tertarik di pantai Parang tritis untuk bermain pasir. (11: P1: B3)*  
The visitors are interested in Parang tritis beach to play sand
- (40) *Bahkan orang-orang manca negara juga berkunjung ke pantai tersebut. (31: P2: B2)*  
Even foreign people also visit the beach
- (41) *Pantai ini terletak di daerah Gunung kidul. (34: P1: B3)*  
This beach is located in the Gunung Kidul area.

In the data (36), there was a writing error in the combination of words like 'what if'. The word 'what if' should be written in series of 'as if'. In the data (37) and (38) above, there was a writing error in the combination of words, like the word 'rather than'. The word than should be written in series as than. In the data (39), there was a writing error in the combination of words, like the word 'Parang tritis'. 'Parang tritis' should be written in series as 'Parangtritis'. In the data (40), there was an error in writing word combinations, like in foreign words. The word 'foreign country' should be written in series as 'foreign'. In the data (41) above, there was an error in



writing a combination of words, like the word 'Gunung Kidul'. The word should be written in series as Gunungkidul. The correct sentences from data (52) to (57), were as follows:

- (36a) *Oleh karena itu, tidak rugi apabila menjadikan Indrayanti sebagai pilihan destinasi saat liburan kali ini. (1: P1: B8)*
- (37a) *Daripada jalan sebelumnya yang penuh dengan batu waktu itu. (1: P2: B2)*
- (38a) *Itu sebabnya Pantai Indrayanti selalu bersih, daripada pantai lainnya. (1: P2: B8)*
- (39a) *Para pengunjung tertarik di Pantai Parangtritis untuk bermain pasir. (11: P1: B3)*
- (40a) *Bahkan orang-orang mancanegara juga berkunjung ke pantai tersebut. (31: P2: B2)*
- (41a) *Pantai ini terletak di daerah Gunungkidul. (34: P1: B3)*

### Errors in Writing Prepositions *in, to, and from*

Data for writing errors of prepositions in Indonesian essays by class VII D students of SMP N 2 Trucuk contained the following errors in writing prepositions.

- (42) *Di Candi Borobudur pengunjungnya selalu ramai apalagi waktu musim liburan. (2: P2: B2)*  
At Borobudur Temple, visitors are always busy, especially during the holiday season.
- (43) *Disana banyak pengunjung yang berwisata di Candi Prambanan. (3: P1: B7)*  
There are many visitors who travel to Prambanan Temple
- (44) *Saat ingin kesana kitapun dapat menaiki becak tanpa ada rasa capek. (3: P2: B2)*  
When you want to go there, you can ride a rickshaw without feeling tired
- (45) *Dan juga dapat berfoto-foto didepan candi. (3: P2: B5)*  
And also can take pictures in front of the temple.
- (46) *Para pengunjung di sana juga menikmati luasnya laut dan semilir angin yang menuju kepantai. (11: P1: B5)*  
The visitors there also enjoy the vastness of the sea and the breeze that goes to the beach.
- (47) *Disana aku bermain pasir dengan temanku, dan berenang ke pantai. (14: P3: B2)*  
There I play in the sand with my friends, and swim to the beach
- (48) *Dia tidak jadi kesana, karena sepatunya sudah dibawakan oleh pak guru. (14: P4: B2)*  
He didn't go there, because the teacher had brought his shoes
- (49) *Sebelum pulang kita bisa membeli ikan disana. (15: P2: B4)*  
Before going home we can buy fish there
- (50) *Disana banyak cibarengkok yang menawarkan makanan yang dijualnya. (19: P1: B3)*  
There are many cibareng kok that offer the food they sell.
- (51) *Dipantai baron kita bisa melihat ombak, berenang di tepi pantai. (28: P1: B2)*  
On the baron beach we can see the waves, swim on the beach
- (52) *Diatas kolam kecil terdapat taman batu dan taman itu bisa buat foto-foto. (28: P1: B4)*  
Above the small pond there is a rock garden and the garden can be used for photographs.
- (53) *Didalam gua ada Lampu-Lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali dan di dalam gua terdapat candi yang sangat besar. (33: P2: B5)*  
Inside the cave there are lights that are colorful and very beautiful and in the cave there is a very large temple.
- (54) *Disana banyak pemandangan yang luar biasa indah. (34: P1: B1)*  
There are many amazingly beautiful scenery.
- (55) *disekelilingnya pun banyak pohon-pohon yang tumbuh. (8: P1: B2)*  
There are many trees around it.

In the data (42), there was an error in writing the combined preposition, as found in the word of DiCandi. The writing of the word 'Di Candi' should be written separately, because the writing of the preposition was written separately if it was followed by a pointer. The correct writing was in the temple. In the data (43), there was an error in writing the prepositions that were always combined. When writing the word 'There', it should be written separately. The correct spelling would be There. In the data (44), there was an error in writing the combined

preposition when writing the word 'there'. In writing the word 'there' should be written separately, like to be there. This was in accordance with the Indonesian spelling system that the prepositions 'in, to, and from' were written separately from the words that followed them, except in combinations of words that were commonly considered as one word, such as to and than. In data (45), there was an error in writing the prepositions that was combined, like the preposition. In writing the word in front should be written separately, to be in front.

In data (46), there was an error in writing the combined preposition, like the word 'kepantai'. The writing of the word should be written separately, to be to the beach. In the data (47), there was an error in writing the combined prepositions, like the word 'there'. The writing of 'there' should be written separately, being 'there'. In data (48), there was an error in writing the combined preposition of 'there'. It should be written separately, to be 'there'. In the data (49) and (50), there were an error in writing the prepositions that were combined with the word 'there'. The writing of the word there should be written separately, being 'there'. The prepositions of 'in, to, and from' were written separately from the words that followed them, except in combinations of words that were commonly considered as one word, such as 'to' and 'than'.

In the data (51), there was an error in the writing of the combined preposition, like the word 'Dipantai'. The writing of the word 'beach' should be written separately, being 'On the beach'. In the data (52), there was an error in writing the combined preposition, like the word 'above'. It should be written separately, as 'Above'. In the data (53), there was an error in writing the combined preposition, like the word 'Inside'. It should be written separately, as 'Inside'. In the data (54), there was an error in writing the combined preposition, like the word 'there'. 'There' should be written separately. In data (55), there was an error in writing the combined prepositions, like the words 'around them'. The correct sentences from data (42) to (55), were as follows:

- (42a) *Di Candi Borobudur pengunjungnya selalu ramai apalagi waktu musim liburan. (2: P2: B2)*
- (43a) *Di sana banyak pengunjung yang berwisata di Candi Prambanan. (3: P1: B7)*
- (44a) *Saat ingin ke sana kitapun dapat menaiki becak tanpa ada rasa capek. (3: P2: B2)*
- (45a) *dan juga dapat berfoto-foto di depan candi. (3: P2: B5)*
- (46a) *Para pengunjung di sana juga menikmati luasnya laut dan semilir angin yang menuju ke pantai. (11: P1: B5)*
- (47a) *Di sana aku bermain pasir dengan temanku, dan berenang ke pantai. (14: P3: B2)*
- (48a) *Dia tidak jadi ke sana, karena sepatunya sudah dibawakan oleh pak guru. (14: P4: B2)*
- (49a) *Sebelum pulang kita bisa membeli ikan di sana. (15: P2: B4)*
- (50a) *Di sana banyak cibarengkok yang menawarkan makanan yang dijualnya. (19: P1: B3)*
- (51a) *Di pantai baron kita bisa melihat ombak, berenang di tepi pantai. (28: P1: B2)*
- (52a) *Di atas kolam kecil terdapat taman batu dan taman itu bisa buat foto-foto. (28: P1: B4)*
- (53a) *Di dalam gua ada lampu-lampu yang warna-warni dan indah sekali dan di dalam gua terdapat candi yang sangat besar. (33: P2: B5)*
- (54a) *Di sana banyak pemandangan yang luar biasa indah. (34: P1: B1)*
- (55a) *Di sekelilingnya pun banyak pohon-pohon yang tumbuh. (8: P1: B2)*

### Misuse of Punctuation Dots (.)

Errors in using punctuation marks made by the seventh-graders in the form of writing punctuation errors, in which they should have been written, were as follows:

- (55) *Di sana Turis-turispun berfoto-foto (4: P2: B1)*  
There the tourists also take pictures
- (56) *Banyak orang yang berwisata ke sana, juga ada wisatawan mancanegara (4: P1: B5)*  
Many people travel there, there are also foreign tourists
- (57) *Pemandangan-pemandangan disetiap perjalanan itulah yang membuatku nyaman di dalam*

*Bus* (5: P2: B6)

It's the scenery on every trip that makes me comfortable on the bus

- (58) *Candi Prambanan merupakan salah satu obyek wisata yang bersejarah* (8: P1: B1)

Prambanan Temple is one of the historical tourism objects

- (59) *Pemandangan disana sangatlah indah dan menawan pantas saja banyak para wisatawan yang tertarik dan berkunjung disana* (8: P1: B6)

The scenery there is very beautiful and charming, it's just that many tourists are interested and visit there

- (60) *Candi Prambanan memanglah obyek wisata yang cocok untuk dikunjungi* (8: P2: B1)

Prambanan Temple is indeed a suitable tourist attraction to visit

- (61) *Hembusan angin yang kencang mengibaskan daun-daun pepohonan dan menjadikan udara menjadi sejuk* (8: P2: B4)

A strong gust of wind shakes the leaves of the trees and makes the air cool

- (62) *Di sana juga terdapat jalan setapak yang mengelilingi candi Prambanan* (8: P2: B5)

There is also a path that surrounds the Prambanan temple

- (63) *Jika datang pada musim penghujan harus hati-hati karena sering terjadi longsor dan pohon tumbang* (13: P3: B6)

If you come during the rainy season, you must be careful because landslides and fallen trees often occur

- (64) *Pada saat merayakan hari rayanya, umat budha berbondong-bondong datang ke Candi Borobudur* (19: P2: B3)

At the time of celebrating his feast day, Buddhists flock to Borobudur Temple

- (65) *Jalan menuju Candi Prambanan sangat ramai dan penuh* (23:P2: B1)

The road to Prambanan Temple is very busy and full

- (66) *Di dalam candi, saya dan keluarga saya melihat-lihat didalam candi yang sangat indah* (23: P2: B2)

Inside the temple, my family and I have a look inside the temple which is very beautiful

- (67) *Lalu aku naik ke mobil dan melanjutkan perjalanan untuk pulang* (27: P5: B3)

Then I got into the car and continued on my way home

- (68) *Tiket lorong hanya 15 Ribu itu pun sepuasnya* (30: P1: B4)

The hall ticket is only 15 thousand, that's as much as you like

- (69) *kolam Renang air panas di pacitan terletak didekat pegunungan pacitan* (30:P1: B1)

The hot spring swimming pool in pacitan is located near the mountains of pacitan

In data (55), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation marks behind the word 'photos' to make it an effective sentence. In standard spelling, it was stated that a period punctuation mark (.) was used at the end of a sentence that not not a question or an exclamation. In data (56), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. After the foreign words, punctuation marks should be put in place so that they were effective sentences. In the data (57), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word bus in order to make it an effective sentence. In data (58), there were errors regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word historic in order to make it an effective sentence. In data (59), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation marks behind the words in order to make it an effective sentence. In data (60), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. After the word visited, a period should be punctuated to make it an effective sentence. In the data (61), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word cool to make it an effective sentence. In the data (62), there were errors regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word

Prambanan to make it an effective sentence.

In data (63), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be a punctuation mark behind the word *tumble* to make it an effective sentence. In data (64), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word *Borobudur* to make it an effective sentence. In data (65), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the full word to make it an effective sentence. In data (66), there was an error in using punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the beautiful word in order to make it an effective sentence. In data (67), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation behind the word *return* to make it an effective sentence. In data (68), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. There should be punctuation marks behind the word as much as a period to make it an effective sentence. In data (69), there was an error regarding the use of punctuation marks to end sentences. After the word *Pacitan*, punctuation marks should be given to make it an effective sentence. The correct sentences from data (55) to (69), were as follows:

- (55a) *Di sana Turis-turispun berfoto-foto. (4: P2: B1)*
- (56a) *Banyak orang yang berwisata ke sana, juga ada wisatawan mancanegara. (4: P1: B5)*
- (57a) *Pemandangan-pemandangan disetiap perjalanan itulah yang membuatku nyaman di dalam bus. (5: P2: B6)*
- (58a) *Candi Prambanan merupakan salah satu obyek wisata yang bersejarah. (8: P1: B1)*
- (59a) *Pemandangan di sana sangatlah indah dan menawan pantas saja banyak para wisatawan yang tertarik dan berkunjung di sana. (8: P1: B6)*
- (60a) *Candi Prambanan memanglah obyek wisata yang cocok untuk dikunjungi. (8: P2: B1)*
- (61a) *Hembusan angin yang kencang mengibaskan daun-daun pepohonan dan menjadikan udara menjadi sejuk. (8: P2: B4)*
- (62a) *Di sana juga terdapat jalan setapak yang mengelilingi Candi Prambanan. (8: P2: B5)*
- (63a) *Jika datang pada musim penghujan harus hati-hati karena sering terjadi longsor dan pohon tumbang. (13: P3: B6)*
- (64a) *Pada saat merayakan hari rayanya, umat Budha berbondong-bondong datang ke Candi Borobudur. (19: P2: B3)*
- (65a) *Jalan menuju Candi Prambanan sangat ramai dan penuh. (23:P2: B1)*
- (66a) *Di dalam candi, saya dan keluarga saya melihat-lihat didalam candi yang sangat indah. (23: P2: B2)*
- (67a) *Lalu aku naik ke mobil dan melanjutkan perjalanan untuk pulang. (27: P5: B3)*
- (68a) *Tiket lorong hanya 15 ribu itu pun sepuasnya. (30: P1: B4)*
- (69a) *Kolam Renang Air Panas di Pacitan terletak di dekat pegunungan Pacitan. (30:P1: B1)*

## Conclusion

This study concludes seventh-graders' descriptive writing in the following errors: the use of capital letters in geographic names followed by geographic names for 47.05%; capital letters in geographic names for 29.41%; capital letters at the beginning of sentences for 35.29%; capital letters in people's names for 5.88%; and capital letters in the middle of sentences for 32.35%. Meanwhile, incorrect word combination error showed 17.64%; error in writing the prepositions [in, to, and from] records 41.17%. Last but not least, error in the use of punctuation marks among seventh-graders of lower secondary school indicates 44.11% of thirty-four essays. Errors are produced among the seventh-graders since they lack of understanding the guidelines for writing appropriateness in descriptive writing during their English class. The intensity

of acknowledging the descriptive writing becomes tenth-graders' priority within appropriate and conducive English learning environment.

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