Abstract

This study aims at describing the accuracy of using ‘be’ in the English sentences that were written by the students of Chemical Department – UMS in the 2007/2008 Academic Year. The study uses a qualitative-descriptive method. The data source was a document, i.e., the answer sheets of the mid-semester test for the students of Chemical Department – UMS in the 2007/2008 Academic Year. The data include the English sentences that contain the ‘be’ as both the linking verb and auxiliary verb. The data gathering used an analysis content method and data analysis used an intra-lingual equivalent method. The findings of the study showed that in general, the students could grammatically build the English sentences with the ‘be’ as both linking verb and auxiliary verb. However, they could not express the English sentences in common in view of the situation and socio-culture contexts.

Keywords: English sentences, linking verb, auxiliary verb, be, grammatical