

# ***A STUDY ON GRAMMATICAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF MTs DARUL HIKMAH PEKANBARU***

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**Abstract:** *This research belongs to descriptive research which used quantitative approach. It aimed to find out the level of grammar knowledge of the second year students of MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru. The population of this research was the second year students of the school, while the number of populations was 265 students. Thirty one of them were the samples and selecting by cluster sampling technique. To collect the data, completion test was used as the instrument with the total number of items was fourty questions. It consist of verb to be, modal, singular and plural, demonstrative adjective, degree of comparison and simple present tense. The result of research shows that the mean score of students in grammar knowledge was 70.26 and it categorized into good level, and the most difficult component is degree of comparison with the mean score **65**, and the easiest aspects is in term of verb to be with the mean score **77**. In brief, the second year students have good ability in grammatical knowledge that has been learned in odd semester.*

**Key Words:** *Students' Ability, Grammar, Knowledge*

# **PENELITIAN PENGETAHUAN TATA BAHASA SISWA KELAS 8 MTs DARUL HIKMAH PEKANBARU**

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**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini termasuk penelitian deskriptif dengan pendekatan kuantitatif. Adapun tujuan dari penelitian ini untuk mengetahui tingkat pengetahuan tata bahasa siswa kelas II MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru. Populasi dalam penelitian ini adalah siswa tahun kedua sekolah tersebut, sedangkan jumlah populasinya adalah 265 siswa. Sampel berjumlah 30 orang dan dipilih dengan teknik cluster sampling. Untuk mengumpulkan data digunakan tes ketuntasan (mengisi teks rumpang) sebagai instrument, dengan jumlah soal sebanyak empat puluh soal. Adapun materi grammar yang diujikan terdiri dari *verb to be, modal, singular and plural, demonstrative adjective, degree of comparison and simple present tense*. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa nilai rata-rata siswa pada pengetahuan tata bahasa adalah 70,26 dan termasuk dalam kategori baik, adapun materi yang paling sulit adalah *degree of comparison* dengan nilai rata-rata 65, dan materi yang paling mudah adalah *verb to be* dengan nilai rata-rata 77. Secara singkat, dapat dikatakan bahwa siswa tahun kedua memiliki kemampuan yang baik dalam ilmu tata bahasa yang telah dipelajari di semester ganjil.

**Kata Kunci:** Kemampuan Siswa, Tata Bahasa, Pengetahuan

## **INTRODUCTION**

Following syllabus, there are many topics to be learned by the second-year students of MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru in English subject. One of them is grammar. It is the ways words can be put together to make sentences. According to Celce-Murcia & Larsen-Freeman (1999) the purpose of learning grammar is for both the structure and its communicative use. The study of English grammar has two principal advantages. It facilitates mastery of writing and enables students to study the grammar of other languages more efficiently (Murphy, 1991). It is learned in the odd and the even semester. There are so many materials of grammar that has been learned by the students. In this research, the researcher focuses only on grammar that have been learned by the students in odd semester that consist of verb to be, modal, singular and plural, demonstrative adjective, degree of comparison and simple present tense.

Nowadays, students learn grammar, not in detail like the previously implemented curriculum. This affects the ability of students in grammar. In fact, it has an essential role in learning a language in relation to the language as a means of communication. Therefore, students are expected have adequate grammatical knowledge. For that fact, there are two reasons for choosing this topic for the research; the first one is for the fact that grammar is considered to be an important system of a language. Leech and Svartvik (1975) states to use a language properly, one has to know the grammatical structure of the language and their meaning. Besides, Swan (1995) emphasizes that grammar mastery supports the good use of a language. The second reason is because grammar is usually applied in English communication, and this material will help learners to identify grammatical forms, or rules which serve to enhance and express the meaning. Azar (2007) expresses that grammar helps learners discover the nature of the languages. Thus, it is necessary to do a research on the knowledge of grammatical.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research belongs to descriptive research which used quantitative approach. It was conducted from January to November 2020 and the data were collected online to class VIII on Monday, July 06, 2020, from 2.10 p.m up to 3.00 p.m by using Google form that was shared to class room as media. The population of this research was the second year students of MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru that consist of 265 students. Then VIII A1 was selected as the sample of the research by using cluster sampling technique. It obtained 31 students. To collect the data, the researcher used completion tests adapted from Mulyono (2018) in English Way for Junior High School textbook then it is modified. While to calculate the data used Microsoft Excel.

## RESSEARCH FINDINGS

### Description of Students' Grammar Knowledge

After collecting the data, the students' individual score were calculated in the table below:

Table 1. Students' Individual Scores in Grammatical Knowledge

No	Scores Classification	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)	Level	Mean Score
1.	81-100	6	19.36%	Excellent	70.26
2.	61-80	18	58.06%	Good	
3.	41-60	7	22.58%	Mediocre	
4.	21- 40	0	0%	Poor	
5.	0 -20	0	0%	Very poor	
TOTAL		31	100%		Good

Table above describes the students' individual scores in grammatical knowledge. From all 31 samples, 6 students (19.36%) are in the excellent level, 18 students (58.06%) are in good level, and 7 students (22.58%) are in mediocre level. Meanwhile, the mean score of the students is 70.26 and it is catogorized into **good level**.

### Mean Score

Table 2 describes the mean score of students in grammar knowledge. The mean score of verb to be is 77, modal is **74**, singular and plural is 68, simple present tense is 69 demonstrative adjective is 69, and degree of comparison is 65. Moreover, the mean score of students in grammatical knowledge is 70.26 and categorized into good level. It can be seen in the following table:

Table 2. the Students' Mean Scores in Grammatical Knowledge

No	The Topics of Question	Mean Score	Level of Ability
1.	Verb to be	77	Good
2.	Modal Auxiliary	74	Good
3.	Singular and Plural	68	Good
4.	Demonstrative Adjective	68.6	Good
5.	Simple Present Tense	69	Good
6.	Degree of Comparison	65	Good
TOTAL		70.26	Good

## Discussion

Based on result of the research, from all 31 students, it was found the mean score of students in grammatical knowledge is 70.26. For detail, there are 5 students are in an excellent level, 19 students are in a good level, and 7 students are in mediocre level. Besides, the students' level in all of the topics is included into **a good level**. The most difficult topics is in terms of the degree of comparison with the mean score **65**, based on the discussion with English teacher, probably it was caused the difference of pattern in English and Bahasa, so that the students were confused to put suffix *-er* or *more* for comparative, and *-est* or *most* for superlative. Besides, the medium aspects of this research were in modal with the mean score **74**, singular and Plural with the mean score **68**, simple present tense with the mean score **69**, and demonstrative adjective with the mean score **68, 6**. Meanwhile, the easiest aspect is in terms of the verb to be with the mean score **77**, it might be caused this material was easy for the students and often practicing in daily conversation.

Actually, this research has similarities and differences with the previous research conducted by Ji (2018). The similarities can be seen from the sample of the research, that is grade Eight students in junior middle schools and the differences can be seen from the method and the data collection technique. The previous researcher used survey method and questionnaire and interview as the data collection technique. Meanwhile, the researcher used descriptive research which was used quantitative approach and completion test as the data collection technique. On the other side, the results of the previous research shows that many students do not know how to effectively consolidate grammar knowledge and the majority of students involved admitted that the accuracy of grammar knowledge was low when they spoke or wrote in English.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Conclusion

Based on the result finding, the researcher analyzed the level of the second year students of MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru in grammatical Knowledge can be categorized into good level with the mean score 70.26. The most difficult topics is in terms of the degree of comparison with the mean score **65** and the easiest aspect is in terms of the verb to be with the mean score **77**.

Although the mean score is classified into a good level, only 6 (19.35%) of 31 students that pass the standard minimum criteria (KKM), where the KKM is 79. Mostly the problem might be caused by some reasons such as unfamiliar with the new words, having many written errors, and lack of background knowledge of grammar. In addition, teachers are expected to provide motivation and improve learning methods, for example increasing vocabulary knowledge to develop students' grammar knowledge skills with variant sentence patterns.

### Recommendations

Considering the conclusion, the researcher would like to deliver some recommendations and suggestion based on the result of the research. The first, the teachers are expected to provide motivation and improve learning methods, for example increasing vocabulary knowledge to develop students' grammar knowledge skills with variant sentence patterns, it because only a few students of the sample can reach the standard minimum score (KKM). The second, the students should learn surely about grammar, especially in terms of the degree of comparison because it was the lowest score in this research. The last, after reading this thesis, the readers and other researchers are expected to get information, knowledge, and advantages especially about grammatical knowledge of MTs Darul Hikmah Pekanbaru.

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