

## ABSTRACT

**DewiKartika Sari, 2018.***The Use of Transitional Signals in Writing Essay at the Fifth Semester Students of English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Makassar* under the thesis of English Education Department, the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University Muhammadiyah of Makassar, guided by Hj. AndiTenriAmpa and AndiAsriJumiaty.

This research aimed to find out the use of transitional signals in writing essay specifically to find out the types of transitional signals and the accuracy of its use. The transitional signals that were analyzed are transitional signals for adding ideas and emphasizing, showing contrast and comparison, showing cause and effect, providing examples, introducing time order or sequence, and concluding or summarizing. This research was conducted for the fifth semester students of English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Makassar.

This research used a quantitative method. The population of this research was the fifth semester students while the sample was 68 students from that population that was taken randomly. The instrument of this research was writing test. The respondents were asked to choose one of topic and wrote at least three paragraphs about it.

The findings of this research showed that the total of transitional signals that are used by the students were 203 transitional signals, specifically 35 transitional signals for adding and emphasizing, 32 for showing contrast and comparison, 17 for providing example, 5 for showing cause and effect, 95 for introducing time order and sequence, and 19 for summarizing. Moreover, the percentage of the accuracy was 83%. Orderly, the percentage of the accuracy for adding and emphasizing ideas, showing comparison and contrast, providing example, showing cause and effect, providing time order and sequence, and summarizing transitional signals were 86%, 78%, 94%, 80%, 84%, and 69%. In other words, the most widely used transitional signal was transitional signals for introducing time order and sequence and the least used transitional signal was transitional signals for showing cause and effect. While, the highest percentage of accuracy was transitional signals for providing example and the lowest percentage of accuracy was transitional signals for summarizing.

**Keywords:** Transitional signals, writing, essay, and accuracy.