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Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya

A THESIS

**THE USE OF CONJUNCTIONS
IN DESCRIPTIVE WRITING BY EFL
(ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE) STUDENTS: A
CORPUS-BASED APPROACH**

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SUPERVISORS

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STUDENTS: A CORPUS-BASED APPROACH**

A THESIS

**Presented for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Undergraduate in English Education Department of
Teacher Training and Education Faculty**

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**ENGLISH EDUCATION
FACULTY OF TEACHING TRAINING AND EDUCATION
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURABAYA
2025**



MOTTO AND DEDICATION

Motto:

Writing a thesis is like watching a horror movie—painful while watching it, but satisfying when it ends.



The good news is: I survived.

Dedication:

It is dedicated to those who believed in me when I doubted myself.

Lembar Persetujuan Pembimbing

Lembar Persetujuan Pembimbing
Skripsi yang ditulis oleh RIA PUTRI ANTIKA ini telah disetujui
oleh dosen pembimbing untuk diujikan tanggal 24 July 2025

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Lembar Pengesahan Ujian

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PERNYATAAN TIDAK MELAKUKAN PLAGIASI

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Fakultas : Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan

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Surabaya, 11 September 2025

Yang membuat pernyataan,

The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ria". To the right of the signature is a yellow revenue stamp (Meterai Tempel) for 10,000 Rupiah. The stamp features the Garuda Pancasila emblem and the text "REPUBLIK INDONESIA", "10000", "METERAI TEMPEL", and the alphanumeric code "2607EAMX161785913".

Ria Putri Antika

ABSTRACT

Antika, Ria Putri. 2025. *The Use of Conjunctions in Descriptive Writing by EFL (English as a Foreign Language) Students: A corpus-based approach*. Thesis. English Education Department. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Supervisor I: Sofi Yunianti, S.S., M.Pd., Supervisor II: Dr. Linda Mayasari, S.Pd., M.Pd.

This research aims to analyze the use of conjunctions in descriptive writing by eleventh grade EFL students at SMA Muhammadiyah 10 Surabaya. A mixed-method approach was used, combining quantitative analysis through corpus tools using LancsBox and qualitative interpretation of students' texts. The study focused on identifying the types, frequency, and accuracy of conjunctions, based on Halliday and Hasan's (1976) classification: additive, adversative, causal, and temporal. The results showed that students mostly used simple, single-word conjunctions such as *and*, *but*, and *because*. Additive conjunctions were the most frequently used, while temporal conjunctions were the most varied. In contrast, adversative and causal conjunctions were used the least. These findings suggest that students are still relying on basic and familiar connectors and rarely explore more complex forms. Furthermore, all conjunctions found were in simple form, and no multi-word or complex conjunctions were used. Most of the students' writing consisted of simple and compound sentences, with the word *and* appearing as the dominant connector. This shows that their writing structure is still at a basic level. They often describe ideas using sequential patterns rather than expressing contrast or cause-effect relationships. The findings indicate that while students are capable of using conjunctions to build cohesion, they need more practice and instruction to develop variety and complexity in their writing. This study highlights the need for improved teaching strategies, including exposure to model texts and the use of corpus-based tools, to support students in enhancing their cohesive writing skills more effectively.

Keywords: *Conjunctions, Descriptive Writing, English Foreign Language Students, Corpus-Based, Mixed Method*

ABSTRAK

Antika, Ria Putri. 2025. *The Use of Conjunctions in Descriptive Writing by EFL (English as a Foreign Language) Students: A corpus-based approach*. Skripsi. Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris. Fakultas Ilmu Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Dosen Pembimbing I: Sofi Yunianti, S.S., M.Pd., Dosen Pembimbing II: Dr. Linda Mayasari, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penggunaan konjungsi dalam menulis deskriptif oleh siswa EFL kelas sebelas di SMA Muhammadiyah 10 Surabaya. Pendekatan metode campuran yang digunakan, meliputi analisis kuantitatif melalui alat korpus menggunakan LancsBox dan interpretasi kualitatif terhadap teks siswa. Penelitian ini fokus pada identifikasi jenis, frekuensi, dan akurasi penggunaan konjungsi berdasarkan klasifikasi Halliday dan Hasan (1976): aditif, adversatif, kausal, dan temporal. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa siswa sebagian besar menggunakan konjungsi sederhana berupa kata tunggal seperti *dan*, *tetapi*, dan *karena*. Konjungsi aditif paling sering digunakan, sedangkan konjungsi adversatif dan kausal paling jarang, sementara konjungsi temporal menunjukkan variasi yang lebih banyak. Semua konjungsi yang ditemukan berbentuk sederhana, dan tidak ada konjungsi kompleks atau multi-kata yang digunakan. Sebagian besar tulisan siswa terdiri dari kalimat sederhana dan majemuk, dengan *dan* sebagai penghubung dominan. Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa struktur tulisan mereka masih berada pada tingkat dasar, dan siswa cenderung menyusun ide secara berurutan daripada mengungkapkan hubungan pertentangan atau sebab-akibat. Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa meskipun siswa mampu menggunakan konjungsi untuk membangun kohesi, mereka memerlukan lebih banyak latihan dan bimbingan untuk mengembangkan variasi dan kompleksitas dalam tulisan. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya strategi pengajaran yang lebih efektif, termasuk paparan terhadap model teks dan penggunaan alat berbasis korpus, untuk mendukung peningkatan keterampilan menulis kohesif siswa.

Kata kunci: *Konjungsi, Menulis Deskriptif, Pelajar Bahasa Inggris sebagai Bahasa Asing, Berbasis Korpus, Metode Campuran*

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TABLE OF CONTENT

MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....	iii
LEMBAR PERSETUJUAN PEMBIMBING.....	iv
LEMBAR PENGESAHAN UJIAN.....	v
PERNYATAAN TIDAK MELAKUKAN PLAGIASI.....	vi
ABSTRACT.....	vii
ABSTRAK.....	viii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	ix
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	xi
LIST OF TABLES.....	xiii
LIST OF FIGURES.....	xiv
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	xv
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
10.1 Background of the Study.....	1
10.2 Research Question.....	3
10.3 Research Purpose.....	3
10.4 Significance of the Research.....	3
10.5 Scope and limitation.....	4
10.6 Definition of Key Terms.....	4
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW.....	5
2.1 Cohesion.....	5
2.2 Cohesion in writing.....	5
2.3 Form of conjunctions: simple and complex.....	6
2.4 Types of conjunctions.....	7
2.4.1 Additive conjunction.....	7
2.4.2 Adversative conjunction.....	7
2.4.3 Causal conjunction.....	7
2.4.4 Temporal conjunction.....	8
2.4.5 Descriptive writing.....	8
2.5 Corpus Based Analysis.....	9
2.6 Previous Studies.....	10
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.....	13
3.1 Research Design.....	13
3.2 Research Subject.....	13
3.3 Data and Source of Data.....	14
3.4 Research Instrument.....	14

3.5	Research Prosedure.....	15
CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION.....		13
4.1	Findings.....	18
4.1.1	Classification based on Halliday and Hasan's theory.....	18
4.1.2	Percentage Distribution of Conjunctions Types	21
4.1.3	Classification of Conjunctions into simple and complex.....	21
4.1.4	Qualitative results.....	24
4.2	Discussions.....	26
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS.....		30
5.1	Conclusion.....	30
5.2	Suggestions.....	30
REFERENCES.....		32
APPENDICES.....		36

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1 Classification Types of Conjunctions.....	18
Table 4.2 Classification Form of Conjunctions.....	22

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1 Data Analytics Steps.....	15
Figure 4.1 Percentage Distribution of Conjunctions Types.....	21
Figure 4.2 Picture of 'and' Frequency.....	27

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Student's 1 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	36
Appendix 2 Student's 2 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	38
Appendix 3 Student's 3 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	40
Appendix 4 Student's 4 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	42
Appendix 5 Student's 5 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	44
Appendix 6 Student's 6 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	46
Appendix 7 Student's 7 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	48
Appendix 8 Student's 8 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	50
Appendix 9 Student's 9 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	52
Appendix 10 Student's 10 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	54
Appendix 11 Student's 11 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	56
Appendix 12 Student's 12 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	58
Appendix 13 Student's 13 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	60
Appendix 14 Student's 14 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	62
Appendix 15 Student's 15 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	64
Appendix 16 Student's 16 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	66
Appendix 17 Student's 17 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	68
Appendix 18 Student's 18 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	70
Appendix 19 Student's 19 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	72
Appendix 20 Student's 20 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	74
Appendix 21 Student's 21 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	76
Appendix 22 Student's 22 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	78
Appendix 23 Student's 23 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	80
Appendix 24 Student's 24 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	82
Appendix 25 Student's 25 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	84
Appendix 26 Student's 26 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	86
Appendix 27 Student's 27 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	88
Appendix 28 Student's 28 Descriptive Writing Texts.....	90
Appendix 29 Corpus Frequencies.....	92
Appendix 30 Surat Izin Observasi.....	95
Appendix 31 Surat Persetujuan Revisi.....	96
Appendix 32 Thesis Guidance Card.....	97
Appendix 33 Endorsement Letter Pusat Bahasa.....	98
Appendix 34 Plagiarism Result.....	99
Appendix 35 Turnitin Result.....	100

Appendix 36 Plagiarism Free Letter.....	102
Appendix 37 Surat Keterangan Bebas Pinjam.....	103