THE VARIATIONS OF ENGLISH NOUN POSTMODIFIERS IN THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' COMPOSITIONS

A THESIS



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GRADUATE SCHOOL
WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
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Presented to Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master in Teaching English as a Foreign Language



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ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SURABAYA 2017

ADVISOR'S APPROVAL

This thesis entitled 'The Variations of English Noun Postmodifiers in the Undergraduate Students' Compositions' prepared and submitted by Seto Ariwibowo, S. Pd. (8212713019) has been approved to be examined by the Thesis Board of Examiners.

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STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I declare that this thesis is my own writing, and it is true and correct that I did not take any scholarly ideas or work from others dishonestly. That all the cited works were quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing.

I also declare that I agree to submit my thesis entitled 'The Variations of English Noun Postmodifiers in The Undergraduate Students' Compositions' to Widya Mandala Catholic University library and fully understand that it will be made public via internet and other uses of online media.

Surabaya, January 14th, 2018



Seto Ariwibowo, S. Pd.

8212713019

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Abstract

Ariwibowo, Seto. 2017. *The Variations of English Noun Postmodifiers in the Undergraduate Students' Compositions*. S2 Thesis. The English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

This study investigated the acquisition of English noun postmodifiers in the compositions written by Writing III students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya. It sought to discover the variations of English noun postmodifiers occurring, their complexity level, their accuracy, and their efficiency in the end-of-term compositions of Writing III of the English department undergraduate students of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya. The types of noun postmodifiers, their complexity level, their accuracy, and efficiency of use may reflect their level acquisition of the structures of English noun post-modifications. The result showed eight of the nine types of postmodifiers were present, while one type was absent. The preposition phrase was the most dominant type postmodifier with 65.235% of occurrences. The embedding of the postmodified nouns was dominated by the zero embedding, while the rate of the single postmodification was also significantly high. Such dominances of preposition phrase, the zero embedding, and single postmodification, and the presence of such cases of lengthy and ambiguous structures noun postmodification indicate the students' level of complexity of the structure of English noun postmodification, accuracy, and efficiency of the English noun postmodifications.

Keywords: postmodifiers, embedding, writing