

## The Third Semester Students' Competence in Using Adverb of Frequency

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**Abstract:** The purpose of this research was to analyze the third semester students' competence in using adverb of frequency in sentences. The analysis of the test was to know what extend the students' competence in using adverb of frequency. This research used the qualitative descriptive. The subjects of the research was third semester students of English Department at Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku, the place located in Sasa south Ternate. There were 20 students as the respondents. In collecting data, the researchers making a test instrument contained multiple choice that consisted of 20 questions. The research findings showed that the average score of the students' competence in using adverb of frequency was 52. It showed that students were still lack of understanding of adverb of frequency in sentences, especially, students were confusing in differentiating adverb of frequency such as words "never, ever, often, occasionally and hardly ever". These findings indicate that the third semester students' competence in using adverb of frequency is in poor category.

**Key words:** *Students' Competence, Adverb of Frequency.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

English as an international language plays an important role in communication. Many countries use English as one the formal media for communication. Learning English is very important because English is a global language that almost half of the world's population uses it for every interest, be it in the fields of education, economy, social, and politics. In essence, mastering English has added value in many of these fields. Considering that English is very important for communication in daily life. Using English in communicating the people must master four English skills well.

In learning English there is language components consist of grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Grammar is the essential components that has great influence and also is one of the skills the most often considered difficult with its many rules and formulas in learning English.

Mastering of English is usually measured at different levels starting from the beginner, elementary, intermediate to advance level. Some students must understand each level in order to be better understand the use of grammar in sentences. The Correct sentence is a sentence that at least meets the elements of the main sentence, namely there must be a subject and a verb also be

based on the grammatical rules and formulation. Therefore sentence and grammar is one unit that cannot be separate because in making sentence English it is always followed by grammar rules.

There are several topics in grammar that has to be learning by students or we are familiar with the part of speech. Part of speech consist several kinds, they are verb, adjective, noun, adverb, pronoun, preposition, conjunction, and interjection. Thus, one of these topics that has to be learning by the students are adverb. Adverb is very important since it is a basic of English and often use in daily communication. Based on the curriculum in English department Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku adverbs are studied when the students are in the first semester with the introduction to English grammar subject.

Adverb divided into several kinds such as, adverb of manner (quickly, neatly), adverb of place (in Ternate, here), adverb of time (next week, last night), adverb of frequency (always, seldom). One type of the adverb of frequency in simple present tense for example: often, usually, sometime, never, seldom etc. adverb of frequency is those adverbs that answer question “how often”?.

Based on the researcher’s experience during study at English department Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku, many students had low grade and they had some difficulties with the rules of English grammar. One of the student’s difficulties to understand in using adverb of frequency in sentence and students still confused the function and position of adverb of frequency. Besides, the lecturer explained the use of adverb of frequency in simple present tense but the learners are seldom used them compared with adverb of time. They also find the difficulty in using right adverb of frequency in sentence caused by poor of mastering word or sentences about adverb. In fact, they did not know the rules of using adverb of frequency when making a sentence. Based on existing problem, the researcher would like to conduct a research by focusing on analyzing the students’ competence in using adverb of frequency in learning English.

## **II. METHODS**

The researchers used descriptive qualitative research to analyze students’ competence in using adverb of frequency in sentences. This research was located at Muhammdiyah University of North Maluku, especially at the third semester of English Education Department. The research was conducted from 25 to 27 january.

In this research, the researcher took the third semester students at English Department Mummadiyah University of North Maluku as subject that consisted of 20 students. The researchers applied 20 Multiple choice item for the test. The test item include adverb of frequency. The following steps are the procedures in conducting the research:

1. The researcher prepares all the instruments to collect the data.
2. Making a test item in form multiple choice consist 20 questions. The questions in related to the theory about adverb of frequency in sentence.
3. The researcher took a permission letter from the Dean of the faculty of education.

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4. The researcher asked the permission to the English lecturer and students to join the research.
5. The first meeting the researcher observed and documentation or take a picture in class, especially third semester English Department.
6. The second until third meeting the researcher distributes the test item and the students fill it.

The data collected through the test were analyzed by applying the following formula percentage is:

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\%$$

Where: P = Percentage of answer  
F = Frequency of respondents' answers  
N = Number of sample which is observed  
100% = Constant value

(Arikunto, 2006)

After having the frequency and percentage of correct for each question then the researcher found the average mark by using formula:

$$P = \frac{F}{N \times n} \times 100\%$$

Where:

P = Percentage  
F = frequency of correct answer  
N = Number of Sample which observed  
n = Number of item test

After getting the average score, researcher compared the percentage based on Arikunto's statement cited in Siti Maisaroh (2013:251) the criteria in the following table.

**Table3.1. Criteria of Result Percentage**

No.	Range	Category
1.	80%- 100%	Excellent
2.	70%- 79%	Good
3.	60%- 69%	Sufficient
4.	50%- 59%	Poor
5.	<40-49%	Very poor

(Arikunto, 2006)

#### IV. RESEARCH RESULTS

In this chapter the researcher presents result from the data collected. The researcher used test multiple choice consisting 20 were distributed to all of third semester students English Department Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku. The test was held on January, 25<sup>th</sup> 2021. The researcher took respondent are 20 students. The result of the test presented with the table below:

**Table 4.1 The Frequency of Students' Competence in Using Adverb of Frequency**

Respondent	Correct Answer	Score	Percentage	Category
Student 1	8	40	40 %	Very poor
Student 2	11	55	55 %	Poor
Student 3	16	80	80 %	Excellent
Student 4	8	40	40 %	Very poor
Student 5	7	35	35 %	Very poor
Student 6	7	35	35 %	Very poor
Student 7	16	80	80 %	Excellent
Student 8	8	40	40 %	Very poor
Student 9	11	55	55 %	Poor
Student 10	12	60	60 %	Sufficient
Student 11	12	60	60 %	Sufficient
Student 12	11	55	55 %	Poor
Student 13	8	40	40 %	Very poor
Student 14	16	80	80 %	Excellent
Student 15	7	35	35 %	Very poor
Student 16	7	35	35 %	Very poor
Student 17	8	40	40 %	Very poor
Student 18	16	80	80 %	Excellent
Student 19	11	55	55 %	Poor
Student 20	8	40	40 %	Very poor
<b>Total</b>	<b>208</b>			
<b>Total Average</b>		<b>52</b>		<b>Poor</b>

From table 1.2 above shows the result of test related to students' competence using adverb of frequency in learning English. The data of table shows the total for students' competence is poor category. The total score 208. The total average is the result of the total correct answers divided by the amount of students. The total percentage on the multiple-choice test was 52 which are low.

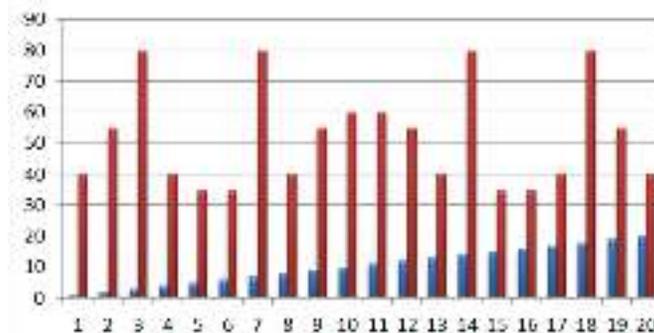
**Table 4.2 The Total Result Average of Frequency of Students' Competence in Using Adverb of Frequency**

The topic	Total of Students' Ability in Correct Answer	Total
Adverb of Frequency	208	52

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To clarify the data above, the researcher presents a chart for students' competence in using adverb of frequency below:

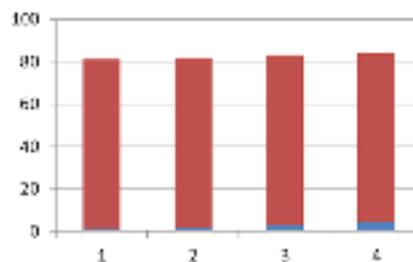
**Chart 4.1 The Result Chart of Students' Competence in Using Adverb of frequency**



Based on the chart results, from 20 students get different percentage scores. Respondent 3, 7, 14, and 18 are got same score percentage 80% with excellent category. Respondent 10 and 11 are got some score 60% with sufficient category. Respondent 2, 9, 12 and 19 are got some score percentage are 55% with poor category. Respondent 1, 4, 8, 13, 17 and 20 are got same score percentage 40 % with category very poor. Respondent 5, 6, 15 and 16 are got some score 35% with category very poor.

The researcher used the chart to explain every student score percentage in using adverb of frequency below:

**Chart 4.2 Percentage of students' competence in Using Adverb of Frequency for Excellent Category**

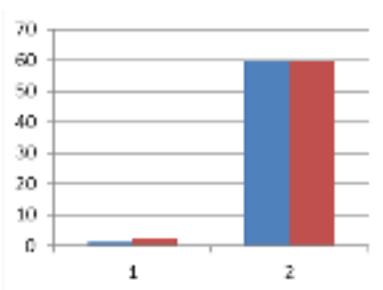


Based on the chart presented above, it can be concluded that most third semester students English Department still confused about adverb of frequency in sentence. Students' competence is still low, can be seen the result of the test as many as 20 respondents only 4 students got 80% with excellent category.

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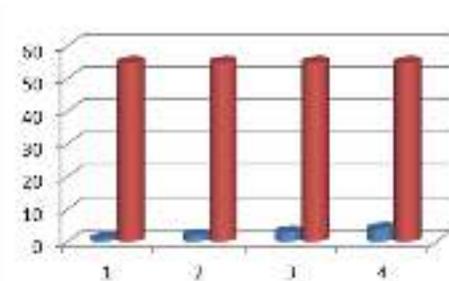
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**Chart 4.3 Percentage of students' competence in Using Adverb of Frequency for sufficient Category**



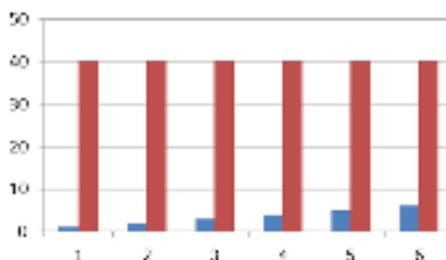
From on the chart above, we can said that 2 students got same score 60% with sufficient category.

**Chart 4.4 Percentage of students' competence in Using Adverb of Frequency for poor Category**



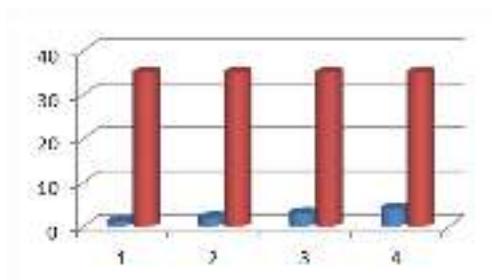
From on the chart above, we can said that 4 students got same score 55% with poor category.

**Chart 4.5 Percentage of students' competence in Using Adverb of Frequency for very poor Category**



From on the chart above, we can said that 6 students got same score 40% with very poor category.

**Chart 4.6 Percentage of students' competence in Using Adverb of Frequency for very poor Category**



From on the chart above, we can said that 4 students got same score 35% with very poor category.

## V. DISCUSSION

This section discusses all the findings from this research. After analyzing and obtaining findings from the data, the researcher conducted a detailed description of each data category. To determine the competence of students in understanding adverb of frequency in sentence researcher used tests. The researcher used the formula based on the previous chapter to calculate the student presentation score. The following is an explanation of the test results of each student.

From the chart results above, it is known that the third semester students of the English Department at Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku have a poor category. This is indicated by the evidence that from 20 respondenst only 4 students got excellent category are 80%, 2 students got 60% with sufficient category, 4 students got 55% with poor category, 6 students got 40% with very poor category, and 4 students got 35% with very poor category to and the total score of the students' competence in doing the adverb of frequency test in English was 52.

Based on the description above, the researcher concludes that analyzed the third semester students' competence in using adverb of frequency at English Department Muhammadiyah University of North Maluku have a "poor" category. So, that the third semester students have not reached of 5 competency characteristic. Spencer's competency in Palan (2007) is a basic characteristic possessed by an individual who is related according to Spencer and causally in meeting the criteria needed to occupy a position. Competence consist of 5 types of characteristics, namely consistent and at the same time (the cause of action), innate factors (consistent character and response), self-concept (self-image), knowledge (information certain areas) and skills (ability to carry out tasks.) and also, stated by Arikunto about the criteria of the result percentage that the students are poor level because of obtaining the score <50%-59%.

Besides, the researcher also found some factors fluency of the students' competence in using adverb of frequency at third semester students of English Department of Muhammadiyah

North Maluku, those factors are:

1. The most students of third semester in English Department can understand about adverb of frequency. We can see there are 4 students got excellent category.
2. The students are also difficulties in creating and expressions adverb of frequency in sentence.
3. Factor influenced their competence in mastering adverb of frequency is:

Students' knowledge about English still lack, especially for using adverb of frequency in learning English is still in low category. Regarding the value obtained by students, it can be seen from the test results, namely 52.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In this research, the researcher could conclude that the average score of the students' competence of English Department in using adverb of frequency was 52. It showed that students still lack understand about adverb of frequency in sentences, especially students confused to differentiate adverb of frequency such as words “*never, ever, often, occasionally and hardly ever*”. The result of the test showed that the third semester students' competence in using adverb of frequency is poor category.

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