



An Analysis of Simple Past Tense Errors in the Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast by Using the Surface Strategy Taxonomy

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the simple past tense errors found in the Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast. The study employed qualitative method with descriptive analysis. The data were collected from a podcast entitled Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast which consists 10 episodes of Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast. The data were analysed by applying the Surface Strategy Taxonomy proposed by Dulay. The result shows that there were four types of errors committed by the podcasters in using Simple Past Tense. Those types were Omission, Addition, Mis-formation and Mis-ordering. The total numbers of errors were 120 divided into Omission (23 errors), Addition (11 error), Mis-formation (82 errors), and Mis-ordering (4 errors). In other words, the highest amount of errors was Mis-formation with the percentage of 68.34%, while the omission was in the second place with the percentage around 19.17%. The third place was addition with the percentage around 9.16%, and the last was mis-ordering with the percentage around 3.33%.

Keywords: *simple past tense errors, Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast, Surface Strategy Taxonomy, Omission, Addition, Mis-formation, Mis-ordering*

Introduction

A growing number of language resources has been available on the Web as indicated by Nurmukhamedov & Sharakhimov (2023). One of the resources is podcast which is popular among EFL teachers and language learners (Steel & Levy, 2013). The definition of Podcast found in <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/podcast> is a program (as of music or talk) made available in digital format for automatic download over the Internet. Accordingly, podcast has been used as a media for foreign/second language learning, especially English. Podcast has been used for improving speaking skills (Chaves-Yuste & De-La Peña, 2023); (Makhanova et al., 2023; Suvarnaphaet and Suvarnaphaet, 2023), listening skills (Saragih et al., 2022; Shiri, 2015); Syahabuddin & Rizqa, 2021), reading skills (Azizi et al., 2022; Gachago et al., 2016), and writing skills (Qaddour, 2017). This suggests that Podcast can play a crucial role in improving English learners' ability by providing authentic sources.

However, learning language is not only about skills but also about grammar and vocabulary. Grammar serves as the resource for meaning making (Halliday, 1994) dealing with certain rules according to the context in which the language used. Thus, different function will require different grammar. English grammar is not only about syntactic rules but also deals with tense—when an event occurs at the time of utterance. Therefore, there are several types of tenses available to choose in English grammar which affect the verb forms used. Non-native speakers tend to find this difficult so that errors in using tenses are commonly committed by the non-native speakers. Posting

by anyone, who can guarantee that the language used in Podcast has a proper grammar, especially about the use of tenses. Therefore, this paper raised an issue about simple past tense errors found in Podcast.

Previous studies related with grammatical errors have been found in many papers. Some of the papers discussed the grammatical errors in students' writing (Adila, 2019); (Fitria, Tira Nur, 2021); (Mohammed et al., 2015), speaking (Helmanda et al., 2018), and specifically past tense errors (Kartini, 2022). A study concerning with past tense errors in *Soul Sense with Silkina* Podcast seems not have been done yet. Hence, this study is dealing with past tense errors found in this podcast.

As mentioned before that podcast has gained popularity in language learning. By studying the past tense errors in the podcast, language learners will be aware to use podcasters as a model in learning language. Since learning language does not only learning to be fluent but also learning to use the language appropriately.

Theoretical Framework

English language is different from Indonesian language. The former is concerned with the time when an event take place. The time affects the use of tense which influences the verb form used. According to Huddleston et al. (2021: pg. 58), a tense system refers to a system associated with the verb where the basic contrasts in meaning have to do with the location in time of the situation, or the part of it under consideration. For example:

- (1) Angela was in Singapore.
- (2) Angela is in Singapore.

Sentence (1) uses simple past tense indicating that Angela is not in Singapore at the time of utterance but was there before. Sentence (2) uses simple present tense which means that she is there at the time of the utterance. Tense is important to show when an event takes place. Hence, there are several types of tenses in English related to when the event takes place; whether in past, present, or future. English learners are required to be aware of using the tenses.

An error, or a noteworthy variation from a native speaker's adult grammar, demonstrates the learner's skill. Learners of English who ask, "Does John can sing?" are most likely displaying a level of proficiency in which all verbs require a pre-posed *do* auxiliary for question construction. As such, it is an error, most likely not a mistake, and one that reflects some of the learner's proficiency in the target language (Brown, 2014: pg. 249). According to Dulay et al., (1982) who proposed Surface Strategy Taxonomy, the errors may occurs due to some sources known as omission, addition, misformation, and mis-ordering. Specifically, these types of errors may be caused by the use of tenses, simple past tense. In simple past tense, the speaker or writer should decide whether to use regular verbs, irregular verbs, and stative verbs. The common formation of past tense verb is by adding 'ed' to the verbs but some verbs need to change the alphabet. This confusion makes non-native English speaker often commit errors especially in the formation of simple past tense when they talk about something happen in the past (Maniam & Rajagopal, 2016).

Method

This study was conducted using qualitative method. The data were in the form of script classified as document which is a characteristic of qualitative method (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). Nine episodes of the Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast were taken as the data.

Table 1. List of Episodes Used as Data Taken from *Silkina Podcast*

No.	Title	Episodes
1.	The Healing Power of Sound Baths with Charlie Briggs	26
2.	Moving Beyond Fear with Melisa Moffet	37
3.	Navigating a Health Awakening Journey	38
4.	Giving Yourself Grace and Staying Grounded During Difficult Moments	45
5.	Raising Yourself-Worth and Tips to Stop Seeking Validation from Others	49
6.	Choosing Love and Getting Out of Fear Based Thinking	53
7.	Shifting Your Mindset Around Food with Lisa Ryding	57
8.	Navigating a Quarter Life Crisis and Tips to thrive in Your 20s	59
9.	Social Media's Effects on Body Image and How to Love Your Body	60
10.	What Heartbreak is Teaching Me and How I am Healing Spiritually	63

Data Analysis

The steps of data analysis are illustrated in Figure 1.

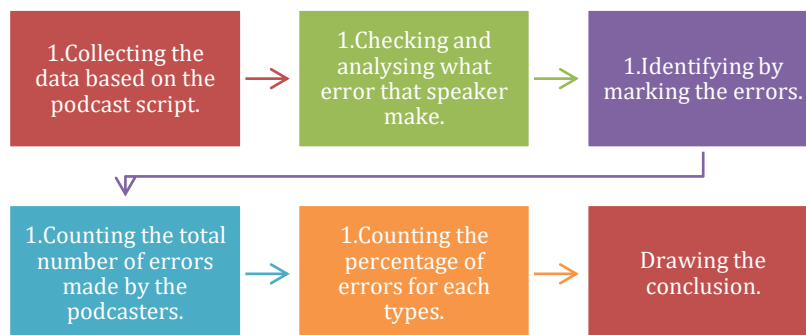


Figure 1. Steps of analysing the data

1. Collecting the data based on the podcast script.
2. Checking and analysing what error that speaker make.
3. Identifying by marking the errors.
4. Counting the total number of errors made by the podcasters.
5. Counting the percentage of errors for each types.
6. Drawing the conclusion.

Results and Discussion

Results

Table 2. shows the percentages of podcasters' errors in using simple past tense. The most dominant error in the *Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast* was mis-formation with the percentage around 68.34% or totals amount around 82 errors. The second place was omission with percentage of error is 19.17 % or 23 errors. The third place was edition with percentage of error is 9.16 % or 11 errors. The last place was misordering with percentage of error is 3.33% or 4 errors.

Table 3. Frequency & Percentage of Errors

No.	Types of Error	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Error of Mis-formation	82	68.34%
2.	Error of Omission	23	19.17%
3.	Error of Addition	11	9.16%
4.	Error of Mis-ordering	4	3.33%
Total		120	100

Discussion

Mis-formation errors were based on using the wrong form of the morpheme or structure. This error has three subcategorized, namely: regularization, archi-forms, and alternating forms. The frequency of mis-formation errors committed by podcaster was 82. Omission errors is characterized by the absence of an item (word) required in a well-formed utterance. The frequency of omission errors committed by podcaster was 23. Addition errors are characterized by the presence of an item which not appear in well-formed utterance. This error typed is divided into sub categories namely: double markings, regularization, and simple addition. The frequency of addition errors committed by podcaster was 11. Mis-ordering errors are characterized by the incorrect placement of morpheme or group of morphemes in an utterance. The frequency of mis-ordering errors committed by podcaster was 4. The total frequency errors in using simple past tense in the *Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast* based on the surface strategy taxonomy were 120 errors. The researcher found that the most dominant error in the *Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast* is mis-formation with the percentage is 68.34% or amount 82 errors. The other percentage of error are 19.17 % or 23 for error of omission, 9.16 % or 11 error of edition, and 3.33% or 4 error of mis-ordering.

Conclusion

After analysing the result of the data, it can be concluded that the study committed four types of error made by podcaster in the *Soul Sense with Silkina Podcast* in using simple present tense by using the Surface Strategy Taxonomy. They were Omission, Addition, Mis-formation and Mis-ordering.

Each of these errors differs from others. Error of omission relates to the absence of an item that must appear in well-formed utterance. Error of addition relates to the presence of an item that must not appear in well-formed utterances. Error of mis-formation relates to the use of the wrong form of the morpheme or structure. Error of mis-ordering relates to the incorrect placement of a morpheme or group of morphemes in utterance.

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