

**THE SPELLING PROFICIENCY OF THE FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF  
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FKIP UKI TORAJA IN WRITING PARAGRAPH**  
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**ABSTRACT**

*The Spelling Proficiency of the Fourth Semester Students of English Department FKIP UKI Toraja in Writing Paragraph. Thesis English Department Teacher Training and Education Faculty. Christian University of Indonesia Toraja. The objective of this research is to find out the spelling proficiency of the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja in writing paragraphs. In order to achieve the objective of this study, The researcher used quantitative method, the researcher used accidental sampling. The object of this research is the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja academic year 2017/2018. The researcher used written test to know the spelling proficiency of students. The result of the data analysis shows that the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja on average have very good spelling proficiency. Total students out of 20 students, 17 students (85) got very good score and 3 students (15) got good score. Based on the data analysis it can be concluded that the spelling proficiency of the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja in writing paragraphs is very good.*

*Keywords: Spelling Proficiency, Writing Paragraph, Quantitative Method*

**ABSTRAK**

*Keterampilan Mengeja Mahasiswa Semester IV Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja dalam Menulis Paragraf. Skripsi Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan, Jurusan Bahasa Inggris. Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui kemampuan mengeja mahasiswa semester IV jurusan Bahasa Inggris di FKIP UKI Toraja dalam menulis paragraf. Untuk mencapai tujuan penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan metode kuantitatif, peneliti menggunakan accidental sampling. Objek penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa semester IV Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja tahun ajaran 2017/2018. Peneliti menggunakan tes tertulis untuk menentukan kemampuan mengeja siswa. Hasil analisis data menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa semester IV Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja rata-rata memiliki kemampuan mengeja yang sangat baik. Dari total 20 siswa, 17 siswa (85) mendapat nilai sangat baik dan 3 siswa (15) mendapat nilai baik. skor. Berdasarkan analisis data, dapat disimpulkan bahwa kemampuan mengeja mahasiswa semester IV Jurusan Bahasa Inggris FKIP UKI Toraja dalam menulis paragraf sangat baik.*

*Kata Kunci: Kemahiran Ejaan, Paragraf Penulisan, Metode Kuantitatif*

**INTRODUCTION**

English as the international language has important role in our life. Learning and mastering English is a necessary thing for us, not only in Indonesia but in all countries

around the world. It will be learned and used by people all over the world. It becomes our medium to communicate and interact with the other people, particularly with people from other countries. Based on the reason above, the Indonesian government determines English as the first foreign language and decides English into the curriculum. It is taught starting from elementary school until senior high school and even in the university. It also becomes a special department at the university. In learning English, students have to be able to master all the elements such as spelling, vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and so on. One of the English elements is spelling.

According to Beers (2003:120), spelling is developmental process and consists of stages that are compatible with students' understanding of letter-sound relationships. This means that students must form a word from each letter to produce a word that has a certain meaning. Spelling has an important part in learning English. If a word is formed in a different order than it should be, then the resulting meaning will be different. This is usually considered to be insignificant, but such a thing can create a very powerful mistake. A meaning that we originally planned to turn into a different meaning and different from what it should be. It is common to make a sentence or paragraph to be disconnected and make someone wrong in interpreting it. In this case the spelling proficiency of students is very influential.

According to Stephen P. Robins (2006:46), proficiency is the capacity of the individual to carry out a variety of tasks in particular work. A person's proficiency can be measured when a person is doing effective work and efficient work. From the statement, it can be concluded that the proficiency is an assessment or measure of what is done by that person. According to White (1986:10), writing is the process of expressing the ideas, information, knowledge, or experience and understand the writing to acquire the knowledge or some information to share and learn. By writing a person can pour something that is in his mind into the form of writing so that it can be known by people who read it.

In relation to the teaching English of English department of UKI Toraja, it shows phenomena that relate with the use of spelling. Based on the writer's observation and result of discussion with lecturer of writing, "there are still many students of English department of FKIP UKI Toraja ignore spelling when writing English." When the students focuses on a specific purpose in writing English language, usually they will forget or ignore the spelling of words, sentences, or paragraphs that were being written. Without when knowing, the writing of students can have lost a single letter or the word of students write do not match the actual. This is due to their lack of attention to spelling as a small and easy thing. However, such trivial matters can be a big problem when a mistake in writing and making the meaning of post change and disconnect. Based on the explanation above, the researcher interested on research with title, "The Spelling Proficiency of the Fourth Semester Students of English Department FKIP UKI Toraja in Writing Paragraph

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

In this research, the researcher used quantitative methods. According to Leedy and Ormrod (2001:103), quantitative research is specific in its surveying and experimentation, as it builds upon existing theories. The methodology of a quantitative research maintains the assumption of an empiricist paradigm (Creswell,2003).

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The discussion of the data analysis of the spelling proficiency of the fourth semester students of English deptment FKIP UKI Toraja in writing paragraph can be seen in this part. Berdan (2018), stated that “the term proficiency is used a great deal in the modern global world. We use it to describe our children’s competency in a foreign language both in the classroom and in a foreign country as they are able to read and interpret signs and menus in a language other than English”.

Based on the previous study above, the researcher concluded that the research above has the similarity and differences. The similarity is discuss about the spelling of students. The difference is Choriana focus on the use of spelling bee game to improve students’ understanding, Arisona focus on teaching spelling through dictation, then the researcher purposes to find out about spelling proficiency of the fourth semester students of English Department FKIP UKI Toraja.

From the data analysis in the previous section, the researcher found out that the fourth semester students of English deptment FKIP UKI Toraja have a very good score of spelling proficiency in writing paragraph. The mean score obtained through the test that is 93.64 which is classified as very good score category. The researcher then concluded that the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja have very good spelling proficiency in writing paragraph.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the data analysis and discussion on previous chapter, the researcher would like to conclude the findings of the research is the spelling proficiency of the fourth semester students of English department FKIP UKI Toraja in writing paragraph is very good. The mean score obtained through the test that is 93.64 and falls into very good category.

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