

ABSTRACT

Ridwan. 2024. An Analysis on Graduate Students' Difficulties in Answering Structure and Written Expression Questions in TOEFL (*Quantitative Descriptive Design*). Supervised by Ratna Dewi and Syamsiarna Nappu.

This study investigated the types of questions on the Structure and Written Expression section of the TOEFL that were considered as difficult to answer. The participants in this study were students of Master of English Education (S2 MPBI) students at Muhammadiyah University of Makassar. The placement exam for pursuing a master's degree was a TOEFL exam. The quantitative descriptive design was used in this study. The instrument was TOEFL test to get the data on structure and written expression results. The information was extracted from Official Guide to the TOEFL ITP Test published by Penerbit Erlangga by arrangement with IIEF-Indonesia International Education Foundation (on behalf of ETS), 2016.

The results indicated that the difficulties on topics of structure from students were included Clause, Inversion, Gerund and Infinitive, Appositive, Reduce, and Connector. From these six topics, Reduce had the most difficult which average 11 out of 16 student answer incorrectly then Connector was the second difficult with 10 students fail to answer in each question. From the difficulties on topics of written expression from students were included the use of Articles, Problem with Pronoun, Problem with Adjective and Adverb, Problem with prepositions, Problem with Usage, Parallel structure, Problem with Verbs, Problem with Noun, Subject-Verb agreement, and Comparisons. Problem with Adjective and Adverb had the most difficulty which average 12 out of 16 students are unable to answer the question. Thus, Comparisons and Problem with Preposition were the second place difficult which has 11 wrong answers in each question.

In conclusion, the exam results showed that Reduce was the most difficult for the students to understand in Structure. It had had 11 wrong answers in each question and for written expression, Problem with Adjective and Adverb had the most difficult that has 12 wrong answers in each question, this can be concluded that the two materials as mentioned above are the most difficult faced by students in completing the structure and written expression section of TOEFL test.

Keywords: *TOEFL, structure and written expression, students' difficulty*

ABSTRACT

Ridwan. 2024. Analisis Kesulitan Mahasiswa Pascasarjana dalam Menjawab Soal Structure and Written Expression pada TOEFL (Quantitative Descriptive Design). Dibimbing oleh Ratna Dewi dan Syamsiarna Nappu.

Penelitian ini mengkaji jenis-jenis soal pada bagian Structure and Written Expression pada TOEFL yang dianggap sulit dijawab. Partisipan dalam penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa Magister Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris (S2 MPBI) Universitas Muhammadiyah Makassar. Ujian penempatan untuk menempuh jenjang magister adalah ujian TOEFL. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain deskriptif kuantitatif. Instrumen yang digunakan adalah tes TOEFL untuk memperoleh data hasil structure and written expression. Informasi tersebut diekstrak dari Official Guide to the TOEFL ITP Test yang diterbitkan oleh Penerbit Erlangga melalui kerja sama dengan IIEF-Indonesia International Education Foundation (atas nama ETS), 2016..

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kesulitan pada topik struktur dari siswa meliputi Clause, Inversion, Gerund and Infinitive, Appositive, Reduce, dan Connector. Dari keenam topik tersebut, Reduce memiliki tingkat kesulitan paling tinggi dengan rata-rata 11 dari 16 siswa menjawab salah, kemudian Connector merupakan topik tersulit kedua dengan 10 siswa gagal menjawab pada setiap pertanyaan. Dari kesulitan pada topik ekspresi tertulis dari siswa meliputi penggunaan Articles, Problem with Pronoun, Problem with Adjective and Adverb, Problem with preposition, Problem with Usage, Parallel structure, Problem with Verbs, Problem with Noun, Subject-Verb agreement, dan Comparisons. Problem with Adjective and Adverb memiliki tingkat kesulitan paling tinggi dengan rata-rata 12 dari 16 siswa tidak dapat menjawab pertanyaan. Dengan demikian, Comparisons dan Problem with Preposition berada di posisi kedua dengan tingkat kesulitan yang sama yaitu 11 jawaban salah pada setiap soal.

Sebagai kesimpulan, hasil ujian menunjukkan bahwa Reduce merupakan materi yang paling sulit dipahami oleh siswa dalam Structure. Materi ini memiliki 11 jawaban salah pada setiap soal dan untuk Writing Expression, Problem with Adjective and Adverb merupakan materi yang paling sulit yaitu 12 jawaban salah pada setiap soal, hal ini dapat disimpulkan bahwa kedua materi tersebut merupakan materi yang paling sulit dihadapi oleh siswa dalam menyelesaikan bagian Structure dan Writing Expression pada tes TOEFL.

Kata kunci: TOEFL, Structure dan Writing Expression, Kesulitan Siswa