

ABSTRACT

DWI, MUSDALIFAH. 2019. *The University Students' Ability in Using English Tenses (A Descriptive Research at the First Semester Muhammadiyah University of Makassar).* A thesis English Education Department The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Makassar. Guided by Sulfasyah and Awalia Azis.

This research aimed to find out the students' ability in using English tenses that focused on four tenses, such as simple present tense, present continuous tense, present perfect tense and present perfect continuous tense.

The researcher used descriptive method and giving a test to the students. The kind of test was the Multiple Choice Test that consists of 40 questions. The population of this research was the students in the first semester Muhammadiyah University of Makassar, and the researcher took the sample in the class 1C that consist of 26 students by purposive sampling.

The result of this research showed that students' score in the first semester Muhammadiyah University of Makassar in the class 1C. The data finding showed the total score of the students' in using English tenses either in percentage score and mean score. It saw there were sixteen students got good classification (61.53%), and no one student got very poor classification. In the data finding also showed the students' mean score (62.88). Regarding to the score that the students' ability in using English tenses was in the middle.

Key word: *Ability, English Tenses, Kind of Tenses*