



SENTENCE PROBLEMS IN THE STUDENTS' ASSIGNMENT OF DIGITAL
STORY TELLING IN WRITING CLASS

(Rapunzel and Her Social Media)

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ABSTRACT

The Sentence Problems in the Students' Assignment of Digital Story Telling in Writing Class is the research using a theory proposed by Oshima and Hogue (1981). In addition, this analysis is supported by syntax concept related to the structure of the sentences. This sentence problems comprises of sentence fragments, choppy sentence, run-on sentence and stringy sentence. The method used in this research is the qualitative descriptive analysis. In the analysis, the collected sentences are classified based on its sentence problems, and then analysed based on the constructions and meaning. The results of the analysis show that the sentence problems occurred on students' assignment of Digital story telling consist of sentence fragments, choppy sentence, and run-on sentence. There are 4 fragment sentences, 2 choppy sentences and 3 run-together sentences from the data. It shows that the sentence problem mostly occurred on students' assignments of Digital storytelling is fragment sentence.

Keyword: Sentence Problems, Digital Story Telling, Writing



1. Introduction

English language has an important role as an international language especially today since there are a lot of books, newspapers, ebook, magazines, story books used English language. In addition, the advancement of technology has grown rapidly and supported English language learner to master English language. The development of technology has a lot of contributions as a tool to study English language. One of them is the usage of Digital Storytelling to improve the ability of English Language for the students. Digital storytelling is one of Informatics Technology form which can be used to learn English language especially for writing course by combining picture, sounds, photos, writing, music to create a story. Furthermore the students can also learn about multimedia experiences which become the additional skill for the students. There are many kinds of application that we can use as a creative learning tool for English language such as Bubblr, Capzles, Slidestory, Storybird, Toontastic etc. Furthermore, Sepp & Bandi-Rao (2015) reported in their study that Digital storytelling is a viable tool for English Language students. It is technically accessible and students enjoy it. Digital storytelling can be a potent learning experience that encompasses much of what society hopes that students will know and be able to perform in the 21st century (Jakes & Brennan, 2005). The Implementation of this assignment to the students has many obstacles especially in building the sentences. A sentence is a clause that expresses a complete thought and a clause is a group of words containing a subject and verb. This type of clause is known as an independent clause. Problems occur when independent clauses are joined together incorrectly (<https://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca>). Sentence problems that the students face comprises into sentence fragment, choppy sentence, run-together sentence, stringy sentence.

2. Purpose of the Study

The study focuses on syntax and semantic study as well as examining the sentence problems which appear in the assignment of Digital Storytelling. The research questions which this study hopes to answer is “what kinds of sentence problems are there in the student’s assignment of Digital storytelling?” and “which sentence problems are mostly occurred on the student’s assignment of Digital storytelling?”

3. Literature Review

A. Sentence Problems

1. Sentence Fragments

Sentence Fragments are incomplete sentences or parts of sentences. In order to be complete, a sentence must contain (a) at least one main or independent clause, and/or (b) contain at least one main subject and main verb (Oshima, 1981)

Two examples of sentence fragments and the suggested methods for correcting them are as follows:

1. Because some students have part-time jobs in addition to going to school.

Problem: This is a subordinate clause

To correct: Attach it to an independent clause

Complete Sentence: Because some students have part-time jobs in addition to full-time classwork, they have very little free time.

2. For example the increase in the cost of renting an apartment.

Problem: No main verb



To correct: Rewrite the sentence so that it has a subject and a verb.

Complete Sentence: For example, the cost of renting an apartment has increased.

2. Choppy Sentence

Choppy sentences are sentences that are too short (Oshima, 1981). They are they result of using too many simple sentences, like those that follow. Although simple sentence are quite affective sometimes, overuse of them is considered poor style in academic writing.

Choppy

We must find new sources of energy. The earth's natural sources of energy are dwindling. Solar energy is a promising new source of energy. Solar energy is energy from the sun's radiation.

Choppy

Government and industry are spending huge sun's of money to develop solar energy. Research scientists are working hard to develop economical means of converting the sun's rays into usable energy.

Choppy sentences are easy to correct . just combine two or three simple sentences to make one compound or complex sentence. Your decision to make a compound or a complex sentence should be based on wheather the ideas in the simple sentences are equal, or whether one sentence is dependent on the other.

1. If the simple sentence are equal, make a compound sentence, using a coordinating conjunction (*and , or, but, so, yet, nor, for*) or a sentence connector (*more over otherwise, however, therefore, etc.*)

2. If one sentence depends on the other, make a complex sentence, using a subordinating conjunction (*who, which, ,when, although,because, since,is,etc.*)

Compound

Government and industry are spending huge sun's of money to develop solar energy, and research scientist are working hard to develop conomical means of converting the sun's rays into usable energy.

Complex

We must find new sources of energy, because the earth's natural energy sources are dwindling. Solar energy, which is energy from the sun's radiation , is a promising new source of energy.

3. Run-Together Sentences

A run-together sentence is a sentence in which two or more independent clauses are incorrectly joined by a comma without a coordinating conjunction or sentence connector (Oshima, 1981). This kind of error is also called a *run-on sentence* or a *comma splice*.

Run-together Sentence

Getting married is easy, staying married is a different matter.

A foreign student faces money problems, for examples, he has to cope with a new culture.

San fransisco is a very cosmopolitan city, there are people from many cultures and ethnic groups living there

A comma alone cannot join two independent clauses.

Correcting this problem is easy. The hardest par is simply *recognizing* a run together sentence. Learn to check your sentences for this error by substituting a period for the comma. If the sentence reads correctly, the comma should be changed.



A run sentence can be corrected in four ways. By adding:

1. A period:

Getting married is easy. Staying married is a different matter.

2. A semicolon:

Getting married is easy; staying married is a different matter.

3. A coordinating conjunction:

Getting married is easy, but staying married is a different matter.

4. A subordinating conjunction

Getting married is easy although staying married is a different matters

4. Stringy Sentence

Another type of problem that students sometimes create is the stringy sentence. This is a sentence in which too many clauses are connected. Usually with *and*, *but*, *so* and *because*, forming one very long sentence. The result is a sentence that seems endless (Oshima, 1981).

Stringy Sentence

My roommate, Bill, goes to college and form the beginning of this semester until last week, he hadn't studied at all and the reason was because he had no exams during that period. But the day before yesterday, I was astonished because I saw him studying and later on, he told me he had studied all day long and the reason was because he was going to have an exam the next day and he wanted to get a good grade in the exam do he decided to study.

This example contains far too many clauses.

There are several ways to correct a stringy sentence:

Stringy Sentence

Many Students attend classes all morning and they work all afternoon and then they hare to study at night so they are usually exhausted by the weekend.

Divide

Many students attend classes all morning and work all afternoon. Then, they have to study at night . as a result. They are usually axhausted by the weekend.

Subordinate *Many students, after they attend classed all morning.*

Also work in the afternoon. Because they also have to study at night . they are usually axhausted by the weekend.

Subordinate and Combine

Many students, who attend classes all morning, work all afternoon, and also have to study at night, are exhaustedby the weekend

Participial Phrases

After attending classes all morning, working all afternoon, and studying at night, many students are exhausted by the weekend.

B. Digital Storytelling

The digital story is one genre that has been promoted in language and literacy instruction. Robin (2008) said that digital storytelling is the modern expression of the ancient art of storytelling. As the case with traditional storytelling, digital stories revolve around a chosen theme and often contain a particular viewpoint. Barret (2007) also stated that a digital



story is a 2-to-4 minute digital video clip, most often told in first person narrative, recorded with your own voice, illustrated most with still images, and with an optional music track to add emotional tone. There are many types of digital stories, which are as follows:

1. Personal narratives stories

Personal narratives story is the story that are contain accounts of significant incidents in one's life. It is also one of most popular types of digital stores with multiple benefits in an educational setting such as other students who view the story can learn about people from diverse backgrounds other than their own, it can be used to facilitate discussion about current issues such as race and multiculturalism. The example of personal narratives stories are myths or folk tales, short story, personal expression and many more.

2. Historical documentaries stories

Historical documentaries story is the story that are contain some historical documentaries about one place or one important event. The purpose is to examine dramatic events that help us understand the past. The examples are biographies, documentary and many more

3. Informative and persuasive stories

Informative or expository story is the story that can be designed to inform or instruct the viewer on a particular concept or practice such as summary reports, book reports, how-to directions, advertisements, public service announcement, and texts that are describe/conclude, analyze/conclude, analyze/persuade, compare/contrast and cause/effect.

4. Methodology

The method which was used in this research is qualitative descriptive. The method which was done based on facts or empirical phenomenon thus the expected result is exposure as is. (Sudaryanto, 1993:62). Sentence problems that can be analyzed were selected from the source of data that is from the students' assignment of Digital Storytelling. The data will be analyzed based on the type of the sentence problems and see what makes the sentence is formed incompletely. The next step is analyzing the grammatical of the sentence. The data will be also analyzed based on the theory which support the research.

5. Discussion

A. Sentence Problem:

1. Rapunzel spent all day time with Eugene since the first day, she felt so happy because can together with the prince.

Problem: Run-together Sentence

To correct: a sentence in which two or more independent clauses are incorrectly joined by a comma without a coordinating conjunction or sentence connector. In this case it uses a coordinating conjunction

Complete Sentence: Rapunzel spent all day time with Eugene since the first day, *so* she felt so happy because she could get together with the prince.

2. until she decided to tell Eugene to take her home.

Problem: Fragment Sentence - This is a subordinate clause

To correct: Omit the subordinator.

Complete Sentence: She decided to tell Eugene to take her home.

3. At the moment, she arrived in the destination places she called Eugene to pick up her in the airport.

Problem: Run-together Sentences



To correct: Compound sentence

- 4. Complete Sentence: At the moment, she arrived in the destination places *and* she called Eugene to pick up her in the airport.
 - B. The finding of sentence problem in digital storytelling of students' assignment in writing class (Rapunzel and her social Media).

No	Sentence Problem	Digital Storytelling: Rapunzel and her Social Media
1	Fragment Sentence	4
2	Choppy Sentence	2
3	Run-together Sentence	3

6. Conclusion

After the research was done, the writer drew some conclusion based on the research question:

- 1. The problem that the writer found on students' assignment are fragment sentence, run-together sentence, and choopy sentence.
- 2. The sentence problem mostly appeared on students' assignment of Digital storytelling is fragment sentence.

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