

\CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a brief explanation of the introduction to the area of this study including background of the study, statements of the problem, aims of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, research methods, clarification of related terms, and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background

News and information cannot be separated from human's life. West (n.d. cited in Kalsnes, 2002, p.3 and Santana, 2005, p.86) believes that "a community needs news for the same reason that a man needs eyes." It means that news is important because it provides information. As a means of communication, mass media aims to disseminate news and information.

Nowadays, the types of mass media have changed. There are at least three kinds of mass media which are popular in this globalization era. First is printed media such as newspaper, book, journal, magazine, and tabloid. Another type is electronic media which refers to radio, television, and film/audio. The last one is new media or online media which refers to digital, online and multimedia-capable such as news portals, web sites, blogs, email and podcasting (Brooks & Sissors, 2001; Tandon, 2008; Zaenuddin, 2011).

Previously, most people of the older generation are used to consuming information from traditional media like newspaper and magazines (Tandon, 2008). Nowadays, the younger generation prefers to consume information from a computer screen like internet to information from the printed page (Brooks and Sissors, 2001; Tandon, 2008).

In fact, there are several differences between online news and newspaper. Online news is easy to access if we have the tools like mobile phone, tablet or

computer and good internet connection. Therefore, online news seems to be more up-to-date in delivering news.

Yet, newspaper still exists because of its several advantages. As suggested by Brooks and Sissors (2001), newspaper has the advantage because it is portable and can be consumed selectively. It means that we choose what we want to read. Moreover, Patil (2011) proposes that “print media has the advantage of making a longer impact on the minds of the reader with more in-depth reporting analysis” (p.2).

Although there are changes in the way news gathered and disseminated, the writing structure of both online and newspapers news are still the same. Zaenuddin (2011), for example, suggests that there is formula to follow; namely, the formula 5 W + 1 H (what, who, where, when, why and how). Further, Brooks and Sissors (2001) state that both online and printed news have the same stages to publish and disseminate news.

One of the stages is that all news articles must be edited by the editor before getting published in order to make an error-free publication (Einsohn, 2000). Simply put, Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (2000) defines editing as “to prepare a piece of writing to be published by correcting the mistakes, making improvements to it” (p.421). In addition, Greenberg (2010) states that “editing is part of process of text creation—the making of a text which takes behind the scene” (p.8). Hence, editing is a kind of process of creating news articles become ‘flawless’ before getting printed. It aims to make the articles readable, well-organized and easy to understand.

Actually, the editing in online news differs from printed news specifically in newspaper. Editing in online news is not deep and careful because the correction can be done easily and rapidly. However, editing in newspaper must be done extra carefully. Once it gets printed, it is uncorrectable. This condition is emphasized by Einsohn (2000) and Brooks and Sissors (2001) who state that the news in printed newspaper must be correct, concise, consistent, complete, clear, and coherent (Einsohn, 2000; Brooks & Sissors, 2001).

Moreover, Brooks and Pinson (2013) suggest that there are two types of editing; namely, macro editing and micro editing. Macro editing ensures that the story is accurate, worth running, objective, legal, ethical, tasteful and sensitive to the audiences. Meanwhile, micro editing ensures that the grammar and its usage are correct meaning that there are no typos, redundancies and misspelled words.

In addition, previous studies on editing have been conducted. Most of them focused on micro editing such as finding the common errors. Hyde (1915), for instance, examined that the common problems found in editing were errors of expression, typographical style, inaccuracies, news values, diction and style, and libelous statement. Other studies which came from Hicks (2007) and Brooks, Pinson, and Wilson (2013) discovered that the common errors were dangling modifier, pronoun abuse, incorrect use of subjunctive and confusion of using that and which.

Those previous studies above were mostly conducted in countries in which English is the first language. Indonesia where English is used as a foreign language also has English newspaper. One of them is *The Jakarta Post*. However, the study about micro editing especially in English newspaper is rarely found in Indonesia. To fill the gap, the current study was conducted. Since *The Jakarta Post* was the only one accessible, the study was conducted there. The current study attempted to reveal the kind of errors and the common errors found in micro editing by using eight sample of both the unedited version and edited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s business news articles as data.

1.2 Statements of the problem

The present study is conducted to answer these following questions:

1. What are the types of errors found in micro editing in the unedited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s news articles?
2. What are the common errors found in micro editing in the unedited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s news articles?

1.3 Aims of the study

Relating to the statement of the problems, the aims of the study are as follows:

1. To reveal the types of errors found in the unedited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s news articles in micro editing.
2. To examine the common errors found in the unedited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s news articles in micro editing.

1.4 Scope of the study

The study specifically investigated the types of errors and the common errors found in the unedited version compared to the edited version of *The Jakarta Post*'s articles focusing on micro editing.

In terms of news articles, the present study only used eight business news articles of both unedited and edited versions that written by *The Jakarta Post*'s journalists. The edited version had been published in printed newspaper *The Jakarta Post* from October 25, 2012 to October 31, 2012.

1.5 Significance of the study

The present study is expected to provide both theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, the result of the study hopefully enriches literature on editing especially editing process in newspaper.

Practically, the present study is hoped to be useful for them who are interested in journalism. Specifically, the result of the study is expected to give valuable contribution for journalists in writing news articles and for editors in editing process. Finally, the study is also expected to give worth information for students who are concerned with news editing.

1.6 Research methods

The present study employed descriptive qualitative research because this study describes the types of errors and the common errors found in micro editing of newspaper articles. As suggested by Sukmadinata (2012), qualitative research describes and discovers phenomenon. This is in line with Bogdan and Biklen (1982, cited in Sugiyono, 2011) who state that qualitative is descriptive in which the data collected is in the form of words rather than numbers.

The data were taken from one of the English newspaper in Indonesia, *The Jakarta Post*. The data were collected from October 23, 2012 to November 1, 2012. The study used eight newspaper articles as the sample. Those newspaper articles were written by *The Jakarta Post*'s business journalists and had been edited by their editors.

After gathering the data, the editing process was identified in order to see the types of errors and also to reveal the common errors found in micro editing. Then, the types of errors were classified based on micro editing proposed by Brooks & Pinson (2013). Next, the types of errors were calculated in percentage to see the common errors in micro editing.

To make analysis become clear, the data of the study were interpreted into words by elaborating it on the result of data identifying and classifying and analyzing it based on theory proposed by Brooks & Pinson (2013).

1.7 Clarification of related terms

To avoid misunderstanding and misconception, several terms used in this study need to be clarified, they are as follows:

1. Editing: refining process of texts become clear, no errors in grammar and spelling and the ideas flow logically (Goel & Baliga, 2004).
2. Micro editing: as a part of editing, micro editing refers to detailed editing. It ensures that the grammar and usage used are correct; there are not any typos; concise or there are not redundancies; and correct style and spelling. Micro editing also ensures the abbreviations, capitalization, numbers, and

punctuation that is appropriate with the publication's or station's stylebook (Brooks & Pinson, 2013).

3. News: accurate and timely intelligence of happenings, discoveries, opinions, and matters of any sort that affect or interest the readers (Harriss, Leiter, & Johnson, 1981).
4. Newspaper: a vehicle to provide news, goods, and services (Ward, 1985). It serves news and daily information.
5. Errors: the term errors here refer to the mistakes in grammar and usage, diction, spelling, capitalization, typos and other elements in micro editing (Brooks & Pinson, 2013).

1.8 Organization of paper

The study is organized into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter provides a brief explanation of the introduction to the area of this study including background of the study, statements of the problem, aims of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, research methods, classification of related terms, and organization of the paper.

Chapter II: Literature Review

This chapter presents some theories related to the present study that provides a basis for conducting the statements of problem. It also discusses some previous studies related to the topic of this study.

Chapter III: Research Methodology

This chapter deals with the research methodology which includes the research design, the steps and procedures of collecting data in the study. This chapter also covers how the data is going to be analyzed.

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Chapter IV: Findings and Discussion

This chapter displays the results of the study and the answers to statements of problem. It also provides the discussion of the findings.

Chapter V: Conclusion

This chapter points out the conclusions of the study and suggestions related to the study as well as the future study

