Chapter Four

Findings and Discussion

Chapter four describes the findings of the study. The findings respond to the research question of this study which is "What are the errors that occur on the use of noun phrase in students' writing at SMA Muhammadiyah 7 Yogyakarta?". Each finding of this study is presented completely. In addition, this chapter also presents the discussion of the findings of the study.

Findings

This study has revealed the errors on the use of noun phrase in writing narrative text. There were 28 narrative texts that had been analyzed. According to data analysis, there were 604 out of 693 sentences that contain noun phrases. Then 61 out of 604 sentences were classified as incorrect noun phrases. While 543 sentences were correct noun phrases.

Furthermore, there are six types of noun phrases. They are determinative phrases (Type 1), adjectives (Type 2), adverbs (Type 3), prepositions (Type 4), participial modifiers (Type 5), and nouns (Type 6). Based on the data collection, the researcher only found three types of errors in students' writings. Those three types of errors were errors type 1, 2, and 6.

Moreover, noun phrase type 1 is called as determinative phrases. The determinative phrase is divided into articles, demonstratives, indefinite pronouns/ quantifiers, and cardinal numbers. Then based on this study, the researcher found errors on the use of quantifiers, articles, pronouns, and cardinal numbers. After

that the second type of noun phrase is adjectives. The data of this study show that the errors on the use of adjectives lied on the incorrect word order of adjectives. The third types of error on noun phrase lied on type 6 or called as nouns. The errors on this type lied on the use of plural nouns and nouns as pre-modifiers.

Finally, in this section, the researcher presents the findings of this study in three main types of errors. Each type of errors is described more detailed in some points. Every point of the findings is presented in each heading.

Errors on Type 1. The first errors on the use of noun phrase lie on the use of determinative phrases (Error Type 1). Determinative phrases as pre-modifiers of noun phrase include articles, demonstratives, indefinite pronouns/ quantifiers, and cardinal numbers (Meyer, 2009). Among those kinds of determinative phrase, this study only disclosed the errors on the use of quantifiers, articles, pronouns, and cardinal numbers. Those kinds of errors are presented in the following heading.

Errors on the use of quantifiers. Based on this study, the researcher found that students made errors on the use of quantifiers. There were 3 out of 61 total errors on the use of quantifier 'some' or 4,92%. Look at the examples of the errors on the use of quantifiers in table below.

Type 1. Quantifiers

Text	Error identification	Correction
1	29. Later, Timun Mas threw **some chili**.	29. Later, Timun Mas threw **some chilies**.
22	6. He said if the cucumber seeds was planted it will grow to be **some cucumber**.	6. He said if the cucumber seeds was planted it will grow to be **some cucumbers**.

According to the table above, the error on the use of quantifiers lies on the quantifier 'some'. The word 'some' as the determiner has function to show that the noun which is preceded by the quantifier 'some' expresses part of quantity (Eastwood, 2003). Further, Alexander (1998) explained the pattern in ordering the quantifier 'some' is the quantifier 'some' followed by countable nouns or uncountable nouns. The quantifier 'some' which is followed by uncountable nouns becomes singular (Eastwood, 2003).

On the other hand, the quantifier 'some' which followed by countable nouns becomes plural noun phrase. Then, the noun phrase can be categorized as plural noun phrase, if it is modified with final '-s/-es' for regular noun phrase. While irregular noun phrase does not need to end in '-s/-es' such as "man - men, woman – women, and child – children" (Azar, 2002, p. 100).

Therefore, the noun phrase "some chili" and "some cucumber" are classified as incorrect phrases. The head nouns 'chili' and 'cucumber' are regular plural noun, so it is necessary to add suffix '-s/-es' to show that the noun preceded by quantifier 'some' belongs to plural nouns.

Errors on the use of articles. As stated by Meyer (2009), articles are also a part of the determinative phrase. Omitting articles in a noun phrase in which an article was needed is one of the cause of error. Beside that, errors also occured because article was added in which it was not necessary. Look at the examples below.

Type 1. Articles

Text	Error identification	Correction
2	3. He lived alone and worked as **farmer** to support himself.	3. He lived alone and worked as **a farmer** to support himself.
17	10. **Young man** agreed **terms**.	10. **The young man** agreed **the terms**.

Eastwood (2003) mentioned the types of articles which are 'a/an and the'. Articles 'a/an' belongs to indefinite article and deal with a singular noun, while article 'the' is definite article and deals with any noun. Furthermore, Eastwood (2003) illuminated that those articles are not similar on its use. Article 'a' is only used before a consonant sound, while article 'an' is used before a vowel sound. Then, article 'the' can be used if the noun is repeated, if there is only one noun, and if the noun is followed by a phrase or clause (Eastwood, 2003).

Furthermore, based on the data collection, the researcher found many errors on the use of articles. There were 28 from 61 total errors or 45,90% errors on the use of articles. The errors on the use of articles were classified as the most common error among other errors. Further, the errors occured because students forgot to add the articles in which the articles are needed, such as the nouns "farmer" and "young man". The nouns "farmer" and "young man" are classified into incorrect nouns. These happen because "farmer" and "young man" do not belong to singular or plural nouns. Therefore, both nouns should be revised into "a farmer" and "the young man". The noun "farmer" is added with article 'a' because it refers to indefinite singular noun. In contrast, as said by Eastwood (2003) that article 'the' can be used if the noun is repeated in the text, so article

'the' is appropriate for the noun phrase "young man". Additionally, errors also occured because article was added in which the noun phrase refered to proper noun such as Toba lake and Samosir island.

   Errors on the use of pronouns. This study also revealed that students made errors on the use of possessive adjectives in noun phrase. There were 8 from 61 total errors or 13,11% errors on this type. The errors can be seen in the following table.

<div align="center">Type 1. Pronouns</div>

Text	Error identification	Correction
3	11. The son ran home and asked **her mother**.	11. The son ran home and asked **his mother**.
5	9. One day his daughter was so hungry and she ate **his father's lunch**.	9. One day his daughter was so hungry and she ate **her father's lunch**.
28	16. Unfortunately, her father saw that **her daughter** ate all the food.	16. Unfortunately, her father saw that **his daughter** ate all the food.

   Possessive adjective is also well known as possessive determiner (Eastwood, 2003). Possessive adjective shows the correlation that someone has something and or something is owned by someone. Alexander (1998) mentioned possessive adjectives such as "my, your, his, her, its, one's, our and their" (p. 60). Then, according to Eastwood's (2003) explanation, the errors on the use of pronoun occured because students were confused in using possessive adjectives. For instance, the noun phrase "her mother" in the table is indicated as incorrect phrase because possessive adjective 'her' in the sentence refers to the noun phrase

"the son". However, possessive adjective 'her' should refer to the third female person. Therefore, the errors on the use of pronouns occured.

Errors on the use of cardinal number. Based on this study, the error on the use of cardinal number in noun phrase is rarely found. Only 1 from 61 total errors or 1,64% error occured on the use of cardinal number. The researcher found that a student made errors on the use of cardinal number 'two' in noun phrase. Look at an example in the following table.

Type 1. Cardinal Number

Text	Error identification	Correction
26	2. He had **two daughter** named Dewi Galuh and Candra Kirana.	2. He had **two daughters** named Dewi Galuh and Candra Kirana.

Cardinal numbers are also a part of determinative phrase. Eastwood (2003) gave examples of cardinal numbers such as "one, two, three, four, etc" (p. 245). Eastwood added that cardinal numbers also express the quantity. Thus the noun which is modified with cardinal numbers can be singular and/ plural noun. For example the noun phrase "two daughter" is categorized as incorrect noun phrase. It happens because the cardinal number 'two' must refer to plural nouns. While the head noun 'daughter' in the sentence is singular. Therefore, the noun phrase "two daughter" is incorrect phrase. It can be corrected by adding suffix '-s' behind the head noun 'daughter'.

Errors on Type 2. The second errors on the use of noun phrase in students' writing occured on the use of adjectives or named as Error Type 2.

Adjectives as pre-modifiers of noun phrase usually come before the head noun. Besides that, there is also usual word order in forming adjectives as pre-modifiers. The usual word order is opinion, followed by size, age, color, nationality, and material (Azar & Hagen, 2006). In contrast, this study had revealed that adjectives were ordered in incorrect ways. Therefore, the errors on the use of adjectives occured. The errors on the use of adjectives are illuminated below.

Errors on the use of adjectives. Based on the data collected by the researcher, the researcher found that students made many errors on the use of adjectives in noun phrase. There were 16 from 61 total errors or 26,23% errors on this type. As the evidence, look at the table below.

Type 2. Adjectives

Text	Error identification	Correction
4	3. One day he fished **a fish so beautiful**.	3. One day he fished **a beautiful fish**.
9	19. She turned into a fish again and the man became **the island Samosir**.	19. She turned into a fish again and the man became **Samosir island**.
18	15. "Go away you **old lazy woman**! Go out my house."	15. "Go away you **a lazy old woman**! Go out my house."
24	7. It was **the most big fish** which he ever had in his life.	7. It was **the biggest fish** which he ever had in his life.

As stated by Azar and Hagen (2006), adjectives come before the head noun, so the noun phrase "a fish so beautiful" is incorrect noun phrase. An adjective that shows an opinion, the words 'beautiful' should be put before the head noun. Furthermore, errors are also found in the word order of names of place

such as the noun phrase "the island Samosir". As the name of place, 'Samosir' should come before the head noun 'island'.

Then another error on the use adjectives as pre-modifiers of noun phrase lies on the incorrect word order of opinion and age. Based on the data of this study, the researcher found that the students wrote down the adjective that shows the age followed by opinion and the head noun. For instance, the noun phrase "old lazy woman". The word 'old' is categorized as adjective showing the age, while 'lazy' is an adjective that shows opinion. Therefore, the noun phrase "old lazy woman" is inappropriate phrase. The correct word order of adjectives should be an opinion first and followed by the age and the head noun. Besides that, an error in writing the degree of comparison of adjectives is also found such as "the most big fish". The noun phrase "the most big fish" is inappropriate phrase since the word "the most big" is not correct. The superlative degree of "the most big" should be "the biggest".

Errors on Type 6. Errors on Type 6 relate to the use of nouns as pre-modifiers of noun phrase. Nouns as pre-modifiers have function to explain more information about the head noun (Miller, 2002). Then the head noun can be singular or plural (Wren & Martin, 2005). There is a requisite in forming regular plural nouns. Regular plural nouns should be added with suffixes '-s/-es' (Azar, 2002). Meanwhile, if the noun is singular, it does not need to add suffixes. Furthermore, errors on this study occured because students omitted suffix '-s/-es' for regular plural nouns and put the head nouns as pre-modifier of noun.

Errors on the use of plural nouns. Based on the data analysis, only 1 from 61 total errors or 1,64% error is found on the use of plural nouns. The error is presented in the following table.

Type 6. Plural Noun

Text	Error identification	Correction
1	35. She threw them and become **cucumber field**.	35. She threw them and become **cucumber fields**.

Wren and Martin (2005) defined a plural noun as the noun that indicates more than one person or thing. Additionally, Wren and Martin explained that plural nouns can be formed by adding suffix '-s/-es' for regular nouns. Then the noun phrase "cucumber field" is an example of error on the use of plural nouns. Based on the context, a noun phrase, "cucumber field" should be revised into "cucumber fields". Therefore, it becomes correct noun phrase.

Errors on the use of nouns. Nouns in this context are nouns as pre-modifiers. Noun as pre-modifiers are different with the head noun. Noun as pre-modifiers deliver additional information about the head noun (Miller, 2002). Further, there were 4 from 61 total errors or 6,56% errors on the use of nouns as pre-modifiers. The examples of errors on the use of nouns as pre-modifiers can be seen in the table below.

Type 6. Nouns

Text	Error identification	Correction
21	9. Giant then provide them with **seeds cucumber**.	9. Giant then provide them with **cucumber seeds**.
	36. At one **the tree bracken**	36. At one **the bracken tree**

	and sharp thorns hurt the giant, giant cried in pain.	and sharp thorns hurt the giant, giant cried in pain.

Based on the table above, those noun phrases seem correct. However, the noun phrase "seeds cucumber" and "the tree bracken" are classified as incorrect phrases. For example, the noun phrase "the tree bracken". This noun phrase is confusing because both words "tree" and "bracken" are nouns. However, those nouns can be analyzed which one belongs to the head noun, and which one is the pre-modifier of noun. The noun "tree" is the head noun because it tells the main information. While the noun "bracken" covers the extra information about the noun "tree". Then the correct word order of nouns is that the head noun is ordered after the pre-modifier of noun. Thus both examples should be changed into "cucumber seeds" and "the bracken tree".

Discussion

In this study, the research question asked what errors that occur on the use of noun phrase in students' writing are. According to data analysis, there were 604 out of 693 sentences that contain noun phrases. Then 61 out of 604 sentences were classified as incorrect noun phrases. While 543 sentences were correct noun phrases. Then there are three main errors on the use of noun phrase. Those errors were divided into errors type 1 (errors on determinative phrases), errors type 2(errors on adjectives), and errors type 6 (errors on nouns).

The first errors were errors type 1 (errors on determinative phrase). This study had revealed that errors on this type occured on the use of quantifier 'some', articles, pronouns, and cardinal numbers 'two'. There were 3 errors or 4,92%

errors on the use of quantifier 'some'. Then 28 errors or 45,90% errors were on the use of articles. Beside that, there were 8 errors or 13,11% errors on the use of pronoun. Lastly, there was only 1 error or 1,64% error on the use of cardinal number. Based on the data analysis, this study found that the errors on the use of quantifier 'some' and cardinal number 'two'occured because suffix '-s/-es' was omitted in which it was needed to show that noun phrase followed by quantifier 'some' and cardinal number 'two' were regular plural. Then the errors on the use of articles occured because articles were added for proper nouns and omitted in which articles were needed. Beside that, errors on type 1 also lied on the use of possessive adjectives as a part of pronoun. Errors on the use of possessive adjectives occured because students were confused in using possessive adjectives as pre-modifier of noun phrase.

Further, this study is in line with Mardijono's (2004) study. Both studies proved that errors on the use of determinative phrases lied on the use of numbers (quantifier/ cardinal number), articles, and pronouns. However, there is a different error on the use of pronouns. This study revealed that errors on the use of pronouns occured on the use of possessive adjectives as pre-modifiers. Meanwhile, Mardijono's (2004) study found errors on the use of relative pronoun as post-modifiers.

Then the second error lied on the use of adjectives (Error type 2). There were 16 errors or 26,23% errors found on the use of adjectives. These errors occured because of incorrect word order in sequencing adjectives as pre-modifiers. The findings on these errors are in line with Parkinson and Musgrave's (2014) findings. Both studies revealed the errors on the use of adjectives as pre-

modifiers of noun. This study revealed that the errors on the use of adjectives occured because students wrote incorrect word order of adjectives. In contrast, Parkinson and Musgrave's (2014) study proved that errors on the use of adjectives occure because adverbs were usually used rather than adjectives.

The third errors occured on the use of nouns as pre-modifiers of noun phrase. The errors on this type occured because of omitting suffix '-s/-es' for regular plural nouns and misplacing nouns as pre-modifiers. These findings are in line with Mardijono's (2004) findings. This study and Mardijono's (2004) study revealed errors on the use of plural nouns. Mardijono (2004) stated that students erased suffix '-s/-es' to prove that noun phrase belongs to regular plural noun.

Lastly, other errors on the use of adverbs (Error type 3), prepositions (Error type 4), and participial modifiers (Error type 5) were not found. Although there is no errors on the use of adverbs, preposition, and participial modifiers in this study, this study had showed that errors that occured on the use of noun phrase lied on the use of determinative phrases (Error type 1), adjectives (Error type 2), and nouns (Error type 6).