



**ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENTS'
SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE TEXTS/SMS
(A Case of Semester 8 of English Education of UNNES
in the Academic Year of 2008/2009)**

A final project
submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan*
in English

by
Catur Gunawan
2201405029

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
SEMARANG STATE UNIVERSITY**

2009

ABSTRACT

Gunawan, Catur. 2009. *Analysis of the Students' Short Message Service Texts/SMS*. A Final Project. English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Semarang State University. First Advisor: Drs. L. Elyas Nugraha, M.A., Second Advisor: Widhiyanto, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Key Words: short message service texts (SMS), SMS language, and description.

This final project is based on a study which attempted to describe how the students' SMS texts are formed. The writer initiated to observe and describe the students of semester 8 of English Education of UNNES' SMS texts and the features of those they used within. There were six categories to describe the texts. Five of them (*single letters can replace words, single digits can replace words, a single letter or digit can replace a syllable, combinations, and abbreviations*) were the features of *SMS language* suggested in Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SMS language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SMS_language)), the writer then added the "*ungrammatical forms*" due to the possibility of the occurrence of the form of ungrammatical pattern with a consideration that the ungrammatical pattern was intentional, meaning that if there were so called "errors," those forms would not to be included as "errors". The data were obtained from SMS the students sent and received. The writer analyzed the data and put them into simple analysis involving simple interpretation of the occurring features. The writer analyzed 50 text messages and found that students did tend to stylize and shortened the SMS texts they made. The finding indicated that the SMS texts were formed by those features mentioned above which also indicated students' style in expressing what they wanted to say through the use of SMS. The students also used the so called "smileys" such as ☺, and ☹ in order to express their mood. They also used to take advantage of different phonetic spelling in order to create different types of verbal effects in the SMS such as 'hehe/he2' for signaling laughter or joy. The mixed capitalizations (sTuDIYcApS) also appeared in those students' SMS texts.

All the findings indicate that the features of SMS language are so familiar with students' writing SMS texts. In this case, they need to be aware for those features which may influence and affect their real writing through habitual formation.