



Analysis of Indonesian Language Errors in the Explanatory Text Essays of Class VIII Students of Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura Junior High School

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Abstract. This study aims to (1) describe the types of language errors in the explanatory text essays of class VIII students of Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura Junior High School, (2) describe the forms of Indonesian language errors in student explanatory text essays, and (3) describe the accuracy of using Indonesian in student explanatory text essays. This is descriptive qualitative research focused on analyzing errors in Indonesian in the fields of phonology, morphology, and syntax. The research steps were carried out by collecting data on Indonesian language errors in the form of words, sentences, and paragraphs from the explanatory texts made by students, identifying errors in the explanatory texts made by class VIII students, grouping them into types of language errors, sorting the errors based on the frequency, and describe the mistakes based on the causes of the errors. The results showed 50 errors in Indonesian in the fields of phonology, morphology and syntax, consisting of 33 phonological errors, 14 morphological errors and 3 syntax errors. This study shows that class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura need to improve their understanding of writing an essay properly and correctly in accordance with the Indonesian Refined Spelling Guidelines (EYD).

Keywords: kesalahan berbahasa · karangan · teks eksplanasi · SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura

1 Introduction

Errors in the use of Indonesian language were made by young children to the elderly, from the upper middle class to the lower middle class. This can be seen from the utterances used in daily activities which reflect that most people prefer to use slang. The existence of slang also affects school children because when doing assignments or talking to teachers they tend to use this non-standard language. The use of language in everyday life can also show someone's personality. A good-spoken word indicates a good personality and vice versa. Good Indonesian language is appropriate to the situation and conditions as well as effectiveness in delivering the meaning to the speech partner. The correct Indonesian is the one that obeys the standard rules [1].

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It is imperative for Indonesian citizens to be able to use the Indonesian language in accordance with the rules regardless of where the speech partner is from. It becomes an obligation due to its position as the national language, national identity, and the nation's unifying tool. Even the position of the Indonesian language is listed in the 1945 Constitution article 36 regarding the position of the Indonesian language as the official state language, introduction to education, a national-level liaison tool, and a tool for developing culture, science and technology. Based on the position of the Indonesian language, it must automatically be used in both formal and non-formal activities. However, the reality is that currently the use of Indonesian among the people is mixed with slang.

In a language, the arrangement of letters, words, and sentences in communicating with someone greatly influences the meaning. The arrangements must be precise to avoid meaning deviation from the intended utterance [2]. However, most people nowadays don't pay much attention to language errors. The most important thing is the intent and purpose of the speaker can be delivered. Language errors can be found on various platforms, both in cyberspace and in real life, such as image captions on Instagram posts, billboards, invitation letters, announcements, examination questions, and student essays. Language errors in the learning and teaching process are one of the processes that can affect language learning itself [3].

Writing is a language skill that is used to express thoughts, ideas, and is useful in delivering messages through written language as a tool or media. The goal is to make it easier for the reader to understand the topic [4]. For a writer, the requirements are being able to choose words and good at writing. In the learning process a student is required to be able to write because writing is a process of learning activities that cannot be taken for granted. However, in reality, language errors in students' essays are still common. The majority of students do not pay much attention to the use of language conforming to the EYD standard in writing a paper. Students only think about what is important, which is the information delivery from the writer to the reader. This can result in the widespread of improper writing that is not in accordance with linguistic rules.

According to [5] language errors are the use of language both orally and in writing that is not in accordance with Indonesian grammar rules. Meanwhile, according to Daulay, et al. (in [6]) language errors are a student's disability in writing or speaking. Another definition of language errors was also expressed by Alfin (in [7]) explaining that language errors are an inherent symptom (something that cannot be separated) from the language learning process. The definition of language errors is also explained by [8] that language errors are the use of language that is not in accordance with Indonesian grammar, both spoken and written, while language error analysis is an activity that criticizes, corrects, and collects language error data and classifies it according to the field. Therefore, language errors are the use of language that deviates from the rules of a predetermined guideline. According to [9] language errors can occur when language users do not understand good and correct grammar and are not careful in using language.

Analysis of language errors has an orientation seen from the field of linguistics, which is related to semantics, morphology, lexical, and phonology [10]. According to Wibowo in [11] language errors are divided into three types. Language errors in phonology are errors that occur at the sound level. If a language error occurs in word order, it is considered a morphological error. Meanwhile, language errors in the field of syntax

are categorized as language errors at the sentence level. Language errors in the field of phonology are language errors that occur because the human speech organ pronounces the wrong sound of the language and there is a difference in understanding the definition of both the use of spoken and written language. Language errors that often occur in the field of morphology can be seen from the addition process of affixes, compounding basic words so that they become new meanings, and unnecessary repetition of words. Errors related to meaning are called errors at the syntactic level which are related to the semantic level which examines errors in sentences [5].

Language errors in phonology, morphology, and syntax can be found in the explanatory essays of class VIII students. [24] explained the definition of an explanatory text is a text that describes or explains natural or social processes or phenomena. Meanwhile, according to Priyatni in [12] explanatory text is a text in which explains the processes related to natural, social, cultural science, and other phenomena. Questions related to why and how an event can occur are the origins of explanatory texts. In accordance with this opinion, Isnatun and Farida in [13] revealed that a paragraph in an explanatory text must clarify a series of explanation that give answers to the title. According to [14] an explanatory text is a text that contains the process of why and how a natural, scientific, social, cultural, and other event can occur. From some of the quotations above, it can be concluded that explanatory text is a text which discusses natural and social phenomena that occur in the surrounding.

The researcher chose student's explanation text as a study of language errors because there were many errors in the Indonesian language written by students. There are three types of errors in Indonesian that will be used to identify students' explanatory texts, which are language errors in phonology, morphology, and syntax. This research is not the only research that examines language errors in the fields of phonology, morphology, and syntax. There are several studies that are relevant to this research, including: Research conducted by [15] entitled "Analysis of Language Errors in Outdoor Media Writing in Bojonegoro Regency". The difference between the two studies is that research conducted by [15] took the object of research in the form of outdoor media writing in Bojonegoro district. Meanwhile, this study took the object of students' explanatory text essays. Another relevant research is research conducted by [16] entitled "Analysis of Indonesian Language Errors in Student Mini-Research." The difference lies in the object of study. The research conducted by Ramaniyar is students' mini research while this study analyzes students' explanatory text essays.

Another relevant research conducted by [17] entitled "Language Errors in the Writing of Mandarin Language Descriptions of Chinese Language Education Study Program Students." The research conducted by Aditya examines language errors in the field of syntax. The method used by [17] was interview. While in this study there was no interview process in collecting data. The subjects in this study were not only errors in the Indonesian language in the area of syntax, but also in 3 areas, which are, phonology, morphology, and syntax. Other relevant research was also carried out by [18] entitled "Analysis of Indonesian Language Errors in Student Scientific Texts." The difference is that the research conducted by [18] focused only on language errors in the field of morphology, while this study focused on 3 areas of language. The subjects in the research



Fig. 1. Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura Junior High School

conducted [18] on student scientific text essays, while this research was on class VIII students' essays on explanation texts (Fig. 1).

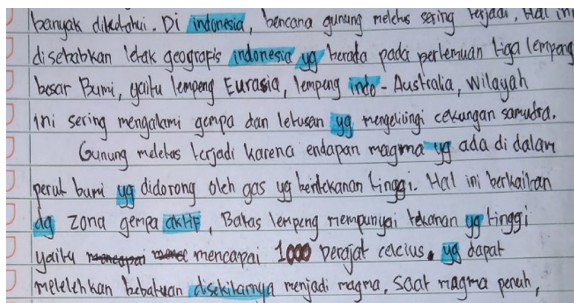
SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura is a private school that was established on February 1, 1949. Currently it has been accredited A and has earned the title of a child-friendly school, an *adiwiyata* school, and a healthy school. The program launched by Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura Middle School is in the form of *tahfiz* class, IT class, and Regular class. The total number of students at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura is 276 students. There are 20 educators or teachers teaching at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura, consisting of 2 teachers who have masters degrees and 18 teachers who have bachelor degrees. SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura is located at Jalan Ahmad Yani No. 160, Hamlet III, Kartasura, Kartasura District, Sukoharjo Regency, Central Java 57161. The distance from Muhammadiyah Surakarta University to Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura Junior High School is 3.7 km and can be reached in about 5 min at normal speed with a good terrain.

Relevansi penelitian ini dengan pembelajaran yaitu pada Kompetensi Dasar (KD) 3.10 dan KD 4.10 SMP kelas VIII. Teks eksplanasi berkaitan dengan KD 3.10 yang berbunyi "Menelaah teks eksplanasi berupa paparan kejadian suatu fenomena alam yang diperdengarkan atau dibaca." Adapun bunyi KD 4.10 adalah "Menyajikan informasi dan data dalam bentuk teks eksplanasi proses terjadinya suatu fenomena secara lisan dan tulis dengan memperhatikan struktur, unsur kebahasaan, atau aspek lisan". Dari KD tersebut dapat diidentifikasi kesalahan berbahasa Indonesia pada karangan teks eksplanasi siswa. Peserta didik juga dapat belajar mengenai penggunaan bahasa yang baik dan benar ketika membuat suatu karya tulis.

Based on the data in Fig. 2, the explanation text essay belonging to one of the *Tahfiz* class VIII students still has many errors. The first Indonesian language error is the use of capital letters in the sentence.

- (1) "Di indonesia, bencana gunung meletus sering terjadi."
- (1) "In indonesia, volcanic eruptions often occur."

The correction of the sentence should be "Di Indonesia, bencana gunung meletus sering terjadi" The first letter of *Indonesia* should be written in capital letters because



Much is known. In Indonesia, volcanic eruptions often occur. This is due to the geographical location of Indonesia which is at the confluence of three large plates of the Earth, namely the Eurasian plate, the Indo-Australian plate, this region often experiences earthquakes and eruptions that place ocean basins.

Mountains erupt because magma deposits in the bowels of the earth are pushed by high pressure gas. This is related to the active earthquake zone, the boundary plate has high pressure, reaching 1000 degrees Celsius, which can melt the surrounding rocks into magma, when the magma is full.

Fig. 2. Example of Indonesian language error data

Indonesia is the name of the country. The second language error is the preposition writing error found in the sentence.

- (2) “yg dapat melelehkan bebatuan *disekitarnya* menjadi magma.”
 (2) “Which can melt the *surrounding* rocks into magma”

The correct sentence is “Yang dapat melelehkan bebatuan di sekitarnya menjadi magma.” Words *yang* at the beginning of a sentence should start with a capital letter. As for the words *di sekitarnya*, should be separated because the use of prepositions is separated from the pronouns that follow it.

Based on the background of the problems above, the formulation of the problem in this study is: (1) What are the types of language errors in students’ explanatory text essays, (2) What are the forms of Indonesian language errors in students’ explanation text essays, and (3) What is the accuracy of the use of Indonesian in students’ explanatory text essays. Based on the formulation of the problem, the objectives of this study were (1) to describe the types of language errors in students’ explanatory text essays, (2) to describe the forms of Indonesian language errors in students’ explanation text essays, (3) to describe the accuracy of the use of Indonesian in student explanatory text essay.

Other relevant research is conducted by [19] researching Indonesian language errors in reports on observations of junior high school students. In the research conducted by Ayudia, there were several errors in the Indonesian language, which are spelling, diction, sentence, and paragraph errors. The research subjects conducted by Ayudia et al. was class VIII students of SMP Negeri 8 Surakarta. The difference with this research lies in the subject and the text studied. The similarities between the two studies are discussing errors in Indonesian and research subjects in class VIII.

[20] Conducted a study entitled “Analysis of Indonesian Language Errors in the Discussion Process of Elementary School Students.” The results of Johan’s research showed

that there were several errors in Indonesian including errors in phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, cohesion, coherence, and logic in the discussion process conducted by elementary school students. The subject of research conducted by Johan is a conversation or discussion of class VI students at SDN 1 Galagamba. The similarity of this research with the research conducted by [20] is that both discuss language errors in the fields of phonology, syntax, and morphology. Both of these studies used a qualitative descriptive method in compiling the research draft. The difference between the two studies lies in the subject.

Conducted a study entitled “Semantic Language Errors in @Kominfodiy Instagram Uploads.” In research conducted by [21] discussed language errors at the semantic level in Instagram uploads of @kominfodiy account. [21] Describes the types of the error and relates the error to the language error analysis lecture. The semantic language errors found in research [21] contained 8 errors. The similarities between these two studies are both discuss language errors using descriptive studies. The difference is in the subjects and in the research conducted [21] only discusses language errors in the field of semantics, while this study analyzes language errors in the fields of phonology, morphology, and syntax.

Another relevant research was conducted by [22] with the research title “Analysis of Language Errors in Outdoor Media Writing in the Medan City Region.” In this study there were several language errors found, including errors in spelling, punctuation, and choice of words or diction. The subjects used in the research conducted by [22] were outside media in the city of Medan in the form of billboards at tourist spots, roads, stalls, schools, and announcements at mosques and public places. The research method used by [22] is the same as this study, which is qualitative descriptive method. The difference between the two studies is in the subjects used.

Relevant research was also conducted by [23] with the title “Analysis of Language Errors on Social Media Instagram in Posts, Comments, and Short Stories.” The types of language errors in the research conducted by [23] included spelling errors, diction use errors, grammatical structure errors, and errors in variations of Indonesian slang and English. Both of these studies have similarities, one of which is the use of descriptive qualitative method. The difference between the two studies lies in the subject. The research subjects conducted [23] were posts on social media, while this research subjects were explanatory text essays for class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura.

[24] Conducted a study entitled “Language Errors in Student Thesis of Indonesian Language and Literature Education Study Program, Tidar University.” The results of this research are language errors at various linguistic levels, which are phonology, morphology, and syntax. Language errors at the morphological level are in the form of errors in the use of punctuation marks. Errors at the morphological level are in the form affixation process. Meanwhile, errors at the syntactic level are in the form of errors in the process of constructing sentences. The difference between the two studies lies in the subjects used. The similarities are that they both examine language errors at the phonological, morphological, and syntactic levels.

Another relevant research was conducted by [25] entitled “Analysis of Oral Language Errors on the Fouly YouTube Channel.” In this study, there were errors in Indonesian in four areas, namely phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. The method used in

this study is the same as [25], which is qualitative descriptive. The similarities between these two studies are that they both discuss Indonesian language errors, but research [25] examines four areas of language errors, while this research only examines 3 areas of language errors. The difference between the two studies lies in the subjects used. The research conducted [25] used Fouly's YouTube channel as a research subject, while the subject of this study was explanatory text essay for class VIII students at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura.

2 Method

This is qualitative descriptive research. According to [23] qualitative descriptive research methods are data and facts collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers, the writing of the reports contains quotations of data or facts revealed from the field to provide support for what is presented in the report. This is qualitative descriptive research because the data obtained is in the form of student essays in the form of words and the researcher aims to describe Indonesian language errors in explanatory text essays made by class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura. Based on the essays of explanatory texts made by students, errors in Indonesian can be identified, including types of language errors, forms of language errors, and explaining the dominant errors made by students. The subjects of this study were class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura. The research object used in this study was the Indonesian language errors in the explanatory text essays made by students.

From Table 1. The data in this study were a total of 93 explanatory text essays obtained from 4 classes, which were class VIII Tahfiz, VIII A, VIII B, and VIII C. The researcher got the data by asking students to compose explanatory text essays at the 3rd meeting of learning activities. Of the 93 explanatory text essays that have been made by

Table 1. Frequency of Error Types

No	Type of Error Type	Number of Errors
1.	Error in The Field of Phonology	
	a. Error in the use of capital letters	27
	b. Error in the use of repetitive word	6
2.	Error in The Field of Morphology	
	a. Error in the writing of preposition	12
	b. Error in the writing of suffix <i>-kan</i>	1
	c. Error in the writing of suffix <i>-nya</i>	1
3.	Error in The Field of Syntax	
	a. Unclear sentences	2
	b. Ambiguous sentences	1
Total amount		50

students there are 50 language errors. The method used for data analysis in this study is equivalent method. According to Sudaryanto in [26] equivalent method is a method of language analysis by using determinants outside language and not being part of the language in question. The technique of collecting data in this study was by: Collecting error data in the form of words, sentences, and paragraphs from student explanation texts, identifying Indonesian errors in explanation texts made by Class VIII students, classifying the errors, sorting errors based on their frequency, and explains the mistakes made based on the causes of the errors.

3 Result and Discussion

The form of language errors in this study consists of several fields which are phonology, morphology, and syntax. In the field of phonology there are errors in the use of capital letters and errors in the use of repetition. In the field of morphology, there are errors in writing prepositions, errors in writing the suffix *-kan*, and errors in writing the suffix *-nya*. As for the field of syntax, there are unclear sentences and ambiguous sentences. The manifestations of each language error field are explained below:

3.1 Errors in the Field of Phonology

3.1.1 Error In The Use of Capital Letters

There are 22 types of correct use of capital letters in EYD which are:

- 3.1.1.1 The use of capital letters as the first letter at the beginning of a sentence.
- 3.1.1.2 The use of capital letters as elements of people's names, including nicknames at the beginning of words.
- 3.1.1.3 The use of capital letters not as the first letter of the person's name, used as the name of the type or unit of measure.
- 3.1.1.4 The use of capital letters in people's names as in the names of theories, laws, and formulas.
- 3.1.1.5 The use of capital letters is not intended for writing the first letter of a word that means 'son of', such as *bin*, *binti*, *boru*, and *van*, unless it is written as the first letter of the name or the first letter of the assignment word of.
- 3.1.1.6 Use of capital letters at the beginning of sentences in direct quotations.
- 3.1.1.7 The use of capital letters as the first letter in certain cases that are related to the names of religions, holy books and God, including names and pronouns for God and abbreviations for God's name.
- 3.1.1.8 Use of capital letters as the first letter in the name elements of honorary, aristocratic, hereditary, religious, or academic titles followed by the person's name and academic title following the person's name.
- 3.1.1.9 The use of capital letters in the first letter of the name of the title of honor, descent, religion, profession, as well as the name of the position and rank used as a greeting.
- 3.1.1.10 The use of capital letters as the first letter of the name of the position and rank followed by the name of the person or used as a substitute for the name of the person, the name of the institution, or the name of the place.

- 3.1.1.11** The use of capital letters in the first letter as in the name of the nation, tribe, language, and scrip.
- 3.1.1.12** The use of capital letters is not in the names of nations, tribes, languages, and scripts which are the basic forms of derived words.
- 3.1.1.13** The use of capital letters in the first letter, such as in the names of years, months, days, and holidays or holidays.
- 3.1.1.14** The use of capital letters as the first letter in the elements of the names of historical events.
- 3.1.1.15** Capital letters are not allowed to be written at the beginning of words for historical events that are not used as names.
- 3.1.1.16** Use of capital letters as the first letters of geographic names.
- 3.1.1.17** Capital letters are not used for the first letter of a geographic element that is not followed by name.
- 3.1.1.18** Capital letters are not used in the first letters of geographic names used as species names.
- 3.1.1.19** The use of capital letters as geographical names that state the origin of the area.
- 3.1.1.20** The use of capital letters as the first letter of all words (including repetitive elements, intact) as in the names of countries, institutions, agencies, organizations or documents, except for function words.
- 3.1.1.21** The use of capital letters as the first letter of each word (including complete repetition) in the titles of books, essays, articles and papers, as well as names of mass media, except for function words that are not in the initial position.
- 3.1.1.22** The use of capital letters as the first letters of the abbreviated elements of title names and rank names.

The followings are errors in the use of capital letters in explanatory text essay by class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura:

- (3) Selain itu Indonesia termasuk **Wilayah** cincin api Pasifik.
- (3) Additionally, Indonesia is included in the Pacific ring of fire **region**.

The sentence contains a language error in the use of capital letters in the word “wilayah.” The initial word “wilayah “ in the sentence should not be written in capital letters because it is located in the middle of the sentence and does not include place names. The correction for this sentence is: “Selain itu, Indonesia termasuk **wilayah** cincin api Pasifik.”

- (4) **letusan gunung merapi** melontarkan material hingga puluhan kilo meter.
- (4) **the eruption of mount merapi** ejected material up to tens of kilometres.

In this sentence there is a language error in the word “letusan gunung merapi”. The word “letusan “ should be written with a capital letter “L” because it is at the beginning of the sentence. The words “gunung” and “merapi” should also be written in capital letters because gunung merapi are geographical names. The correction for this sentence is: “**Letusan Gunung Merapi** melontarkan material hingga puluhan kilo meter.” (The eruption of Mount Merapi ejected material up to tens of kilometres of material).

- (5) “...lava kental mengalir tidak **Jauh** ari sumbernya.”

(5) ...condensed lava flows not **Far** from its source.

The sentence has an error in the word *jauh*. The letter “J” at the beginning of the word should not be written in capital letters because the word *jauh* is in the middle of the sentence. The correction for this sentence is: “... Lava kental mengalir tidak **jauh** dari sumbernya.” (...condensed lava flows not far from the source).

- (6) *letusan* gunung tidak **hanYa** menghasilkan **lava panas** dan **lahar** tetapi **Juga gas** dan **abu** Vulkanik serta awan panas.
 (6) **the eruption** of the mountain does not **onLy** produce **hot lava** and **lava** but **Also** volcanic **gases** and ash and hot clouds).

The sentence has 8 errors. The letter “L” in the words *letusan*, *lava*, and *lahar* should be written in capital letters because these words include geographical names. The first letters of the words *gas* and *abu* should also be written in capital letters because they are geographical names. The letters “Y” and “J” in the word *hanya* and *juga* should not be written with a capital letter because the word is in the middle of a sentence. The correction for this sentence is: “**Letusan** gunung tidak hanya menghasilkan **Lava Panas** dan **Lahar** tetapi juga **Gas** dan **Abu** Vulkanik serta awan panas.” (Mountain eruptions produce not only Hot Lava and Lava but also Volcanic Gas and Ash and hot clouds).

- (7) Di **indonesia** bencana gunung meletus sering terjadi.
 (7) In **indonesia** volcanic eruptions often occur

The word *indonesia* language error in this sentence is in the use of capital letters because the first letter of the word *Indonesia* must be written in capital letters because Indonesia is a country name. The correction for this sentence is: “Di **Indonesia**, bencana gunung meletus sering terjadi.” (In **Indonesia** volcanic eruptions often occur).

- (8) Hal ini berkaitan dengan zona gempa **aktiF**.
 (8) It is related to **activE** seismic zones

In this sentence there is a language error in the word *aktiF*. The letter “F” in the word *aktif* should not be capitalized because it is located at the end of the word. The correction for this sentence is as follows: “Hal ini berkaitan dengan zona gempa **aktif**.” (It is related to active seismic zones).

- (9) **gunung** merupakan salah satu bentuk kenampakan alam yang banyak di temui di hampir seluruh **indonesia**.
 (10) **mountain** is a form of natural appearance that can be found in almost all of **indonesia**.

There are two capitalization errors in this sentence. The word *gunung* in the sentence should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word because it is located at the beginning of the sentence. The second capital letter error in the sentence is the word *indonesia*. Indonesia language writing should use capital letters at the beginning of the word because it includes the name of the country. The correction for this sentence is as follows: “**Gunung** merupakan salah satu bentuk kenampakan alam yang banyak di

temui di hampir seluruh Indonesia.” (*Mountain* is a form of natural appearance that can be found in almost all of *Indonesia*).

(11) *dalam* proses *orogenesis* sedimen yang terkumpul berubah bentuk karena *Mendapat* gaya tekan dari tumpukan *lempeng tektonik*.

(11) *in* the process of *orogenesis* the collected sediments are deformed because it *Received* compressive force from the pile of *tectonic plates*.

There is an error in the use of capital letters in the words “dalam”, “orogenesis”, “Mendapat”, dan “lempeng tektonik”. The letter “d” in the word “dalam” should be capitalized because the word is located at the beginning of the sentence. In the words “orogenesis” and “tectonic plate” the first letter of each word should also be capitalized because they are geographical names. Whereas in the word “Mendapat” the letter “M” should not be capitalized because the word is located in the middle of the sentence. The correction the sentence is: “*Dalam* proses *Orogenesis* sedimen yang terkumpul berubah bentuk karena *mendapat* gaya tekan dari tumpukan *Lempeng Tektonik*.” (*In* the process of *Orogenesis* the collected sediments are deformed because it *received* compressive force from the pile of *Tectonic Plates*).

(12) Tanah longsor adalah *Tanah* yang *Turun/Longsor Yang* terjadi secara mendadak.

(12) Landslides are *Land* that *Descends/Landslides That* occur suddenly.

In this sentence there is an error in the use of capital letters for the word “Tanah” in the middle of the sentence, “Turun/Longsor”, and the word “Yang”. These words should not use capital letters in writing, because the words “tanah”, “turun/longsor”, and “yang” are not included in geographic names and are also located in the middle of the sentence. The correct form is: “Tanah longsor adalah *tanah* yang *turun atau longsor yang* terjadi secara mendadak.” (Landslides are *land* that *descends/landslides that* occur suddenly).

(13) Gunung *Merupakan Salah Satu* bentuk kenampakan alam yang banyak ditemui hampir seluruh wilayah *indonesia*.

(13) Mountain *Is One Of* natural form of appearance that can be found in almost all parts of *indonesia*.

There are four errors in the use of capital letters in this sentence, which are in the words *Merupakan*, *Salah*, *Satu*, and *indonesia*. The words *Merupakan*, *Salah*, and *Satu* should not use capital letters for the first letter of each word because the word is located in the middle of the sentence. As for the word *Indonesia*, the first letter must be written in capital because Indonesia is the name of the country. Correction of misuse in the sentence is: “Gunung *merupakan salah satu* bentuk kenampakan alam yang banyak ditemui hampir seluruh wilayah *Indonesia*.” (Mountain *is one of* natural form of appearance that can be found in almost all parts of *Indonesia*).

(14) Setiap hari kita mengalami *Perputaran* waktu antara *Siang* dan malam.

(14) Every day we experience time *Rotation* between *Day* and night.

The sentence contains language errors in the word *Perputaran* and the word *Siang*. The first letter of the word should not be written in capital because it is in the middle of a sentence and does not include geographical name which must be written in capital. Correction of capital letter errors in the sentence are: “Setiap hari kita mengalami

perputaran waktu antara *siang* dan malam.” (Every day we experience time *rotation* between *day* and night).

(15) Di bumi kita dapat mengalami 2 *Masa*, *Masa* terang dan *Gelap*.

(16) On earth we can experience 2 *Phases*, light and *Dark Phases*).

In this sentence, there are three language errors, which are two words of *Masa* and the word *Gelap*. These three words are incorrect because the word *masa* is not included in the type of time writing that has been explained in the EYD. The word *gelap* cannot be written with a capital at the beginning of the word because the word is located at the end of the sentence. Correction of the sentence is: “Di bumi kita dapat mengalami 2 *masa*, *masa* terang dan *gelap*.” (On earth we can experience 2 *phases*, light and *dark phases*).

(17) Peristiwa siang dan *Malam* merupakan *Fenomena* alam yang *Menarik*.

(17) Day and *Night* are *Interesting* natural *Phenomena*.

The words *Malam*, *Fenomena*, and *Menarik* have incorrect use of capital letters at the beginning of the word. It should not be capitalized because the word is not located at the beginning of the sentence and does not fall into the category described in the EYD. Correction of the sentence is: “Peristiwa siang dan *malam* merupakan *fenomena* alam yang *menarik*.” (Day and *night* are *interesting* natural *phenomena*).

(18) Tanah *Longsor* ada *Yang* kecil dan ada *Yang* besar *Pula*.

(18) There *Are* small *Landslides* and there *Are Also* large ones.

In this sentence there is an error in the use of capital letters in the words “*Longsor*”, “*Yang*” dan “*Pula*”. Writing letters at the beginning of the word should not use capital letters because the word is located in the middle of a sentence and according to EYD there is no provision that requires these words to be written using capital letters. Correction of the sentence according to EYD is: “Tanah *longsor* ada *yang* kecil dan ada *yang* besar *pula*.” (There *are* small *landslides* and there *are also* large ones).

(19) *ada* dua tipe tumbukan lempeng tektonik, yaitu antara *Samudra* dan *Benua* dan *Benua* dan benua.

(19) *there* are two types of tectonic plate collisions, namely between *Oceans* and *Continents* and *Continents* and continents.

The errors in this sentence located in the words “*ada*”, “*Samudra*”, and “*Benua*”. The word “*ada*” in the sentence should be written using capital because it is located at the beginning of the sentence. While the words “*Samudra*” and “*Benua*” in the sentence should not use capital in the first letter because according to the EYD, the first letter of a geographic element that is not followed by a personal name is written in a non-capital letter. Correction of the sentence is: “*Ada* dua tipe tumbukan lempeng tektonik, yaitu antara *samudra* dan *benua* dan *benua* dan benua.” (*There* are two types of tectonic plate collisions, namely between *oceans* and *continents* and *continents* and continents).

(20) *gunung* dibentuk dari proses alam atau *Fenomena* alam tertentu.

(21) *mountain* is formed from natural processes or certain natural *Phenomena*.

In this sentence there is an error in the use of capital letters, namely in the words “gunung” and “Fenomena”. The word “gunung” in the sentence the letter “g” at the beginning of the word should be written using a capital letter because it is located at the beginning of the sentence. While the word “Fenomena “ in the sentence, writing the letter “F” at the beginning of a word should not be capitalized because the word is located in the middle of the sentence and is not included in the rules for using capital letters according to EYD. Correction of the sentence is: “*Gunung* dibentuk dari proses alam atau *fenomena* alam tertentu.” (*Mountain* is formed from natural processes or certain natural *phenomena*).

(22) Proses *epirogenesis* merupakan gerakan yang membentuk benua yang bekerja *Sepanjang Jari Jari* bumi.

(22) The process of *epirogenesis* is a movement that forms continents that work *Along* the earth’s *Radius*.

There are several Indonesian language errors in the use of capital letters in this sentence, which are the words *epirogenesis*, *Sepanjang*, and *Jari Jari*. The correct spelling of “Epirogenesis” should begin with a capital letter because Epirogenesis categorized into geographical names. The word *Sepanjang* in the sentence should not be written in capital letters because it is located in the middle of the sentence. The last error in the sentence is *Jari Jari*. It should not use capital letters at the beginning of the word because repeated words do not have to use capital letters. Correction of the sentence is: “Proses *Epirogenesis* merupakan gerakan yang membentuk benua yang bekerja *sepanjang jari-jari* bumi.” (The process of *Epirogenesis* is a movement that forms continents that work *along* the earth’s *radius*).

(23) Hujan memiliki banyak *manfaat* bagi manusia.

(23) Rain has many *benefits* for humans.

In this sentence there is an error in the use of capital letters in the word *manfaat*. In accordance with the EYD regulation, it is prohibited to write capital letters in the middle of a word. The correction to the sentence is as follows: “Hujan memiliki banyak *manfaat* bagi manusia.” (Rain has many *benefits* for humans).

(24) *bumi* melakukan 2 *Perputaran Sekaligus* yaitu berputar mengelilingi *matahari* dan berputar pada porosnya.

(24) *earth* does 2 *Rotations* at *Once*, it rotates around the *sun* and rotates on its axis.

The sentence contains four errors in the use of capital letters in the words *bumi*, *Perputaran*, *Sekaligus*, and *matahari*. The word “*bumi*” should begin with a capital letter because it is located at the beginning of the sentence. There is no need to use capital letters for the words *Perputaran* and *Sekaligus* because it is located in the middle of a sentence and there are no rules or explanations that explain that these words must use capital letters at the beginning of the word. The word *matahari* in the sentence should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word because the sun is a geographical name, which includes the name of the planet. Correction of the sentence is: “*Bumi* melakukan 2 *perputaransekaligus* yaitu berputar mengelilingi *Matahari* dan berputar

pada porosnya.” (*Earth* does 2 *rotations* at *once*, it rotates around the *Sun* and rotates on its axis).

(25) *saat* didapur *magma Penuh*, *magma* akan terdorong keluar sehingga menyebabkan letusan.

(25) *when* the *magma* chamber is *Full*, the *magma* will be pushed out, causing an eruption.

The words “*saat*” dan “*magma*” in the sentence should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word because, the word *saat* is located at the beginning of the sentence and the word “*magma*” is a geographical name. The third capital letter error is in the word “*Penuh*.” The word “*Penuh*” does not need to start with a capital letter, because the word is located in the middle of the sentence. Correction of the above sentence is: “*Saat* didapur *Magma penuh*, *Magma* akan terdorong keluar sehingga menyebabkan letusan.” (*When* the *Magma* chamber is *full*, the *Magma* will be pushed out, causing an eruption).

(26) *disebabkan* letak geografis Indonesia yang berada pada pertemuan tiga lempeng bumi, yaitu *lempeng eurasia*.

(26) *due* to the geographical location of Indonesia which is at the confluence of three earth plates, which is the *eurasian plate*.

The words “*disebabkan*” and “*lempeng eurasia*” in the sentence contain errors in the use of capital letters in the writing. The word “*disebabkan*” is located at the beginning of the sentence so it must be started with a capital letter. While the word “*lempeng eurasia*” is a geographical name that must be written with a capital letter at the beginning of each word. Correction of the sentence is: “*Disebabkan* letak geografis Indonesia yang berada pada pertemuan tiga lempeng bumi, yaitu *Lempeng Eurasia*.” (*Due* to the geographical location of Indonesia which is at the confluence of three earth plates, which is the *Eurasian Plate*).

(27) Hal tersebut semakin menyulitkan *Manusia Membenahi* kehidupannya.

(27) This makes it increasingly difficult for *Humans* to *Improve* their lives

There is an error in the word “*Manusia Membenahi*” in the sentence. It should not need to be started with a capital letter in each word, because according to the EYD the word does not indicate that it must be started with a capital letter. The correct the sentence should be: “Hal tersebut semakin menyulitkan *manusia membenahi* kehidupannya.” (This makes it increasingly difficult for humans to improve their lives).

(28) Tepatnya pada abad ke 16, *nicolas coprnicus* membantah anggapan tersebut.

(28) Precisely in the 16th century, *nicolas coprnicus* denied this assumption.

The sentence above contains a capital letter error in the person’s name, “*nicolas coprnicus*”. The correct writing of people’s names is to start with a capital letter in each element. The correction of the sentence is: “Tepatnya pada abad ke 16, *Nicolas Coprnicus* membantah anggapan tersebut.” (Precisely in the 16th century, *Nicolas Coprnicus* denied this assumption).

(29) Lava encer mampu mengalir *Jauh* dari *Sumbernya* mengikuti *Sungai* atau limbah yg dilewati.

- (29) Diluted lava can flow **Away** from the **Source** following the **River** or waste that is passed.

The words *Jauh*, *Sumbernya*, and *Sungai* in the sentence do not need to use capital letters because the words *jauh* and *sumbernya* are in the middle of the sentence and there is no rule that these words must be written in capital letters. The word *sungai* in the sentence also does not need to be started with a capital letter because it is not followed by the geographical name behind it. Correction of the sentence is: “Lava encer mampu mengalir **jauh** dari **sumbernya** mengikuti **sungai** atau limbah yg dilewati.” (Diluted lava can flow **away** from the **source** following the **river** or waste that is passed).

- (30) **telah** terjadi banjir di **jakarta** pada tanggal 13 **juli** 2021.

- (30) **there** was a flood in **jakarta** on **july** 13, 2021.

In the sentence above there are three errors in the use of capital letters. The word *telah* should start with a capital letter because it is at the beginning of a sentence. Writing *jakarta* should use a capital letter at the beginning of the word because Jakarta is a regional name. *Juli* should also use a capital letter at the beginning of the word because *Juli* is the name of the month. Correction of the sentence to make it a proper sentence structure is: “**Telah** terjadi banjir di **Jakarta** pada tanggal 13 **Juli** 2021.” (**There** was a flood in **Jakarta** on **July** 13, 2021).

3.1.2 Error in the Use of Repetitive Words

According to EYD, repetitive word is written using a hyphen (-) between the elements.

- (31) Pertama, akumulasi sedimen terbentuk dari **lapisan**” sedimen dan batuan vulkanik yang menumpuk.

- (31) First, sediment accumulations are formed from **layer**” of sediment and volcanic rock that accumulate.

The word *lapisan* like the sentence above according to EYD is not standard, because the repeated form is written with a hyphen (-) between its elements. The correction of the words above is as follows: “Pertama, akumulasi sedimen terbentuk dari **lapisan-lapisan** sedimen dan batuan vulkanik yang menumpuk.” (First, sediment accumulations are formed from **layers** of sediment and volcanic rock that accumulate).

- (32) Proses epirogenesis merupakan gerakan yang membentuk benua yang bekerja Sepanjang **Jari Jari** bumi

- (32) The process of epeirogenesis is a movement that forms continents that work along the Earth’s **radius**.

The word “Jari Jari” in the sentence contains an error because a hyphen is not added between these elements. Correction of the word above is as follows: “Proses epirogenesis merupakan gerakan yang membentuk benua yang bekerja Sepanjang **jari-jari** bumi.” (The process of epeirogenesis is a movement that forms continents that work along the Earth’s **radius**).

- (33) Manusia menjalankan aktivitas setiap hari pada **waktu – waktu** tersebut.

(33) Humans carry out activities every day at those *times*.

The word “waktu – waktu” in the sentence does not indicate a hyphen (-) but a dash (). Correct conjunction should not use spaces. Correction of the word above is: “Manusia menjalankan aktivitas setiap hari pada *waktu-waktu* tersebut.” (Humans carry out activities every day at those times).

(34) Artinya *benda*² langit termasuk Matahari keliling mengitari bumi.

(34) This means that celestial *object*² including the Sun revolve around the earth.

The writing of the word “benda²” in the sentence is not correct, because the repetitive word must be marked with a hyphen (-). Correction of the word above to make it into a proper sentence is: “Artinya *benda-benda* langit termasuk Matahari keliling mengitari bumi.” (This means that celestial *objects* including the Sun revolve around the earth).

(35) Tapi kita juga harus menjaga *tempat* 2 yang rawan tanah longsor.

(35) But we also have to take care of *place* 2 which is prone to landslides.

According to EYD, the word “tempat 2” above is incorrect because it does not use the appropriate hyphen. The correction of the above sentence is “Tapi kita juga harus menjaga *tempat-tempat* yang rawan tanah longsor.” (But we also have to take care of places that are prone to landslides).

(36) Batasi dan minimalkan waktu penggunaan gawai oleh *anak*² secara ketat.

(36) Strictly limit and minimize the use of gadgets by *children*².

The writing of the word *anak*² above is incorrect. Because according to EYD the repetition must be marked with a hyphen (-). The correct sentence should be: “Batasi dan minimalkan waktu penggunaan gawai oleh *anak-anak* secara ketat.” (Strictly limit and minimize the use of gadgets by *children*).

3.2 Errors in the Field of Morphology

3.2.1 Error in the Writing of Preposition

Prepositions, such as *di*, *ke*, *dari* are written separately from the words that follow them.

(37) *Disisi* lain, tumbukan lempeng benua dengan benua merupakan proses pembentukan....

(37) *On the other hand*, the collision of continental plates with continents is a process of formation....

The word *Disisi* in the sentence is not correct because the correct writing should be separated. Correction of the above sentence is: “*Di sisi* lain, tumbukan lempeng benua dengan benua merupakan proses pembentukan...” (*On the other hand*, the collision of continental plates with continents is a process of formation...).

(38) Teori tersebut *dinamakan* heliosentris.

(38) The theory is *called* heliocentric

The word *dinamakan* in the sentence, should be written separately. Correction of the sentence is: “Teori tersebut *di namakan* heliosentris.” (The theory is called heliocentric).

(39) Pertanyaan tersebut sering berputar putar dalam pikiranku mungkin bukan *dipikiranku* saja, bisa juga terlintas *dipikiran* beberapa orang lainnya.

(39) This question often goes round and round in my mind, maybe not just *in my mind*, it could also cross the *minds* of several other people

The writing *di* the words *dipikiranku* and *dipikiran* should be separated. Correction of the sentence is: “Pertanyaan tersebut sering berputar putar dalam pikiranku mungkin bukan *di pikiranku* saja, bisa juga terlintas *di pikiran* beberapa orang lainnya.” (This question often goes round and round in my mind, maybe not just in my mind, it could also cross the minds of several other people).

(40) Manusia yang hidup *diwilayah* ekuator atau garis imajiner yang membelah bagian utara dan selatan bumi.

(40) Humans live *in the* equator or imaginary line that divides the north and south of the earth.

The word *diwilayah* in the sentence should be written separately. Correction of the sentence is: “Manusia yang hidup *di wilayah* ekuator atau garis imajiner yang membelah bagian utara dan selatan bumi.” (Humans live *in the* equator or imaginary line that divides the north and south of the earth).

(41) yang dapat melelehkan bebatuan *disekitarnya* menjadi magma.

(41) which can melt the *surrounding* rocks into magma.

The word “*disekitarnya*” in the sentence above the correct writing is separated. Correction of the sentence is: “yang dapat melelehkan bebatuan *di sekitarnya* menjadi magma.” (which can melt the surrounding rocks into magma).

(42) Gunung meletus terjadi karena endapan magma *didalam* perut bumi yang didorong keluar oleh gas bertekanan tinggi.

(42) Volcano eruptions occur because magma deposits *in the* earth are pushed out by high pressure gas.

The word “*didalam*” in the sentence should be written separately. Correction of the sentence is: “Gunung meletus terjadi karena endapan magma *di dalam* perut bumi yang didorong keluar oleh gas bertekanan tinggi.” (Volcano eruptions occur because magma deposits *in the* earth are pushed out by high pressure gas).

(43) Secara kasat mata, matahari memang terlihat terbit dari timur, kemudian bergerak dan terbenam *disebelah* barat.

(43) In plain view, the sun does appear to rise from the east, then move and set *in the* west.

The word “*disebelah*” should be separated. Correction of the sentence is: “Secara kasat mata, matahari memang terlihat terbit dari timur, kemudian bergerak dan terbenam

di sebelah barat.” (In plain view, the sun does appear to rise from the east, then move and set *in the* west).

(44) “...proses pembentukan beberapa sistem pegunungan besar *dibumi*.”

(44) “...the process of formation of some of the major mountain systems *on Earth*”

The word “*dibumi*” in the sentence should be separated, because the word “*dibumi*” in the sentence indicates a place. Correction of the sentence is: “...proses pembentukan beberapa sistem pegunungan besar *di bumi*.” (...the process of formation of some of the major mountain systems on Earth).

(45) saat *didapur* magma Penuh, magma akan terdorong keluar sehingga menyebabkan letusan.

(45) when the magma *chamber* is full, the magma will be pushed out, causing an eruption.

The word “*didapur*” indicates a place, so the correct spelling should be separated. Correction of the sentence is: “Saat *di dapur* magma Penuh, magma akan terdorong keluar sehingga menyebabkan letusan.” (when the magma *chamber* is full, the magma will be pushed out, causing an eruption).

(46) *Dikarenakan* letak geografis Indonesia berada pada pertemuan tiga lempeng besar bumi.

(46) *Due* to the geographical location of Indonesia is at the convergence of three large plates of the earth.

The word *Dikarenakan* in this sentence should be written separately. Correction of the sentence is: “*Dikarenakan* letak geografis Indonesia berada pada pertemuan tiga lempeng besar bumi.” (*Due* to the geographical location of Indonesia is at the convergence of three large plates of the earth).

(47) Batu bara mudah terbakar dan terbentuk dari materi organik atau tanaman mati yang terkubur *dirawa-rawa* selama jutaan lalu.

(47) Coal is flammable and formed from organic matter or dead plants buried in *swamps* for millions of years

The writing of the word *dirawa-rawa* in this sentence should be separated because the word indicates a place. Correction of the sentence is: “Batu bara mudah terbakar dan terbentuk dari materi organik atau tanaman mati yang terkubur *di rawa-rawa* selama jutaan lalu.” (Coal is flammable and formed from organic matter or dead plants buried in *swamps* for millions of years).

(48) Tim yang tidak terima terima pintu yg *di tutup* dan *di rusak*.

(48) The team that did not accept the door was *closed* and *damaged*.

The writing of the words *di tutup* and *di rusak* should be combined because these words are followed by a verb. In the EYD it is explained that the writing of prepositions is combined if it is followed by a verb. Correction of the sentence is: “Tim yang tidak terima terima pintu yg *ditutup* dan *dirusak*.” (The team that didn’t accept the door was closed and damaged).

Error in the writing of suffix-kan.

(49) Batas lempeng dapat **meleleh** material bebatuan di sekitar menjadi makma.

(49) Plate boundaries can **melt** rocky material around into magma

The word *meleleh* in the sentence above is not quite right because it needs an additional suffix *-kan* to follow the base word so that the sentence becomes standard. Correction of the sentence is: “Batas lempeng dapat **melelehkan** material bebatuan di sekitarnya menjadi magma.” (Plate boundaries can melt rocky material around into magma).

Error in the writing of suffix-nya.

(50) Batas lempeng dapat meleleh material bebatuan di **sekitar** menjadi makma.

(50) Plate boundaries can melt rocky material **around** into magma

The word *sekitar* in the sentence is written incorrectly because it requires additional suffix *-nya* in writing to make it a standard sentence. Correction of the sentence above is as follows: “Batas lempeng dapat melelehkan material bebatuan di **sekitarnya** menjadi magma.” (Plate boundaries can melt rocky material around into magma).

3.3 Error in the Field of Syntax

3.3.1 Unclear Sentences

An unclear sentence is a sentence that doesn't have a correct meaning composition. The unclarity is often related to a combination of inappropriate word choices and irregular structures. The unclarity of the sentence can be caused by words that have contradictory meanings [26].

(51) “Sehingga saat hujan kali itu menderas dengan air semakin naik sehingga menyebabkan banjir bandang setinggi dada orang dewasa.”

(51) “So that when it rains, the river gets heavier with the water rising, causing flash floods to chest height of an adult.”

The sentence structure is not clear and the choice of words is also inaccurate. Correction of the sentence is: “Saat hujan deras, air naik sehingga menyebabkan banjir setinggi dada orang dewasa.” (When it rains heavily, the river rises, causing flash floods to chest height of an adult).

(52) “kedua, mengajak anak Aktivitas.”

(52) “second, take the child Activity”

This sentence needs additional words *untuk* and *-ber* in the word *aktivitas*. Because the purpose of the sentence is the direction to do the job. Correction of the sentence is: “kedua, mengajak anak untuk beraktivitas.” (second, take the child to do activities).

3.3.2 Ambiguous Sentences

An ambiguous sentence is a sentence that has a double meaning, which can cause confusion for people who are reading or listening to the sentence.

(53) Gunung **adalah merupakan** salah satu bentuk kenampakan Alam.

(53) Mountains are a form of natural appearance.

This sentence has a double meaning, located in the word *adalah* and *merupakan*. Only one of the two words should be selected. Correction of the sentence is: “Gunung merupakan salah satu bentuk kenampakan Alam.” (Mountains are a form of natural appearance).

4 Conclusion

Based on the results of the research on Indonesian language errors in the explanatory text essays of class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura above, it was concluded that there were 50 errors. These errors were classified into three types of language errors, which are phonological errors, morphological errors, and syntax errors. There were two types of phonological errors, which are errors in the use of capital letters and errors in the use of repetition words. In total, there were 27 language errors in the use of capital letters and 6 errors in the use of repetition words. In the field of morphology there were three types of errors, which were errors in the use of prepositions, errors in the use of the suffix *-kan*, and errors in the use of suffix *-nya*. In total, there were 12 errors in the use of prepositions, while there was one error in the use of suffix *-kan* and suffix *-nya*. There are two types of syntactical language errors, which were unclear sentences and ambiguous sentences. In the student essay there were 2 sentences that are not clear, and 1 sentence that was ambiguous. From the discussion above, the most errors occurred in explanatory text essays made by class VIII students of SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Kartasura were errors in phonology, which is the use of capital letters.

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