OLD AND NEW INFORMATION IN THE NARRATIVE COMPOSITION OF THE WRITING C STUDENTS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SURABAYA

A THESIS

As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching Faculty

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TGL. TERIMA	11-03-2004
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FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
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PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
JANUARY, 2004

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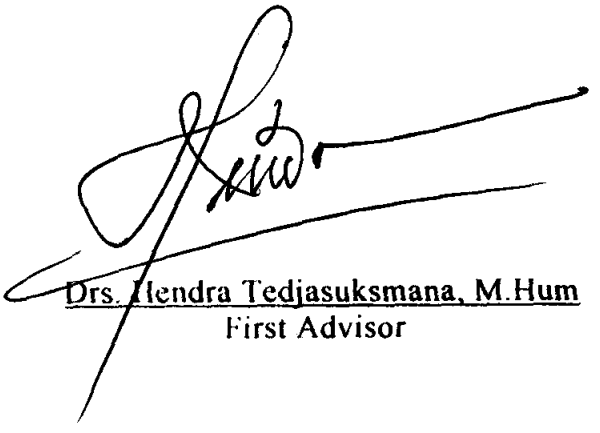

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Above all, I would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to finish my study at Widya Mandala Catholic University and for the accomplishment of this thesis.

I am also grateful to the followings:

1. Drs. Hendra Tedjasuksmana, M.Hum, my first thesis advisor, who has spent his valuable time showing and guiding me how to plan, write, collect data, revise, and improve this thesis from the beginning until its finishing out.
2. Dra. M.N. Siti Mina Tamah, M.Pd, my second thesis advisor, who has helped me to revise and given her valuable suggestions for improving this thesis.
3. Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd, for giving me chance to collect the data in his Writing C class.
4. My parents and my friends, for their help and supports during this thesis writing.
5. Many other persons who have participated in the complementation of this thesis.

Tendo Arivyanto

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ABSTRACT

Arivyanto, Tendo, *Old and New Information in the Narrative Composition of the Writing C Students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya*, The Faculty of Teacher Training, Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabaya, 2003.

Keywords : Old information, New information, and Narration.

Considering the importance of the ability of writing a good narrative by the students of the English Department, the writer conducted this study. This study intended to find out the kinds of Old information used by the students, the misuses of Old information found in their compositions, and the causes of the errors.

To obtain the data, the writer analyzed the narrative compositions which were made by the Writing C students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya. There were 37 students as samples of the study. After the data were obtained, the writer classified them according to the kinds of information, that is Old and New information.

After analyzing the data, the writer found three kinds of Old information in the students' compositions. They were pronouns, noun phrases that consisted of possessive forms, proper nouns, common nouns, and adverbs which were adverbs of place and adverbs of time.

From the total of 2,116 Old information, there were 805 pronouns (38.04%) found and they were all correctly used, 1038 noun phrases (49.05%), and 273 adverbs (12.91%).

From the total of 1,038 noun phrases, 857 common nouns (82.56%), 136 possessive forms (13.10%), and 45 proper nouns (4.34%) were found in the students' compositions. There were 51 misuses of common nouns (5.95%) out of the total 857 common nouns, while the other two kinds, possessive forms and proper nouns, were correctly used.

Two kinds of adverb were found in the students' composition. They were adverbs of place and adverbs of time. Out of the total 273 adverbs, there were 92 adverbs of place (33.67%) and 181 adverbs of time (66.63%). From the total number of adverbs found in the students' compositions, the writer found 23 misuses of adverbs of place (25.00%) out of the total 92 adverbs of place and 116 misuses of adverbs of time (64.09%) out of the total 181 adverbs of time.

The writer found that misuses of Old information made by the Writing C students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic

University Surabaya were caused by misplacing a New information in the position of Old information.

From the result of this study, the writer would like to suggest that the theory of Old and New information should be given within the theory of narrative. It should also be supported by giving the theory about how to use adverbs of time as New information, which becomes the main problems found by the Writing C students in this study.