

AN ANALYSIS OF ERRORS IN APPLYING FUNCTUATION MARK

By: Deni Silvia, M.Pd.I.¹

Abstrak

Salah seorang ahli, *Bellafiore Joseph* mengatakan bahwa tanda baca sangat perlu dalam menulis. Tanda baca tersebut sangat menentukan pesan-pesan yang akan disampaikan oleh penulis kepada pembaca. Maka penulis harus mampu meletakkan tanda baca pada tempat yang semestinya karena penghilangan, penambahan, ataupun kesalahan letak tanda baca tersebut akan membingungkan pembaca bahkan tidak dapat menangkap pesan-pesan yang akan disampaikan penulis. Kemampuan menulis ditentukan banyak hal seperti penguasaan kosa kata, penguasaan tanda baca, dan penguasaan tata bahasa. Dalam hal ini penulis menganalisis kesalahan-kesalahan yang dibuat oleh mahasiswa dalam penempatan tanda baca. Untuk mengetahui masalah diatas, penulis menggunakan *Punctuation Test* sebagai instrument. Dalam pengelolaan data, penulis menggunakan *descriptive analysis* untuk mengetahui jenis kesalahan tanda baca yang dibuat oleh mahasiswa. Dari hasil analisis dapat disimpulkan bahwa kesalahan dominan ditemukan pada penempatan titik (.), tanda Tanya (?), tanda seru (!), tanda pisah (--), tanda kutip (“ ”), huruf besar, tanda apostrof (’), dan tanda penghubung (-).

Key Words : Kesalahan, Tanda Baca

A. Introduction

1. Backround of the Study

Indonesia as a developing country needs to have contact with other countries which of course have various cultures and language. To reach such purpose, we demand to learn international that can be used to communicate with the people of the countries and to achieve knowledge and skill in the fields of science, technology, economics, and politics.

Many countries in the world use English for communication and the United Nation also uses it as one of the formal media to communicate. Many science books are also written in English. Writing is different from speaking. When people talk, more than fifty percent of their message is carried through their tone and their body movement. When they write, the word has to carry the whole message. For that reason, written language has to be more exact than spoken sentences.

¹ Penulis adalah Dosen STAI Hubbulwathan Duri

Students who have learned English seem to have difficulties in writing in English. Their difficulties reflected in their unsatisfactory of writing achievement. Sometimes they are lazy to learn in English because in writing they must develop their imagination. The student must also know how to place the punctuation marks because punctuation are important to make the reader understand the message being conveyed. But most of the student's still make mistake applying punctuation marks in writing.

In writing this research report, the writer has several reasons. First, the problem, to the writer's knowledge, has not been observed yet at Bung Hatta University. Second, the writer is very interested in this problem. Third, errors analysis is done because it is a good tool to know the development of learner's language.

2. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to see errors that were made by the students in applying:

1. Period
2. Question mark
3. Exclamation mark
4. Comma
5. Semicolon
6. Colon
7. Dash
8. Parenthesis
9. Quotation mark
10. Italic/underlining
11. Capital letter
12. Apostrophe
13. Hyphen

3. Significant of the Study

By knowing the exact types of errors made by students in applying punctuation marks in writing, English teachers and instructors may pay attention more to this problem. The teacher and instructor can check student's paper in the classroom directly. Furthermore, this is also useful to the students. By knowing errors that they have made, they will be aware of their weaknesses they will pay more attention to this problem and avoid making similar errors in the future.

B. Function of Punctuation Marks in Writing

In writing, a sentence without punctuation is bad and it can make the reader confused. Punctuation marks also have the function to make the meaning clear. Bellafiore Joseph says that punctuation is a very important part of sentence structure because it gives a signal to the reader where the pause make a full stop in getting the meaning.²

Punctuation is one art or practice of inserting standardized marks of signs in written matter to clarify meaning and separate structural unit (Longman,1988 : 1198). From the meaning these words it seems that there are two function of punctuation : to clarify the mea

‘]pouning and to separate structural unit. Forthermore, Jim W. Corder says that punctuation is guide to the reader and device that the meaning clear³. Moreover, John E. Brewton (1964 : 352) says that is used to show the reader how sentence are related. In brief, function of punctuation marks are to clarify the meaning in order to help the reader understand the sentences to separate or part of the sentences.

Sometimes, students make an error in applying punctuation marks in writing. For example,

Peter who fought with me later apologized.

If we seem the example above, the reader will be confused because there is no punctuation marks ther. In that sentence, we do not yet find the sense yet. But if writer put punctuation marks, the sentence will be :

Peter, who fought with me, later apologized.

We can catch the writer’s idea in the second sentence.

The first example above can be classified into the omission punctuation marks. In this study, it is called the omission type of error. Now, let’s see the second example here,

On Monday, he comes at two o’clock, we left.

In the example above, after two o’clock we do not need to have comma there because comma is not used if it is followed by a short phrase, we left.

The second example can be classified into addition of punctuation.

This is the third example that we can classify into misplacement of punctuation marks :

December,17 1973

² Bellafiore, Joseph. English Language Art. New York : AMSCO School Publication, Inc.1969.p. 163

³ Corder Jim W, 1979. Contemporary Writing Process and Practice. New York : Houghton Mifflin Company. 321

In the example above, we can see misplacement of comma. So, the correct one is : December 17,1973.

In brief, the writer concludes that the omission, addition, and misplacement of punctuation marks make the reader misunderstand and even do not understand the meaning at all.

C. Usage of English Punctuation

The usage of punctuation is to show the reader how sentences are related. In conversation, a speaker has many resources for showing such relations in pitch of voice and face expression. In writing, the resources are less numerous. It means that the writer must use punctuation marks with accuracy if he does not want the reader to be confused

In addition, the use punctuation marks in writing is inevitable and punctuation. Convey the meaning that the writer has in mind to the reader. Consequently, there are certain fixed the rule for their use. There are standardized marks or sign which are commonly called punctuation marks. Punctuation marks in their use can be divided into two basic groups (kurilich, 1988 : 313) :

1. Marks at the end of the sentences such as period, question marks, Exclamation point.
2. Marks that appear within sentences such as colon, semicolon, comma, parentheses, quotation mark, virgule, hyphen and dash.

Based on the above explanation, the writer concludes that there are four classes of punctuation mark. Each of them is explained in detailed as follows:

1. End punctuation : period, question mark, and exclamation point.
2. Internal punctuation : comma, semicolon, colon, dash, and parentheses.
3. Punctuation of quoted material (Quotation Mark)
4. Word punctuation : italic/underlining, capital letter, apostrophe, and hyphen.

1. End punctuation

The term end punctuation is use to refer to period, question mark, and the exclamation mark because they usually occur at the end of the sentences.

a. Period (.)

The stop that comes at the end of a sentence or of any other complete statement has been called point (Eric Partridge, 1963 : 9).

1. At the end of every statement (a declarative sentence), a request or command, indirect question.

Statement : It is cold

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

- My uncle will come tomorrow.
Command : Lets go home.
Please shut the door.
Indirect question : He asked weather the books have been delivered.

2. After an abbreviation

- e.g. = *exempli gratia*
i.e. = *id est* = that is
etc = *et cetera* = and so on
A.D. = *anno domini* = in the year of our lord
B.C. = before Christ
B.A. = Bachelor of Arts
M.A. = Master of Arts
Ph.D. = Doctor of Phylosophy
Dr. = Doctor
Jr. = Junior
N.Y. = New York
Sept = September

After each number or letter in an outline.

- I. -----
A. -----
1. -----
2. -----
B. -----
II. -----

3. In group of three to show :
- The omission of word (elipsis) in a quoted passage. If the omission comes at the end of sentence, use the three periods plus any other required punctuation marks. He was always busy in his office...he was doing everything not only emotional, but also rational.
 - Pause, hesitation, emotional stress, etc. In dialogue and interrupted narrative, the practice is use with caution.
 - He seems nervous... stress straight ahead
Kept twitching and jerking...then he runs a shelter.
4. The indicate cents and other decimal
- 3.82
 - 50.8 kilograms

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

5. At the end of a polite request in business letter :

Would you please send me a copy of your most recent catalog.

b. Question Mark (?)

Eric partridge (1963 : 79) explains that like question mark is known also as an interrogation mark, occasionally interrogation point, and alternatively as mark or note or point of interrogation⁴.

The writer concludes that question mark is used :

1. At the end of a direct question
Who picked the flower ?
He ask, "who picked the flower ?"
2. In parentheses to express doubt.
She was born on march 28 (?),1967.
Hernando lived on button street 42 (?).
3. After elliptical question in a series.
Are you going ? where ? At what time ?
Do you take your pen ? Your lunch ? Your bus fare ?
4. At the end of tag question
You came to the meeting, didn't you ?
It is a nice day, isn't it ?

D. Exclamation mark (!)

Use the exclamation mark after a word, phrase or sentence to signalizes strong exclamatory feeling. Never try to add feeling with an exclamation mark when the exclaiming in fact is not suggested by the wording of the sentence –except in advertisements and come ships. Modern writers are careful to use an exclamation mark only when an expression is obviously exclamatory in tone⁵ (Floyd C.Watkins, Edwin T.martin, William B.Dellingham, 1961 : 93)

Exclamation Mark is used :

1. At the exclamatory sentence
I can believe it !
Bob shouted, " man over board !"
2. After injection
Ouch ! Be careful !
Wonderful !
3. After a strong imperative sentence

⁴Eric partridge 1963 You Have a Point There. London. The English Language Book Society and Hamish Hamilton.1963.p.63

⁵ (Floyd C.Watkins, Edwin T.martin, William B.Dellingham, 1961 : 93)

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

Hurry up !
Watch your step !

Internal Punctuation

End punctuation indicate wheter a writer wants you to read a whole sentences as a question, a strong statement, or an expression of emotion.

Internal punctuation indicate relative important of elements within the sentences. There are five punctuation marks used for the purpose :

- a. Comma
- b. Semicolon
- c. Colon
- d. Dash
- e. Parentheses
 - a. Comma

John E. warriner, Mary Evelyn and Francis Griffith (!958 : 444 & 445) state that like other marks of punctuation, commas are necessary for clear expression of written ideas. Notice how the comma affects meaning in this pair of the sentence.⁶

Did she finally marry Tom ?

Did she finally marry, Tom ?

If you fail to use needed comma, you may confuse your reader :

Confusing : My favorite cousin are Mary Jane Paul Jane Elizabeth Ann and Ted. (How many cousin ?)

Clear : My favorite cousin are Mary Jane, Paul jane, Elizabeth Ann, and Ted

Mastery of comma will eliminate the most common error in punctuation. Probably an half of all errors made in punctuation are in using and misusing of comma. Hence, a careful study of this particular mark will increase your ability to punctuate clearly and effectively.

The writer concludes the use of comma as follows :

1. To set independent clause (complete sentences) when they are joined by coordinate conjunction : and, but, for, nor, for, etc.
He likes fishing, she prefer hiking.
He would tell us nothing, nor would he let his friend speak.
2. To set introductory element :
 - a. Introductory adverb clause-it tells time, place, manner, cause, etc.

⁶ John E. warriner, Mary Evelyn and Francis Griffith Warriner,1958 English grammar and Composition. New York : Harcourt Brace and World, Inc.p. : 444 & 445

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

- If you want us to make the purchase for you, please let's know.
- b. Introductory phrases
To successes, someone must work hard.
 3. To set the series of word, phrases, or clauses.
She bought apples, bananas, and peaches.
Goods in small, medium, large, and extra large.
 4. To set off nonrestrictive elements
 - a. Nonrestrictive adjective clause (a group of words beginning with wh-question.
San Francisco, which is a city by the golden gate, is in Northern California.
 - b. Nonrestrictive phrases
The boys, who were tired, came slowly into the house.
 5. To set off appositive
There are two nouns, the second to identify the first in sentence.
Roger Smith, a freshman, won first place.
Carol Dean, my sister's best friend, died.
 6. To set off contrasted elements
I met Linda, not Martha.
 7. To set off geograpichal and adres.
Cleveland, ohio, is her hometown.
His address is 176 Sixth Avenue, Albany, New York.
 8. To set off absolute phrase
The day was warm, they want picnic.
 9. To set off dates, parentical expression, and direct address.
This, my friend, is Tommy.
December 17, 1973
 10. To set off mild interjection
Oh, that shall we do now ?
Dear me, I wonder where he is.
 11. To set off direct quotation
"come over her," said Harry, " and bring the pen pen with you."
 12. To set off omission of words or word understood
Benny attended Standford University : john, choose college.
 13. After yes and no
Yes, I do.
No, they are not.
 14. Before such as and especially
He enjoys and outdoor sport, such as hiking and riding.
She likes crafts, especially wood carving.

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

15. After salutation in formal letter and after complementary clause in a letter

Dear Suzan,
Your sincerely,

16. Before a confirmatory question
It's a nice day, isn't it?
You can here me, can't you?
17. Between coordinate adjectives of equal important tall, stately trees lined the high way.
18. To prevent incorrect reading
- To avoid faulty grouping of words
soon later, I arrived.
 - To separate duplication words
How I am ever to get there, is a question.
 - To separate adjection numbers
In 1955, 356 home were built.
19. To separate conjunction from the rest of the sentence Helen is very tidy. Kelly on the other hand, is very careless.
John was at scene. Therefore, He must have seen the accident.
20. Several kind of expressions that my interrupt a sentence.
My sister, who married a man from Sumedang, is living in Jakarta now.
Rusyana, the sundanese linguist, present a talk on bilingualism.

b. Semicolon

A semicolon is part period and part comma. It says to the reader, stop here a little longer than you stop for a comma but not so long as you stop for a period⁷ (John E. Warriner, Mary Evelyn, Francis Griffith, 1958 : 469).

The writer concludes the use of semicolon as follows :

- To separate main clause in sentence
Please don't mention that incident again ; I want to forget it as quickly as possible.
- To separate main clause with a connector
His work was done ; so he went home
- To mark a series a main clause with common subject
Today we love that tomorrow we hate ; today we seek that tomorrow we shun ; today we desire that tomorrow we fear.

⁷ (John E. Warriner, Mary Evelyn, Francis Griffith, 1958 : 469).

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

4. To separate a series of items which themselves contain commas, the comma in a series is for clarifying. The semicolon sharply the main divisions of the series at a glance.

I wrote to Siti, Ani and Betty, and Yani notified Tina and Budi.

c. Colon

The chief function of a colon is to introduce something that will follow. The colon is a formal mark of punctuation and use primarily in informal situation. Etymologically, colon (greek colon) was originally a person's or animal's limb, hence, partion of a strophe in choral dancing, hence division prosody ; hence, also, a clause notably a principal clause-in sentence, hence-finally, the sign (:) marking the breathing0-space at the colon is used :

1. After the salutation of a business letter.

Dear sir :

My dear Mr. West :

2. To emphasize an appositive

There is one kind of person I dislike : a dishonest man.

3. To introduce :

- a. A list that is preceded by the following, as follow, these.

I ordered the following articles : sheet, towels, and blankets.

- b. A long quotation of one or more paragraph.

He open the meeting with the word : "I love peace"

- c. A second main clause which explain the first main clause.

His motivation is clear : he intends to become a dictator.

- d. Additional material after a word or phrase.

For sale ; mountain cabin.

- e. A. part of letters, references and numerals.

- f. Resolved : that the group goes on record as favoring new legislation

4. To substitutes for words in dialogue and newspaper headlines.

Coach : "team to win."

little of a book from its subtitle.

Toronto Holt Rinehart and Winston

Are Faulty Sentences To Be Correct All the Time ? : A

Psychological point of view.

d. Dash (-)

One of punctuation add some ion marks that is used very seldom is the dash. Some students are indeed against the use of the dash. It's used

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

among other things to add some information to what has been stated before. As such, it gives some colour to the sentence and make the reader alert how to read the part of sentence using the dash. The dash-written single or, as in this interpolation in Paris resembles parentheses in that it's suprenumery to the four true marks of the punctuation period, comma, colon, and semicolon. A derives from to dash, to shatter, strike violently, to throw suddenly, carelessly to or on, hence to write carelessly or suddenly, to add or insert suddenly or carelessly to or in the page⁸ (Eric Partridge, 1963 : 68).

The writer concludes the use of dash as follows :

1. To mark break or interruption in the thought of a sentence.
The sun shone as we set out—it was a late summer last year.
2. To indicate that a thought has broken off
Oh, what a disaster—
There could be not other way--!
3. To indicate a summary
We had books, foods, tools, clothes everything we need.
4. To separate a list from a main clause
All we present—Liza, Christine, bob and Nick.
5. Two dashes mark off an inserted thought
Schooldays—or so we are told—are the happiest day in our life.

6. A long dash is used to precede an author's name after a direct quotation and to indicate omission of later of words.
I hear him say “D—n these glasses !”

e. Parentheses (also called brackets) ()

Parentheses are used :

1. To set of parenthetical, illustrative, or supplementary material, thereby achieving an informal, confidential effect.
It's all my fault. (I know you won't believe me)
2. To enclose ;
 - a. Letters or figures in enumeration
She is authorized to (1) sign checks, (2) pay bills, (3) make purchases.
 - b. References and directions
The key (see page 102) will help you.
 - c. Question mark to indicate uncertainty

⁸ Eric Partridge 1963. *You Have a Point There*. London. The English Language Book Society and Hamish Hamilton. p. 68

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

- he was born in 1967 (?) in Padang.
3. For accuracy in business letters.
Enclosed fifty dollars
 4. With other punctuation mark as follow :
 - a. Comma, semicolon, and period.
They are placed after the second parentheses set off material in sentence.
I believe her (though I can imagine why)
 - b. Comma, semicolon, and period may put the first parentheses in enumeration.
She is authorized to do the following :
(1) sign check, with the gold pen ; otherwise, outside.
One of the translator was Aquila (died A.D 137).
Have you read the translation of Tyndale (died 1536).
 3. Punctuation of Quoted material (“ “)
In handwriting and typing, they are usually indicated thus :
“....” Or ‘....’. Nowadays “single quoted” are fast becoming very common⁹(Eric Partridge, 1963 : 122).
They are used to enclose :
 1. Direct quotation that is exactly of a speaker or writer.
 - a. A single quotation of several sentences takes mark only at the beginning of the first sentence and at the end of the last.
She said, “please be seated. I will call Mr.Edy.”
 - b. An interrupted quotation takes quotation mark only around the quoted words.
“I shall come,” he said, “when I am ready.”
 - c. A short quotation that is only a part of a sentence is not set off with commas.
Marry describes life as “a long lesson in humanity.”
 - d. The omission of word or quoted sentence (ellipsis)is shown by the use of three periods.
“what a heavy barden ... famous. ”—voltaire.
 2. Title of any subdivision of a printed publication chapter of book
Magazine articles, short stories, poems, essay, etc.
We all joined in singing “somewhere between.”

⁹ Eric Partridge, *Ibid* 122.

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

3. According to dictionary, fierce means “of a nature to inspire terror.
4. Word use in a special sense or purpose :
 - a. Slang expression
Gentlement, the plkan is completely “cockyed.”
 - b. Nicknames
Ray “nitwit” Jones stumble on the stage.
 - c. As a substitute for so called.
He does “technical” writing.

4. Word Punctuation

Italic, capital letter, apostrophes, and hyphen identify word that Special use or particular grammatical function in a sentence.

a. Italic, (Underlining) (_)

Thorndike Barnhart says that in manuscript for word that should appear in Italics when we set-in type underline.

Italic is a type slopes up word to the right.

They may be show in :

Handwritting : italic

Typing : italic

Printing : italic

Italics are used to design :

1. The little to separate publication : books, magazine, newspaper, bulletins, musical production, play film and long poems.
She bread the newspaper of Time and New York Times.
2. Name of ships, trains, and aircraft
She sailed on the Lurline.
3. Title of painting and scepture
Gainborough’s The Blue Boy.
Rodin The thinker.
4. Foreign words not yet anglicized
It was a faith accopli
5. Words, letter, figure, or symbol to refer to as such in often is silent.
Avoid using and for and in formal writing.
6. Emphases, where it cannot be conveyet by the order or choosing words.
I said that he was a good football player.

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

b. Capital letter

Capital letter are used at :

1. First word of every sentence
I like playing badminton.
What !
2. First word of every lined of poetry
Mine honor is my life ; both grow is one ;
Take honor from me : my life is done;
Shakespeare
3. First word and every important in titles of books, musical composition, magazines, plays, poems, newspaper, articles, speeches, and so on.
The American Student Hand Book.
The man And Lady.
4. First word of each item it online
Errors to avoid in writng :
 - a. Sentence fragment.
 - b. Comma splice
5. First and last word in a complementary clause
My dear Sir,
Very truly your,
6. Proper noun and adjective. A proper noun, is the name of specific person, place or thing.
 - a. specific person, language, tribes, nationalities, and racers Negro English Indonesian.
 - b. Specific place (countries, states, cities, rooms, geographic section, lakes, rivers, oceans, parks, street, buildings, monuments, etc.)
 - c. Specific organization
United Nation Manchester United
Red-Cross Publican party
 - d. Days of week, months, holidays
Sunday Fourth of June
 - e. Religius term
God Holly ghost
Event father Angle
 - f. Historical Events, period, and documents
The Constitutional of the United State
 - g. Name of educational of the institution, classes, of students, department, course, academic degree.

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

- h. Junior class The Music Department
Name of flags, emblems, school colors
Old glory The Star and Stripers
The Bronze Star The Blue gold
- i. Ships, trains, airplane
Lurline Garuda Indonesian Airways
- j. Name of stars and planets
The North Star Jupiter
Milky Way The Deeper
- k. Abbreviation indicating time, deviation, of the government,
exchange, etc and call letters radio and TV station.
TVRI RCTI RTM RRI
- l. Personifications
Mother Nature and old man winter
- j. Title preceding a name
Professor Scott
General Bradly
- n. The pronoun "I" and interjection "Oh"
oh, are you there ?
Oh, I don't understand.

c. Apostrophe

Mastering the use of the apostrophe is important not only to make your writing clear, but also to avoid misplacement of word. If u forgot to use apostrophe in your composition, start being more careful, because apostrophe is necessary for expressing your ideas clearly. For instance, there is a big difference in the meaning of shell and she'll it's and it's or shed and she'd (John E. Warriner, Mary E.Evelynand Francis Griffith, 1958 : 488).

Apostrophe is used :

1. To form the positive case of noun:
 - a. for joining position, add 's to each word.
We bought John and Marry's car. (one car)
 - b. for individual position, add 's to each word only a
mother-in-low's house.
Two mother-in-low's houses.
 - c. To define pronoun, add 's
someone else's book
- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| <u>singular</u> | <u>plural</u> |
| Boy's | Boys' |

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

- | | Child's | Children's |
|----|--|----------------------------|
| 2. | To show omission in contracted words or numeral
Don't (do not)
You're (you are) | '73 (1973)
O'clock (oo) |
| 3. | In plural word, letter, number, and symbols
Use + 's or - 's on the last
His grades were all A 's
You use too many and 's | |
| 4. | To show ownership by a company, in which case the apostrophe and 's is put at the end of full name.
The Krakatau Steel company' policies. | |

d. hyphen

The hyphen is a mark about half the size of the dash. But the function are distinctly different from the dash. The hyphen is use to make the writing clear by showing that two words or two parts a word belong together.

Eric Partridge ¹⁰explains :

“The hyphen (-) has two main and entire by distinct function : deviding and compounding. The former kind of hyphenation, concerning single words. Strickly indivisible , take place only for typographical or other conventional reasons, the latter concern the function of two nor more single word into a discernibly collective union.”

Hyphen is used :

1. To join compound word and word use as a single adjective before a noun or pronoun.
It was a well-paved highway
We are the third-year students
2. With compound numbers from 21 to 99
Twenty-one thirty-first
3. To separate a prefix ending a vowel from a word beginning with that some vowel.
Co-ordination re-electpre-eminent
4. To form a compound word from a prefix and a proper name
Self-confident ex-president anti-NAZI
5. To indicate hesitation stuttering and word that are spelled out.
“I'm g-g-glad, “she said.
6. To device a word between syllables and the end of a line.
... the classroom can accommodate thirty pupils.

¹⁰ Eric Partridge *Ibid.*, : 134)

C. The Different Usage of English Punctuation and Indonesian Punctuation.

After discussing the use of English punctuation now we will discuss about the different use of English punctuation and Indonesian punctuation. As far as we know, there is a little bit difference between English punctuation and Indonesian punctuation. In Indonesian punctuation date, month, and year will be written 17 December 1996. There is no comma here but in English punctuation comma is used. The writer assumes that in general the use and application of English punctuation and Indonesian punctuation are similar and perhaps have a little bit difference but not so principle.

In addition, the writer can conclude that the student make errors applying punctuation marks because inability to apply punctuation mark correctly. According to Piral and Michael (1988: 544) the use of punctuation marks in writing is still a problem for the students and even for the experienced writer. It may be caused by several reasons :

1. Seemingly punctuation marks are something use in arbitrary way.
2. The inconsistent correspondence of punctuation to intonation feature of speech.
3. The possibility of using more than one kind to punctuate the same sentence function making it difficult to decide which to use in particular situation.

E. Conclusion

Based on the findings, the writer make some conclusions and suggestion as follows :

1. Errors in applying semicolon, colon, parentheses, italics/underlining are not serious errors. But the rest are more serious for the students.
2. Errors in Applying period, question mark, exclamation mark, comma, dash, quotation mark, capital letter, apostrophe, and hyphen are serious errors, because all of the students made errors even one error.
3. According to the writer view, the students know about all of the punctuation marks, but they cannot be able to apply them correctly or not. In short, they do not have strong self-confidence with something which is true.

AL-ISHLAH

Jurnal Pendidikan

4. The kinds of errors which apply to appear are omission and misplacement and sometimes addition. From these three kinds of errors, most of the students made errors in misplacement of the punctuation mark. It's means that they know about the punctuation mark, but cannot apply them correctly.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adelstein, Michael E. and Jean G. Pirral. 1988. *The Writing Commitment*, San Diego Harcourt Brace Javanovich, publisher..
- :
- Bellafiore, Joseph. 1969.. *English Language Art*. New York : AMSCO School Publication, Inc.
- Borriil, James F. 1987. *Read and write : A Guide to Effective Composition*. Loronto : Harcourt Brace Javanovich, Inc..
- Brown, H. Douglas. 1987. *Principles of Language Learning And Teaching*. New Jersey : Prentice Hall, Inc..
- Corder Jim W, 1979. *Contemporary Writing Process and Practice*. New York : Houghton Mifflin Company,
- Gay, L. R. 1976. *Educational Research*. London : Florida International..
- Longman, 1988. *Longman Dictionary of the English Language*. England : Longman Group Uk Limited..
- Partridge, Eric. 1963. *You Have a Point There*. London. The English Language Book Society and Hamish Hamilton..
- Warriner, John. E, Whitsen, Mary Evelyn, 1958. *English grammar and Composition*. New York : Harcourt Brace and World, Inc..