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**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS' KNOWLEDGE OF  
REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS AND THEIR ABILITY IN  
WRITING ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SENTENCE OF  
THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS  
OF SMPN 8 CIREBON**

**A THESIS**

Submitted to English Education Departement of Syekh Nurjati State Institute for  
Islamic Studies in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Islamic Scholar Degree  
In English Education (S.Pd.I)



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CIREBON  
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## ABSTRACT

Irma Febriani : “THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS’ KNOWLEDGE OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS AND THEIR ABILITY IN WRITING ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SENTENCE OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS AT SMPN 8 CIREBON”

The formulation of the problem in this thesis is divided into four parts namely, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the questions of the research, and the aims of the research. In this case, the writer discusses about the students’ knowledge of regular and irregular verbs and their ability in writing active and passive sentence.

The objectives of the research are to find out the students’ knowledge of regular and irregular verbs, to find out the students’ ability in writing active and passive sentence, and to find out the correlation between the students’ knowledge of regular and irregular verbs and their ability in writing active and passive sentence.

To find out all the data in this research, the writer has used quantitative approach. It means that the data which is obtained from the field of the research then analyzed statistically by means of numbers by using Pearson’s Product Moment Formulation.

The population of the research is all the second year students at SMPN 8 Cirebon. The amount of them comes to 242 students. As a sample of the research is 60 students.

The result of the test shows that the average score of the students’ knowledge of regular and irregular verbs as X variable is 7.9. The score 7.9 can be rounded into 8. This score is assumed as “good”. It means that the students’ knowledge of regular and irregular verbs can be considered as “good”. And the average score of the students’ ability in writing active and passive sentence as Y variable is 7.1. The score 7.1 can be rounded into 7. It can be assumed that the students’ ability in writing active and passive sentence can be considered as “sufficient”. The result of coefficient correlation is 0.46. The score 0.46 of the computation of product moment correlation can be assumed as “Sufficient or enough correlation”. This indicates that there is significant students knowledge of regular and irregular verbs and their ability in writing active and passive sentence. It is because  $t_{\text{observe}} > t_{\text{table}}$   $3.97 \geq 2.04$ , it means that the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) is rejected, and the alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ) is accepted



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## AUTOBIOGRAPHY



The writer was born on Februari 16<sup>th</sup>, 1991 in Astanajapura, West Java. she has two brothers and three sisters. Her Father's name is H.Qodim and her Mother's name is Hj. Nani.

In chronological order of her education, the writer graduated from the Elementary School at SDN IIMertapadawetan in 2003. She continuedher study to Junior High School at SMPN 1 ASTANAJAPURA and passed it in 2006. And then, she continued again to Senior High School at SMK VETERAN Cirebonand passed it in 2009. After that, she continued her study at IAIN SyekhNurjatiCirebon and choosed English study program as her program and hasbeen as a student there up to now.



## PREFACE

In the name of ALLAH SWT, the most merciful. Praises and thanks be to Allah who has taught (the writing) by the primary. May invocation and safety always be given to the prophet Muhammad, Peace Be Upon Him, his family and followers up to end of the world.

The title of this thesis is **“The Correlation Between Students’ Knowledge of Regular and Irregular Verbs and Their Ability in Writing Active and Passive Sentence of the Second Year Students of SMPN 8 CIREBON”** is submitted to fulfill one of the requirements for achieving the Islamic Scholar Degree at the English Education Faculty of Tarbiyah of The Institute For Islamic Studies (IAIN) Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.

In composing this thesis, there are so many people who have participated, helped, and advised directly or indirectly. So on this opportunity the writer would like to express her sincerity and profound thankfulness to:

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The writer realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect and there are many mistakes either in the agreement or in the content. Therefore, she would welcome the comments and suggestions.

Finally, the writer hopes this thesis will be some valuables to the readers especially for the writer herself and for English Education Departement of Tarbiyah Faculty of IAIN Syekh Nurjati as a reference on general

Cirebon, July 2013

The Writer



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>THE APPROVAL .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>RATIFICATION.....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>OFFICIAL NOTE .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>LETTER OF AUTHENTICITY.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>AUTOBIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>DEDICATION.....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>PREFACE .....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>x</b>
 <b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b>	
A. The Background of the Problem .....	1
B. The Identification of the Problem .....	11
C. The Limitation of the Problem .....	13
D. The Questions of the Research.....	13
E. The Aims of Research .....	13
F. The Use of the Research.....	14
 <b>CHAPTER II THE THEORETICAL FOUNDATION</b>	
A. The Nature Of Learning .....	15
B. The Regular and Irregular Verbs.....	19
1. The Definition of Verb .....	19
2. The Function of Verb .....	20
3. The Position of Verb.....	21
4. The Grammatical of Verb.....	21
5. The Classes of Verb.....	21
6. The Definition of Regular and Irregular Verbs .....	26
7. The Form of Regular Verb .....	28
8. The Form of Irregular Verb .....	32
9. The Tenses.....	33
C. The Active and Passive Sentence.....	35
1. The Nature of Sentence .....	35
2. The Definition of Sentence.....	38
3. The Definition of Voice.....	41
4. The Nature of Active and Passive Sentence .....	41
5. The Definition of Active and Passive Sentence .....	56
6. The Form of Active and Passive Sentence .....	58
7. The Function of Active and Passive Sentence.....	61
8. The Uses of Passive Voice .....	64
9. The Characteristic of Active and Passive Sentence.....	66



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D. The Frameof Thinking .....	66
E. The Hypothesis of the Research.....	70

### CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

A. The Objective of the Research .....	72
B. The Place and Time of the Research.....	72
C. The Method of The Research .....	73
D. The Variables of the Research .....	73
E. The Population and Sample .....	73
F. The Techniques of Collecting Data.....	76
G. The Technique of Analysis Data.....	80

### CHAPTER IV THE RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Data Analysis Technique.....	85
1. Normality test .....	85
2. Homogeneity test.....	86
B. The Students' Knowledge of regular and Irregular verbs ( X Variable).....	87
C. The Students' Ability in Writing Active Sentence and Passive Voice ( Y Variable).....	90
D. The Correlation Between The Studens' Knowledge of Regular and Irregular Verbs and their ability in writing Active and passive sentence. ....	93
E. Discussion .....	98

### CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. CONCLUSION .....	101
B. SUGGESTION.....	102

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

### APPENDIX



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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Problem

Human beings are the social creatures who need communication with the other fellow human beings. There is no human beings who can live alone. There is no nation who can live alone. One nation also need to communicate with the other nations. Communication between or among the nations is Organized by an organization which is called the United Nations Organization (UNO).

In the daily lives, human beings are not free from the communication with the other human beings in their surrounding environment. There will be no human beings who can live alone in this world. And without communication between or among human beings, they will not be able to multiply even they will extinct from this earth. Communication between or among human beings especially, between man and women through marriage will give birth to the other human beings.

Any human being or human beings wherever they are, they cannot live by themselves. As a social being, they need to live with the other human beings to fulfill all needs of their lives, honestly speaking, communication between or among human beings is supposed to be the basic need for human beings themselves. Communication between or among human beings can be in a small form like communication between or among the numbers of a

family, then a bigger form like communication between or among the numbers of community and in the biggest form is communication between or among ethnic groups and nations. Communication between or among the nations around the world is managed by the organization that is called the United Nations Organization (UNO) domiciled in Washington, D. C. The United States of America. For Islamic human beings, communication between or among human beings is not only supposed to be the basic need of their lives but is also supposed to be the God`s command. God (Al-hujurat:13)

The number of human beings is supposed to be the population of the world achieving the number of thousand millions of human beings. From thousand millions of human beings then they group to form nations and ethnic groups who have their own countries and regions. The number of nations and ethnic groups in the world will indicate the number of languages and ethnic languages existing in the world. For example, Indonesia as an Archipelago country have one language that is Indonesian as a national language and the other ethnic languages referring to ethnic groups. There are so many various ethnic groups having their own religion, culture, and ethnic language. One`s language of ethnic group or one`s language or one nation is absolutely very different from the other one`s language of an ethnic group or one`s language of a nation. In short, there will be no two languages precisely the same both in seen from the point of the words and seen from the point of the language rules.

In a social group, human beings learn so many things about values, norms, behaviors, such as loyalty, dedication, respect, sympathy,



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cooperation, And so forth. By knowledge of a social group where human beings come from, type of the lives of human beings can be known. Human beings who live in the midst an intimate, willingly social group and full of togetherness, their personalities will be possibly very different from human beings who live in the midst of a formal, rigid, and hard social group. The specialization of each factor that is possessed by human beings is supposed to be the things resulting in the process of socialization. And all of them can only be done with using a language as the only tool. That is why, language is supposed to be the only vital tool all along their lives.

Language is supposed to be the only tool for human beings to communicate. With a language human beings can express their ideas, feelings, and thoughts to the other fellow human beings. On the contrary, if the lives of human beings do not have a language then those human beings will not be able to communicate; moreover, understanding what is expressed by human beings to the other human beings. This refers to how importance the existence of a language human beings can strive for science and knowledge, religion, culture, economy, and so forth. And this thing causes the lives of human beings is absolutely not the same as the other creatures, say, animals. The lives of animals do not experience the changes forever. But the lives of human beings experience the changes rapidly.

Any language existing in the world whether it is used as a tool of communication or it is no longer used as a tool of communication like sanskrit and latin certainly a language themselves. Words can be like the leaves of a



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tree. The leaves of a tree can be known its number or can be counted. Words of a language can also be known or can be counted. It is said that English has more than 500.000 words. For mastering 500.000 words for anyone who learns English is not possible. It is intended that someone especially, the students who learn English should always increase their vocabulary knowledge.

It is necessary to be known that language consists of words or a collection of words. Each has meaning namely the relationship and meaning of the world itself which describes something like object, activity, and condition. In short, where is word means there is something. On the contrary, where is something means there is a word. The words are supposed to be the power of a language itself. Learning a language means learning the words themselves. By the words so the people will be able to their express ideas, thoughts, and feelings to the others.

The words are supposed to be the main foundation of the language itself. Or with the other words. As being mentioned above that the words are supposed to be the power of a language itself. Someone`s knowledge about vocabulary plays a very important and needs to be increased so that he or she is able to the language with good and polite words which will also describe his or her personality. By the words someone would be sad, happy, angry, afraid, and so forth. The words can be like a weapon that is sharper than a sword.

Anderson, et. al (1969: 73) explains that words, you will realize, are the basic components of thought and speech, the signs and symbols through which you communicate with others. Their importance, then, can hardly be



overstated. They are powerful tools to be in command of, as the oft-quoted line, “The pen is mightier than the sword” reminds us. Words can be swift and sharp, rapier like in their hurtful thrust. But they can also be gentle and calm, warm and welcoming, light and humorous, bold and brash. Then again, they can be crisp and precise, informative and pertinent. Words not only help you communicate your thoughts and ideas to others, but they also help you to understand to others think, feel and mean. Words are probably man`s mightiest creation. You need to respect them and to use them with accuracy and care. Most of all, you need to realize the necessity for extending your and knowledge, for building up your word power so that you can express your thoughts with precision, economy, and thrust.

Based on explain the explain above, it can be known clearly that the words are supposed to be the foundation of thought and speech, signs and symbols which are used by people to communicate. The words are supposed to be the powerful tools like the pen that is sharper than the sword. The words can be gentle and calm, warm and welcoming, light and humorous, bold and brash. The words can be crisp and precise, informative and pertinent. The words not only help them to communicate their thoughts and ideas to others, but also help them to understand what others think, feel and mean. Knowledge about the words needs to be improved, so that people can express their thoughts with precision, economy and thrust.

The words will of course exist or appear in a language. The words are supposed to be the content of the language itself. Learning a language means learning the words that exist in that language so that people who learn a language. Especially, the students can communicate with others using the



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language they learn. That is why, the definition of a language seems necessary to be understood by them so that they will learn a language carefully and diligently and have full sense of responsibility.

According to compact dictionary of canadian english (1976:382) language is all of the system by which human beings combine sounds into meaningful units, such as words, to convey ideas, and feelings, any such system that is or has been used by a group of people the french language. The word, phrases, etc. Peculiar to special fields of knowledge or activity terminology technical language. Any way or means of communicating the language of animals. Any style of verbal expression, diction, simple language.

According to Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (1990:66) Language is 1. Sistem lambing bunyi berartikulasi (yang dihasilkan alat-alat ucap) yang bersifat sewenang-wenang dan konvensional yang di pakai sebagai alat komunikasi untuk melahirkan perasaan dan pikiran; 2. Perkataan – perkataan yang dipakai oleh suatu bangsa (Suku bangsa, negara, dsb); - Perancis, - Bali; Toraja; 3. Percakapan (perkataan) yang baik; sopan santun; tingkah laku yang baik; baik budinya. 1. System of articulated sounds symbols (produced by the organs of speech) which is arbitrary and conventional used as a tool of communication to convey feeling and thought; 2. Speech which is used by the nation (Ethnic group, country, district, and so on); French; - Baliness; - Torajas; 3. Conversation (speech) well; etiquette; well behavior good characters.

Hughes (1926:6) defines that language as a system arbitrary vocal symbols by which though is conveyed from one human being to another.

Devito (1970:7) defines that language as a potentially self reflexive, structured system of symbols which catalog the objects, events, and relations in the world.



Bram's (1955:2) defines that language as a structured system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which members of a social group interact.

Sapir (1921:7) defines that language as a purely human and noninstinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires, by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols.

Based on the definitions above, it can be absolutely known that language is an instrument of communication in the form of a system of sounds symbols produced by the organs and speech and having the characteristic of arbitrary and conventional to express someone's ideas, thoughts, and feelings, to someone else. Words in a language indicate an ethnic group or a nation which catalog objects, events, and relation in the world.

Indonesian is supposed to be one of the developing countries that have large islands, some ethnic groups, and variety of cultures. Every ethnic group has its own ethnic language which is different from one other. And in communicating, it is not very possible if people use two languages or a different language. Such a communication is clearly not understood another. They should use the same language or one language. In this case, the ethnic groups of Indonesian do not have difficulties in communicating with one another because they have agreed to use one language or the same language namely, Indonesian. Therefore, Indonesian is called a national language. This means that Indonesian is the language of a country or a nation, not the language of a region or an ethnic group.



Also the nations around the world who have different languages one another and of non-native speaker of English do not have difficulties in communicating with one another because they have agreed to use English as the only tool to communicate between or among themselves. That is why, they learn English with the reason for the interest of international communication. Even in Indonesia, English is supposed to be one of the school subject taught from elementary schools to universities. If it is counted annually, so for anyone who has graduated from a university means that he or she has been learning English for 13 years. But in reality, the ability of using English of the graduates from senior high schools or even universities their ability in using English can be assessed as poor. It indicates that the process of teaching and learning English in the schools can be considered as having not been successful.

There are many important components that should be mastered by the learners in learning language. According to Keraf (1991: 17) that “*Kaidah-kaidah mengenai bahasa secara tradisional hanya mencakup bidang morfology dan bidang sintaksis saja*”(the rules of language, traditionally only involve morphology area and syntax area). Morphology is a part of language that studying and discussing about form of the word, and the syntax is a part of language that studying and discussing about function and relation of words in the sentence.

But, now it have been agreed on, that the structure of language including phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantic (Keraf, 1991: 17)



One of the important components that should be mastered by the learners in learning language, including English is Grammar. In this case, Fromkin, Blair and Collins (1990: 10) explain that grammar is the sounds and sounds patterns, the basic units of meaning, such as words, and the rules to combine them to form new sentences.

Pendriyo Raharjo Research (2003), His Research about “TEACHING ACTIVE AND PASIVE VOICE OF TWO TENSES” (SIMPLE PRESENT AND SIMPLE PAT TENSES). He conclude that a Verb is in the Active voice when its form shows (as in sentence) that the person or thing denoted by the subject does something. The active voice is so called because the person denoted by the subject acts.

Yuvi Faridah research (2005), Her Research about “A COMPARATIVE ATUDY IN TERMS OF ACTIVE VOICE AND PASSIVE VOICE OF THE SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE”. He put forward what A.J.Thomson and A.V.Martinet explain that Affirmative the simple present tense has the same from as the invinitive but adds an for third Person singular (1995:159).

Passive voice is used when it is not important to know the does, or when the does aren't know. Perhaps a good rule to follow is that if it is necessary to use the word by to indicate the does, the sentence would be more effective in the active form.

In this research, the writer to determine the different research and to determine title of “THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS KNOWLEDGE OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS AND THEIR



## ABILITY IN WRITING ACTIVE AND PASIVE SENTENCES OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENT OF SMPN 8 CIREBON.”

English, as a matter of fact, has a lot of rules of a language (grammar) son that they are confusing the students who learn it. Many students at *SMPN 8 Cirebon* still have difficulties in understanding Grammar, especially in understanding Active Passive Sentence with emphasizing on the forms of verbs use four tenses, there are present tense, present continuous tense, past tense and future tense. Therefore it can be understood if they make a lot of mistakes while doing the task or exercises given by the teacher to them. In general, the students at the eight year of SMPN 8 Cirebon distinguish the arrangement of the sentence between active sentence and passive sentence. Or even they cannot change the sentence from the active sentence and passive sentence; moreover, changing the sentence from passive sentence into active sentence which is more difficult. Their inability about changing active sentence into passive sentence or vice versa is supposed to be their learning difficulties in the process of learning and teaching English in the class and becomes the problem in writing this thesis. This thing attracts the writer to do research in this school and to make an effort to overcome the students` learning difficulties in particular, about active sentence and passive sentence. Therefore, the writer gives the title of this thesis, namely “THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS KNOWLEDGE OF REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS AND THEIR ABILITY IN



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## WRITING ACTIVE AND PASIVE SENTENCE OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS OF SMPN 8 CIREBON.”

### B. The Identification of the Problem

The Identification of the problem in writing this thesis is made up of three parts namely :

#### 1. The Field of the Research

The field of the research in writing this thesis is the rules of a language (grammar). English has so many rules of a language so that confusing the students to learn. One of the rules of a language is active sentence and passive sentence. And the writer will only discuss about active sentence and passive sentence with emphasizing on the forms of the verbs.

#### 2. Kinds of the Problem

There are many problem in English especially about Active sentence and Passive sentence with emphasizing on the forms of the verbs. Many students cannot change the sentence from the Active sentence and Passive sentence. Moreover, Changing the sentence from Passive sentence into active sentence which is more difficult. Their Inability about changing Active sentence into Passive sentence or vice versa is supposed to be their learning difficulties in the process of learning and teaching English in the class.



The writer would like to mention Kinds of the Problem in this Thesis :

1. The Students cannot distinguish the arrangement of the sentence between Active sentence and Passive sentence
2. The Students cannot change the sentence from the Active sentence and Passive sentence
3. The Students cannot change the sentence from Passive sentence into Active sentence which is more difficult
4. The Students learning difficulties or mistakes only on the Active sentence and Passive sentence with emphasizing on the forms of the verbs
5. The Students cannot distinguish between Regular and Irregular Verbs

As a Teacher we must solve those problems, because if doesn't to solve the problem the students achievement cannot be greater in learning process

### 3. The Main Problem

As having been discussed above that one of the rules of a language is active and passive sentence. And the writer will only discuss about active and passive sentence with emphasizing on the forms of the verbs. The mistakes made by the students about active sentence and and passive sentence the use of the forms of the verbs become the main problem in writing this thesis.



### C. The Limitation of the Problem

As a matter a fact, English has a lot of rules of a language that are confusing the students; consequently, they make a lot of mistakes while doing the tasks or exercises given by the teacher to them. It is very impossible for the writer to discuss the mistakes that they make in more than one rule of a language. Therefore, in line with the main problem above, so the writer will only limit the students` learning difficulties or mistakes only on the active and pasive sentence with emphasizing on the forms of the verbs and four tenses there are (present tense, present continuous tense, past tense, and future tense) for active-passive sentence.

### D. The Questions of the Research

The questions of the research in writing this thesis are:

1. Do the students` have good knowledge of regular and irregular verbs?
2. Do the students` have good ability in writing active and passive sentence?
3. Is there any positive and significant correlation between the students` knowledge of regular and irregular verbs and their ability in writing active and passive sentence?

### E. The Aims of Research

The aims of research in writing this thesis are:

1. To know the students` have good knowledge of regular and irregular verbs.
2. To know the students` have good ability in writing active and passive sentence.



3. To know if there is positive and significant correlation between the students` knowledge of regular and irregular verbs and their ability in writing active and passive sentence.

#### **F. The Use of the Research**

The use of the research in writing this thesis is expected that it can increase the students` knowledge of verbs which is then linked with their ability in writing active and passive voice. Even if necessary the students can also write various forms of sentences and can distinguish between Active Sentence and Passive sentence.



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