

ABSTRACT

In this research, the writer focused on the correlation between students' simple present tense mastery and their ability in writing analytical exposition text. The objective of this research was to know whether there was a correlation between students' simple present tense mastery and their ability in writing analytical exposition text at the second semester of the eleventh grade of SMA Ma'arif 07 Labuhan Maringgai in 2018/2019 academic year. There were two variables in this research, the independent variable, students' simple present tense mastery (X) and dependent variable, students' ability in writing analytical exposition text (Y).

The research methodology used in this research is descriptive quantitative method. This is correlational research. In taking the sample of the research, cluster random sampling was applied. The population of the research was taken from the students of eleventh grade of SMA Ma'arif 07 Labuhan Maringgai in 2018/2019 academic year. The sample of the research taken was 21 students out of 41 populations. In collecting the data of this research, the writer used objective test that were multiple choices consisted of 40 items test and writing analytical exposition text test. In this research, SPSS was used to compute Rank Spearman's formula.

After doing the hypothetical testing, the result demonstrated that there was positive correlation between students' simple present tense mastery and their ability in writing analytical exposition text. Based on the data analysis computed by using SPSS, it was obtained that $Sig = 0,001$ and $\alpha = 0.05$. It means that H_a is accepted because $Sig < \alpha = 0.05$. Based on this research, it was suggested that to have a good ability in writing analytical exposition text, students should have a good mastery of simple present tense.

Keywords: *Simple present tense mastery, analytical exposition, correlation and writing ability*