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# **THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGLISH WRITING SENTENCE AT THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS OF *SMK TELADAN* *KERTASEMAYA***

**A Thesis**

Submitted to English Education Department of *Tarbiyah* Faculty of  
*Syekh Nurjati* State Institute for Islamic Studies in Partial Fullfilment of  
the Requirements for Islamic Scholar Degree in English Education



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2013**



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## ABSTRACT

### **TINA HERWINA: “The Correlation Between the Students’ Ability in Understanding Simple Present Tense and Their Achievement in English Writing Sentence at the First Grade Students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya*”**

The students’ ability in understanding tenses (grammar) at *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya* is less getting attention, especially in learning writing sentence by using simple present tense. Most of them make mistake while writing in the right form. The students’ writing skill at *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya* is low. The students are less interested, they get the difficulties to write down their ideas in writing, how to put the right punctuation, the use of tenses, article, and knowing the structure. The aim of the research is to analyze the correlation between the students’ ability in understanding simple present tense and their achievement in English writing sentence at the first grade students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya*.

This research is based on the According to Day with Krois Linder, Firth and Translegal’s theory which informs that in fact, written language is fundamentally different from spoken language in many ways: It includes skills such as spelling and punctuation which are not used in speech; It uses many grammar and vocabulary structures.

The population of the research is all of the first grade students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya* that amount are 297 students, and the sample are 75 students. The kind of the research is quantitative research. The instrument of collecting data used by the researcher is observation and test. The data which have been collected, analyzed by means of Product moment for a quantitative data.

The result of the test is shows that the students’ ability in understanding simple present tense as X variable is 79, it is categorized as very good. And their achievement in English writing sentence as Y variable is 74, it is categorized as good. After analyzing data by using Product Moment formula, it can be known that the result of  $t_{\text{observation}}$  is 4,08. Based on the  $t_{\text{table}}$  value, the level of significant 5% is 2.00. It is supported by the absolute value of  $t_o > t_{\text{table}}$  Or  $4.08 > 2.00$ . It is categorized as sufficient correlation between X and Y variable.

There is positive and significant correlation between students’ ability in understanding simple present tense and their achievement in English writing sentence at the first grade students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya*. English teacher should always provide a conducive learning situation. Students need to learn about grammar gradually. One of them is about the tenses (simple present tense). By mastering grammar can help students in understanding how to write a sentence with grammatically correct and appropriate.



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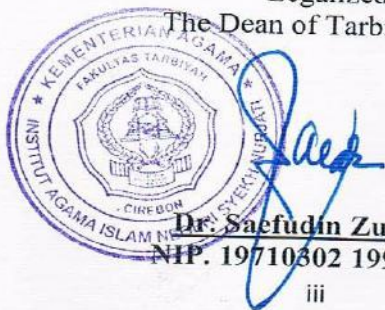
## RATIFICATION

This thesis which is entitled in **THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGLISH WRITING SENTENCE AT THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS OF SMK TELADAN KERTASEMAYA INDRAMAYU** written by Tina Herwina with the student's main number 58430789 has been examined on May 23<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and has been accepted by the Examiners.

It has been recognized as one of the requirements for the Degree of Islamic Scholar in English Education Department of Tarbiyah Faculty of Syekh Nurjati State Institute for Islamic Studies Cirebon.

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## PREFACE

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious and Most Merciful. All praises and thankfulness be to Allah. Because of His permission the writer has been able to finish this thesis. May invocation and safety always be given to the prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), his family, his colleagues, and followers up to the end of the world.

The title of thesis is **“THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGLISH WRITING SENTENCE AT THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS OF *SMK TELADAN KERTASEMAYA*”** is submitted to fulfill one of the requirements to achieve Islamic scholar in English Education Degree (**S.Pd.I**) at English Department of Tarbiyah Faculty of Syekh Nurjati State Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Cirebon.

In writing this thesis, there are many persons who have participated, support, helped, and advised directly or indirectly. So in this opportunity, the writer would like to express her sincerity and profound thankfulness and gratitude to:

1. Prof. Dr. H. Maksum Mukhtar, MA, the Rector of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.
2. Dr. Saefudin Zuhri, M.Ag, Dean of Tarbiyah Faculty of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.



3. Dr. Hj. Huriyah Saleh, M.Pd, the Chairwoman of English Department of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon, and also as the First Supervisor.
4. Sumadi, SS., M.Hum, the Secretary of English Department of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.
5. Dr. Asep Kurniawan, M.Ag as the Second Supervisor.
6. Khoirun Nisa, S.Si, the Headmaster of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya Indramayu*.
7. Ratu Mutiara Sari, S.Pd.I, the English teacher of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya Indramayu*.
8. All teachers and staff of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya Indramayu*.
9. My parents, my big family and all my best friends that cannot be mentioned one by one for their support and motivation.

The writer realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect and there are many mistakes both in the arrangement and in the content of this thesis. So the writer is widely opened to receive any criticism and suggestion to make this thesis better for the future. Hopefully, this thesis will be useful for the readers especially, for the writer herself and also for the students of English Education Department of Tarbiyah Faculty of *Syekh Nurjati* state Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Cirebon.

Cirebon, December 2012

The Writer



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## TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	ii
<b>RATIFICATION</b> .....	iii
<b>APPROVAL</b> .....	iv
<b>OFFICIAL NOTE</b> .....	v
<b>LETTER OF AUTHENTICITY</b> .....	vi
<b>AUTOBIOGRAPHY</b> .....	vii
<b>PREFACE</b> .....	viii
<b>DEDICATION</b> .....	x
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b> .....	xi
<b>LIST OF TABLE</b> .....	xv
<b>LIST OF FIGURE</b> .....	xvii
<b>LIST OF APPENDIX</b> .....	xviii
<b>CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION</b>	
A. The Background of the Problem í í í í í í í í í í í .....í í .	1
B. The Identification of the Problem í í í í í í í í í í í .....í .....	5
C. The Limitation of the Problemí í í í í í í í í í í í .....í .....	6
D. The Questions of the Researchí í í í í í í í í í í .....í .....	7
E. The Aims of the Researchí í í í í í í í í í í í .í .....í ....í .....	7
F. The Use of the Researchí í í í í í í í í í í í .....í .....	7



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## CHAPTER II: THEORITICAL FOUNDATION

A. The Main Theories	9
B. The Definition of Grammar	10
C. Simple present Tense	11
1. The Definition of Simple Present Tense	11
2. The Form of Simple Present Tense	12
3. The Use of Simple Present Tense	17
D. Writing	19
1. The Definition of Writing	19
2. The Forms of Writing	23
E. Sentence	25
1. The Definition of Sentence	25
2. The Kinds of Sentence	26
F. The Material of Simple Present Tense	30
G. Operational Definition of the Research	32
H. The Assumptions of the Research	33
I. The Framework of Thinking	33
J. The Hypothesis of the Research	35

## CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

A. The Objective of the Research	36
----------------------------------	----



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B. The Variables of the Research	í í í í í í í í í í í í	..... 36
C. The Method of Research	í í í í í í í í í í í	..... 37
D. The Place and Time of the Research	...í í í í	..... 38
E. The Population and the Sample of the Research	í í í í	.....í .....39
F. The Technique of Collecting Data	í í í í í í ..í í í í	..... 42
G. Test Instrument		..... 46
H. The Technique of Analyzing the Data	í í í í í .....í í ..í í	..... 50

#### CHAPTER IV: THE RESEARCH FINDINGS

A. The General Condition of School	í í í í í í .....í í í í	..... 52
1. The Historical Background of SMK Teladan Kertasemaya		..... 52
2. Geographical Location of the School		..... 53
B. The Result of the Test Instrument		..... 53
1. Validity Test		..... 54
2. Reliability Test		..... 55
3. The Capacity of Distinctive Feature		.....56
4. Difficulty Index		..... 57
C. The Research Findings		..... 59
1. The StudentsøAbility in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the First Grade Students of SMK Teladan Kertasemaya		..... 59
2. The StudentsøAchievement in English Writing Sentence at the First Grade Students of SMK Teladan Kertasemaya		..... 62





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3. The Correlation between the StudentsøAbility in Understanding Simple Present Tense and Their Achievement in English Writing Sentence at the First Grade Students of <i>SMK Teladan Kertasemaya</i> .....	65
D. Discussion.....	72

## CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION

A. Conclusioní í í í í í ..í í í í í í í í í í í ..í í í í ..	75
B. Suggestioní ...í ..	76

<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b> í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í ..í í í í í í í í ..	78
--	----

<b>APPENDIX</b> í ..	80
--	----



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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Problem

According to Hornby in Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1995: 662) "Language is the system of sounds and words used by humans to express their thoughts and feelings". There are many languages in the world. Every country has its own national language. English is one of international languages. Although there are many languages which are used as international languages for communication but English is well understood by many people in the world as a global language. The general objective of the teaching English in Indonesia based on the competence based curriculum 2004 is to develop students' communicative competence of the four language skills or aspects of teaching and learning : listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Depdiknas 2005 : 171).

According to Tarigan (2008:1) states that keterampilan berbahasa mempunyai 4 komponen, yaitu: keterampilan menyimak (listening skills); keterampilan berbicara (speaking skills); keterampilan membaca (reading skills); dan keterampilan menulis (writing skills). *"There are 4 components of language skills, such as: listening; speaking; reading and writing skills."*

Based on the definition above, it is absolutely known that in learning language there are four major skills that the learners have to improve : listening, speaking, reading and writing. Writing is on of the language skills component that is important to be mastered.

According to Day with Krois Linder, Firth and Translegal (2008:8) explains that:

In fact, written language is fundamentally different from spoken language in many ways:

- It includes skills such as spelling and punctuation which are not used in speech;
- It uses many grammar and vocabulary structures;

To be able to write the correct word and sentence, the learners, of course should know the way of writing the word itself and the rules of a language (grammar). According to Hornby (1995:517) in Oxford Advanced Learnersø Dictionary defines that grammar is the rules in a language for changing the form of words and combining them into sentences. Brown (2001:362) mentioned that grammar is the system of rules governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in a sentence. Grammar is the mental system in human brain that enables human being to produce and interpret the words and sentences of their language. Based on the explanation above, it is clearly known that grammar is the basic rules in a language to arrange the words into writing or for making sentences or writing grammatically correct and appropriate.



Based on the observation, the researcher have observed in *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya* October 1<sup>st</sup> - December 31<sup>th</sup> 2012 to students of the first grade. Ratu Mutiara Sari S,pd.I as the English teacher said that, the problem was in first grade in learning English is when they are writing, they are less interested, lack of vocabularies and get the difficulties to write down their ideas in writing. Most of them make mistakes while writing in the right form. (Interview was taken form 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012). The mistakes of writing in the right form are about the writing of the grammatically sentence by using tenses, how to put the right punctuation, using article, and arrangement of phrases. Based on the definition above, it is clearly known that grammar is one of the important elements as the foundation in learning English.

According to Day with Krois Linder, Firth and Translegal (2008:8) explains that writing is one of the best way of learning and practising language. It provides the opportunity for individual creative production without the time pressure associated with speaking. Jill hadfield and Charles Hadfield (2008:117) states that another difficulty we have when writing is how to organize and sequence our ideas.

According to Tarigan (1994:4) states that:

Writing is one of the language skills that are used to communicate indirectly, not face to face with others. writing is an activity that is productive and expressive. The activities of this writing, the writer must skillfully utilize tenses, language structure, and vocabulary. writing skills will not come automatically, but must go through training and practice are numerous and regular. in modern life, it is clear that writing skills are





needed. would not be too much to say that writing skills are a hallmark of an educated person or a nation of educated.ö

Based on the definition above, it is clearly known that writing skills are needed as on of the language skills to communicate with others indirectly different from speaking. In writing activity the writer must skillfully utilize tenses, in order to make sentence or write something in good grammar, correct and appropriate.

According to Oxford Advanced Learnerø Dictionary (2000: 445) öTense is verb form that shows the time of the action or state: the present/past/future.ö And according to Dwi W. Elan. (2005:5) about Simple Present Tense öThis pattern is used to express the activity or event that is done routinely or periodically. Also to describe things that are unusual or custom, state of nature or natural things.ö

Based on the definition above, it is clearly known that talking about grammar, simple present tense is on of the rules of language in learning English. In simple present tense there are verbal and nominal sentence, time signal, using -s/-es, changed of form simple present tense into affirmative, negative and interrogative sentence. The students have to know how to put a sentence together by using tenses accurately. By understanding simple present tense, the researcher tries to improve studentsøachievement in English writing sentence. For that reasons, the write is interested in analyzing, öThe Correlation Between the Studentsø Ability in Understanding Simple Present



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Tense and Their Achievement in English Writing Sentence at the First Grade Students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya* .ö

## B. The Identification of the Problem

The identification of the problems is needed to give clarification about the problems that will be investigated. The students get trouble in writing. They want to be able to write English sentence well, with the students ability in understanding simple present tense which can be done easily by students.

The identification of the problem in this thesis is classified into the following sections:

### 1. The Field of the Research

The field of the research of this thesis is writing, especially focus on sentence by using simple present tense.

### 2. The Kinds of the Problem

The kinds of the problem of this thesis are the students can not differentiate between verbal and nominal sentence, and then they make an effort to understand the changes of sentence (positive, negative and interrogative sentence) by using simple present tense.



### 3. The Main Problem of the Research

The main problem of the research in this thesis is about the students' difficulties in learning the forms of simple present tense especially in English writing sentence and making effort to solve their difficulties.

#### C. The Limitation of the Problem

In conducting this research, the writer has limited the problem. A clear limitation is very important in any scientific observation as the line of the analysis. In this case, the writer will limit the problem which has correlation with the title of the thesis namely "The Correlation between the Students Ability in Understanding Simple Present Tense and Their Achievement in English Writing Sentence at the First Grade of the Students of *SMK Teladan Kertasemaya*." In writing this thesis, the writer just want to limit on the students' achievement in English writing sentence that is limited in test, and the effort to improve their achievement in English writing sentence is made by learning and understanding simple present tense that are supposed to be the teaching strategy because many students have difficulties in learning simple present tense (grammar), especially in writing sentence.



#### D. The Questions of the Research

Based on the reason above, the writer formulates the questions of the research into three questions namely:

1. Do the students have good ability in understanding simple present tense?
2. Do the students have good achievement in English writing sentence?
3. Is there any positive and significant correlation between the students' ability in understanding simple present tense and their achievement in English writing sentence?

#### E. The Aims of the Research

The aims of the research in writing this thesis are as follows:

1. To find out the data about students' ability in understanding simple present tense.
2. To find out the data about the students' achievement in English writing sentence.
3. To find out the correlation between the students' understanding simple present tense and their achievement in English writing sentence.

#### F. The Usefulness of the Research

The use of the research is hoped that the students are able to use the forms of the sentence by using simple present tense. In other hand, the





research product hoped to be able to increase the developing of language learning, especially in increasing the studentsø achievement in learning English writing sentence grammatically.



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