

HEDGES USED BY THE WRITERS IN READERS' LETTER OF THE JAKARTA POST

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ABSTRAK

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This thesis entitled Hedges Used By The Writers in the Readers' Letters of the Jakarta Post. This research has two objectives of the study. The first is to find out the taxonomy of hedges used by the writers in the readers' letter of the Jakarta Post. The second is to find out the reasons for hedging used by the writers in the readers' letter of the Jakarta Post.

This research employs a qualitative research design. It describes the types of hedges in the writers found in the Readers' Letter of The Jakarta Post on July 3 and 6, 2013 Edition. The unit of the analysis of this research is hedges produced by the writers in Readers' Letter which were taken from The Jakarta Post on July 3 and 6, 2013 Editon.

The findings show that Nicholas Herriman made the highest number in producing hedges in his writing with 48.97% or equal to 24 hedges. Then, it is followed by Sonita Lontoh with 18.36% or 9 hedges. Meanwhile, both laon Voicu and Sun Xi's have a similar place with 16.32% or 8 hedges for each. Based on the finding, it can be said that the writers named Sun Xi and Nicholas Herriman has more uncertainty in writing their comment dealing with the topic of the discussion of the newspaper. They tend to use some hedges to express their messeges. In addition, their cultural background also influence to the way they write. The writers named Sun Xi and Nicholas Herriman tend to be more careful in writing because they consider some words which might hurt the reader's feeling when they read the letter's comments. Meanwhile, the writers named Sonita Lontoh and Ioan Voicu tend to be less careful so they write with their own ways and they always use their own language that is English both spoken and written. So, it can be said that the writers named Sonita Lontoh and Ioan Voicu can use English without any hesitation.

Keyword: Hedges, Newspaper, Readers' Letters

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