

# **The Grammatical Errors Encountered in Spoken English of Indonesian Ex Singapore Female Laborers**



**by:**  
Erik (1213004062)


**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND PEDAGOGY  
WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
SURABAYA**

**2008**

## APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled **The Grammatical Error Encountered in Spoken English of Indonesian ex Singapore Female Laborers**, prepared and submitted by Erik, has been approved and accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisor:





Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman  
Advisor

## APPROVAL SHEET


(2)

This thesis entitled **The Grammatical Errors encountered in spoken English of Indonesian ex Singapore Laborers** has been examined by the committee on oral examination with the grade of \_\_\_\_\_

  
Dr. B. Budiyo  
Chairman

  
Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd.  
Member

  
Dra. Susana Teopilus M.Pd.  
Member

  
Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman  
Advisor

Approved by,

  
  
Dra. Agnes Santi Widiati, M.Pd.  
Dean of the Teacher Training College

  
  
Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.  
Head of the English Department

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This thesis is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Teaching.

Having completed this thesis, first of all, the writer is deeply grateful to Lord Jesus for all His blessing and guidance bestowed upon her. Without His grace, this thesis would have never been completed.

Then, the writer's special gratitude goes to the following people for giving support, encourage, and help during the making of this thesis:

1. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman as the only one the writer's advisor who has given his precious time to help her finishing this thesis.
2. The writer's beloved family especially her supportive parents, sisters, and brother-in-law for all their endless loves, encouragement, and prayer to the writer during the process of writing this thesis.
3. All the writer's friends who can not be mentioned one by one.
4. All the lecturers of Widya Mandala Catholic University for their patience and guidance in sharing their valuable knowledge during the writer's study.
5. Last but not least, all the people whose names can not be mentioned here for their indirect help for completing this thesis.

Surabaya, February 2008

The Writer

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (1).....	i
APPROVAL SHEET (2).....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv
LIST OF TABLES.....	vii
ABSTRACT.....	viii
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problems.....	3
1.3 Objectives of the Study.....	3
1.4 Significance of the Study.....	3
1.5 Scope and Limitation.....	4
1.6 Definition of the key Terms.....	4
1.7 Theoretical Framework.....	6
1.8 Organization of the Thesis.....	7
II. REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE.....	9
2.1 Related Theories.....	9
2.1.1 Contrastive Analysis.....	9
2.1.2 Error.....	11
2.1.2.1 Types of Errors.....	11
2.1.3 Error Analysis.....	16
2.1.3.1 Linguistic Factors.....	18

2.1.3.1.1	Interlingual Factor.....	18
2.1.3.1.2	Intralingual Factor.....	20
2.1.3.2	Non-Linguistic Factors.....	23
2.1.3.2.1	Sociolinguistic Factor.....	23
2.1.3.2.2	Psychological Factor.....	26
2.2	Related Studies.....	27
III.	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.....	29
3.1	Research Design.....	29
3.2	Participants of the Study.....	31
3.3	Research Instruments.....	32
3.4	Procedure of collecting Data.....	33
3.5	Procedure of Analyzing Data.....	33
IV.	RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION.....	35
4.1	Results.....	35
4.1.1	Kinds of Errors.....	35
4.1.1.1	Morphological Errors.....	36
A.	Article Errors.....	36
B.	Possessive Case Errors.....	39
C.	Third Person Singular Verb Errors.....	41
D.	Simple Past Tense Errors.....	42
4.1.1.2	Syntax Errors.....	45
A.	Noun phrase Errors.....	45
B.	Verb Phrase Errors.....	51
C.	Subject Omission Errors.....	59

	D. Negative Transformation Errors.....	61
4.2	Discussions.....	62
4.3	Prediction and Interpretation of the Possible Causes of Errors.....	67
i.	Interlingual Factor.....	67
ii.	Intralingual Factor.....	68
	4.3.2.1 Overgeneralization.....	68
	4.3.2.2 Ignorance of Rule Restrictions.....	69
	4.3.2.3 Incomplete Application of Rules.....	70
	4.3.3 Sociolinguistic Factor.....	71
V.	CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.....	73
5.1	Conclusions.....	73
5.2	Suggestions.....	74
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
APPENDIXES		

## LIST OF TABLE

TABLE	PAGE
4.1 Article Errors.....	36
4.2 Possessive Case Errors.....	39
4.3 Third Person Singular Errors.....	41
4.4 Simple Past Tense Errors.....	43
4.5 Noun Phrase Errors.....	46
4.6 Verb Phrase Errors.....	52
4.7 Subject Omission Errors.....	59
4.8 Negative Transformation Errors.....	61



## ABSTRACT

Erik. 2008. The Grammatical Encountered in Spoken English of Indonesian ex Singapore Female Laborers. Unpublished S-1 thesis. Surabaya: the English Departement of Widaya Mandala Catholic University. Advisor: Dr. Agustibus Ngadiman.

Keywords: Contrastive Analysis, Error, and Error Analysis.

The language mostly used by the subjects when they worked in Singapore is English. However, the writer found that many subjects of the study under report were still influenced by their mother tongue, in this case Bahasa Indonesia, and also by their employer in the past. This condition made those subjects often produce wrong sentences. The situations above motivated the writer to conduct a study on analyzing the subjects' errors in spoken English.

In gaining the data, the writer used a small tape recorder to record all the interviews spontaneously answered by the subjects, a note book to write down the subjects' data completely and also a camera to take a picture of the interviewing process. Helped by the writer's brother-in-law and also her sister, she then recorded the subjects' spoken English.

After analyzing the data, the prediction of the causes of errors were not only because of the mother tongue influence or because of the employer's influence in the past but also because of the reflection of general characteristics of rule learning such as incomplete application of rules, and failure to learn conditions under which rules applied as well.

The writer hopes the results of this study research give contributions to the Indonesians laborers that are willing to work in Singapore, especially to the institution where the laborers should be trained and taught first.