



The Ability of English Language and Literature Department Students at UNP in Understanding Noun Clause and Its Function

Ranti Melantari¹, Sitti Fatimah²

Faculty of Languages and Arts

Universitas Negeri Padang

email: rantimelant@gmail.com

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Abstract

This study investigated students' ability in understanding noun clause and its function at English Language and Literature department of UNP. This research used descriptive quantitative research. The researcher randomly choosed five students each class from K1, K2, K3, K4 and K5 in academic year 2018 as a sample. There were 25 students as the sample. The results show that the total avarage score of the students' ability in understanding noun clause and its function was 52.56 or poor ability.. The highest percentage is in poor Level with 11 students (44%); only 4 students (16%) were included in Good Level; and very few (2 students or 8%) achieved Excellent Level. The rest 8 students (32%) were categorized in fair and Very Poor Level. The data also show that 20 from 25 students choose false answer in question about NC as subject complement with the highest percentage is 80%. It shows that students' difficulties in understanding noun clause function were NC as subject of complement.

Keywords:

Noun Clause, Noun clause function, students' ability

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INTRODUCTION

Grammar is a major part of language (Greenbourn, 2002). It shows that grammar is the most important part in a with rules of grammar structure. When students understand grammar, they will know how to speak and write using good sentences and they can also express various kinds of ideas and feelings through writing or words. By using grammar correctly, a person will be able to practice writing and speaking English well. This is supported by Harmer (2007) said that if too many errors in grammar are violated, communication can be disrupted. therefore the actual meaning in a writing or conversation will not be conveyed and there will be interference in communication.

In this research the researcher will discuss about students; ability in understanding noun clause and its function. According to Werner and Nelson

(2002), the function of noun clause are NC as subject of verb, NC as object of verb, NC as subject of complement, NC as object of complement and NC as object of preposition. The material of noun clause looks simple and easy, but in fact there are still many English Department students who do not know the concept of the noun clause itself. therefore the noun clause is important to analyze.

The researcher did preliminary in English Department of UNP, the researcher found that students of English Language and Literature Department get difficulties in understanding noun clauses. When the researcher gives some questions and example of NC, researcher found that they had difficulty in understanding the noun clause because they did not really understand the concept of the noun clause material. they only understand that the noun clause is a clause that acts as a noun, but some of them still lack knowledge about the noun clause. It is divided into several types and several functions.. They are still confused to distinguish the function of noun clause in a sentence, whether the noun clause as a subject, object, preposition or compliment, although they already learned about noun clause since the first semester in English Language and Literature Department.

As discussed in the background of the problem above, the students in English Department are confused with noun clause rule, particularly in understanding the function of noun clause, such as the noun clause as a subject, noun clause as an object, noun clause as a subject compliment, noun clause as object compliment and noun clause as object preposition. That is why, in this research, researcher wants to know the students' ability in understanding noun clause and function of students' English Language and Literature Department at UNP.

METHOD

This research used descriptive quantitative research. Schreiber and Asner-self (2011) stated that descriptive studies explain the phenomenon by using numbers to show or description of a group or individual. In addition, quantitative research is based on measuring quantity or magnitude (Kothari, 2004). The instrument of this research are grammar test. In this research, the researcher used simple random sampling technique. The researcher used this probability sampling to give the same opportunity to the population to be a member of sample because the researcher wants to know the students' ability in understanding noun clause and function. The researcher chose five students for each class from K1, K2, K3, K3 and K5 as a sample. So there are 25 sample of students in total.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Research Finding

1. Students' ability in understanding noun clause

Based on the finding in the research, it needs to be discussed related to the theories. In this research, the findings of the research based on the research questions which are first is students' ability in understanding noun clause and students' difficulties in understanding noun clause.

The table bellow show the finding of students; ability in understanding noun clause:

Table 1. The Percentage Result of Students’ ability in understanding noun clause

Level of ability	Frequency (f)	Percentage (P)
Excellent	2	8 %
Good	4	16%
Fair	4	16 %
Poor	11	44 %
Very poor	4	16%
Total	25	100 %

The table above showed that the students’ ability in understanding noun clause and its function could be explained that The highest percentage is in poor Level with 11 students (44%); only 4 students (16%) were included in Good Level; and very few (2 students or 8%) achieved Excellent Level. The rest 8 students (32%) were categorized in fair and Very Poor Level.

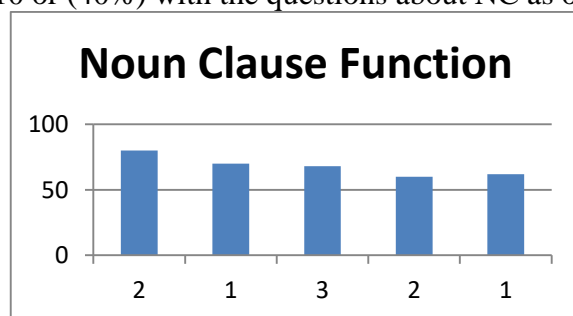
2. Students’ difficulties in understanding noun clause function

The table bellow show the finding of students; ability in understanding noun clause function:

Table.2 Percentage of false answer in noun clause test

Noun clause function	frequency (f)	Percentage (p)
NC as subject complement	20	80%
NC as subject of verb	16	64%
NC as object of verb	16	64%
NC as object preposition	18	72%
NC as object complement	10	40%

The table above shows the percentage about students’ difficulties in understanding noun clause function. The highest percentage is in question about NC as subject complement with 20 students who got false answer (80%). It followed by students who got false answer in question about NC as object preposition is 18 or (72%). Moreover, 16 or (64%) students who got the same total of false answer in questions about NC as subject of verb and NC as object of verb. The lowest total of false answer is 10 or (40%) with the questions about NC as object complement.



Graphic 1. The Percentage Result of Students’ ability in understanding noun clause function

Discussion

Through the data, the students’ ability in understanding noun clause and its function was belong to poor level. This finding is quite different from the research

conducted by Haryanti and Setyindari (2017) who found that the noun clause mastery of the fifth semester students of English Education Study Program, University of Widya Dharma Klaten was good.

Then, Through the data of students that had false answer of item test. The data showed that the students' difficulties in understanding noun clause function is belong to question about NC as subject complement. Based on the data in table.5 .20 from 25 students choose false answer in that question with the highest percentage is 80%. The result of this research was supported by the previous research conducted by Arifin (2016). The findings showed some problems faced by the students. The students did not understand how to use the function of the noun clause. They only used noun clause as direct object (23.6%) and noun clause as object complement (21.8%). There were three functions that were not found in the task. It showed the students did not understand how to use the function of noun clause well.

It is also supported by the previous research that conducted by Haryanti and Setyindari (2017) .The research was students' difficulties in mastering noun clause. The research showed The difficulties faced by the students was they cannot determine the function of noun clause in a sentence exactly.

CONCLUSION

The result of the data analysis of students' ability in understanding noun clause and its function of the students' English language and literature department of academic year 2018 at UNP was: the students' abilities in understanding noun clause and its function that had 2 students or 8% get the highest score with an excellent level. 4 students or 16% of students belong to the good level. Then 4 students or 16% are in the fair level, 11 students or 44% of students are in the poor level and 4 students or 16% of students are belong to very poor level. It shows that the students' ability in understanding noun clause and its function of the students' English language and literature department in academic year 2018 at UNP had poor level by mean score 52,56. The data also shows that the students' difficulties in understanding noun clause function. 20 from 25 students choose false answer in question about NC as subject complement with the highest percentage is 80%. It shows that students' difficulties in understanding noun clause function was NC as subject of complement.

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