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Diction Errors in Tempo Online Newspaper

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Abstract

This study aims to identify diction errors in Tempo.com online news, as well as to formulate efforts and strategies that can be applied to reduce spelling errors in writing news texts. The method used is a qualitative approach with a descriptive research type. The technique used is reading and writing. In this data collection method, a cellphone is used as a tool to collect data in the form of screenshots. The data used in this study consists of sentences that have diction errors in Tempo online news. This data is presented in descriptive form and the triangulation method is used to verify the validity of the data. The results of the study in Tempo's online news found that diction errors were found where several words used did not match the context or the desired meaning. These errors include the use of inappropriate terms and the choice of words that do not comply with formal language rules.

Keywords: news, online, tempo, language errors, spelling

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi kesalahan diksi yang terdapat pada berita daring Tempo.com, sekaligus juga untuk merumuskan upaya dan strategi yang dapat diterapkan untuk mengurangi kesalahan ejaan dalam penulisan teks berita. Metode yang digunakan adalah pendekatan kualitatif dengan jenis penelitian deskriptif. Teknik yang digunakan yaitu baca tulis. Dalam metode pengumpulan data ini, ponsel digunakan sebagai alat untuk mengumpulkan data dalam bentuk tangkapan layar. Data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini terdiri dari kalimat-kalimat yang memiliki kesalahan diksi dalam berita daring Tempo. Data ini disajikan dalam bentuk deskriptif dan metode triangulasi digunakan untuk memverifikasi validitas data. Hasil penelitian dalam berita online Tempo kesalahan diksi ditemukan di mana beberapa kata yang digunakan tidak sesuai dengan konteks atau makna yang diinginkan. Kesalahan ini mencakup penggunaan istilah yang tidak tepat dan pemilihan kata yang kurang sesuai dengan kaidah bahasa formal.

Kata Kunci: *berita, daring, tempo, kesalahan berbahasa, ejaan*

Introduction

Language is a communication tool used by humans to interact with each other. Language is used by speakers to convey meanings and intentions they wish to communicate to their conversation partners. Language ability refers to a person's skill in using language both orally and in writing correctly and appropriately according to existing language rules. However, in practice, mistakes in using language, both orally and in writing, are still frequently encountered. The most common mistakes in language use that we often come across are mistakes in written form. One of the frequent language errors in writing is the incorrect use of diction. According to KBBI, diction is the precise and harmonious choice of words (in its use) to express ideas so as to achieve a certain effect (as expected). However, if the choice of words is not appropriate, it can lead to communication issues that disrupt the listener's understanding of the clarity of the information presented (Hidayatullah, 2018).

According to Kridalaksana in Purba et al. (2024), it is stated that language is a symbol of sound that is arbitrary and used by members of a social group who cooperate in identifying and communicating. The rapid development of the times causes language errors, leading to foreign languages and slang entering everyday life, and some people consider these languages acceptable and correct. As Indonesian is evolving, language errors arise in society. According to Setyawati in Amalia (2021), language errors refer to the use of language, both spoken and written, that does not comply with the rules of communication or societal norms, or deviates from the regulations/rules of the Indonesian language.

Spoken language often experiences distortion when heard by the listener; the same applies to written language when read by the reader. This happens because the reader may not fully understand what is explicitly and implicitly conveyed in the text. From here, it can be concluded that if we cannot think clearly and accurately, we may deviate from the actual meaning.

In the modern era, we can obtain a lot of information not only from print media such as newspapers or magazines. Nowadays, news can be accessed through mobile phones, computers, and televisions, each via the internet. One example is that we no longer need to reading news through printed newspapers as our parents used to do. In this high-tech era, we can simply type the news topic we want to read in the search page and various news articles from different news portals will appear which can be read for free. One of the popular news sites that is widely sought after is Tempo.com.

New information discussing events that have occurred and can be accessed in various forms, such as print, broadcast, internet, and from word of mouth or even from third parties to the general public, is known as news texts. Therefore, news should be delivered well and accurately using language that is understood by the general public, so that people do not misunderstand it. According to Septiani et al. (2023) in their research titled "Analisis Kesalahan Ejaan pada Berita Internet CNN Indonesia Edisi Juli 2023" various spelling errors in CNN Indonesia's online news edition for July 2023, specifically on the use of capital letters, acronyms, punctuation, italicized words, and conjunctions. Using a qualitative descriptive method, errors were found such as inappropriate acronym writing, incorrect placement of capital letters, temporal conjunctions without commas, and foreign words that should be italicized but were not. These results indicate the need for more diligence in news writing to comply with the rules of good and correct Indonesian language.

The next study is Ferdi's (2023) research titled "Analisis Kesalahan Penggunaan Ejaan dalam Penulisan Berita Mahasiswa PBSI yang Dimuat dalam Website FKIP Genta UNJA" which reveals various spelling mistakes made by PBSI students in online news writing, especially regarding the use of capital and italicized letters, word writing, and punctuation. The most dominant errors are found in the writing of foreign words that should be italicized, as well as in word combinations and punctuation such as commas and quotation marks. The research concluded that these errors occur due to the students' lack of understanding of spelling rules and minimal training in journalistic writing, thus requiring an improvement in guidance in this aspect.

The subsequent research is cited from an article titled "Kesalahan Penggunaan Diksi dan Ejaan pada Teks Deskripsi Karya Siswa SMPN 2 Tukak Sadai" by Mayang Sari and Wachid Eko Purwanto, which identifies errors in diction and spelling in descriptive texts written by junior high school students. This study found 21 errors, consisting of 4 diction errors and 17 spelling errors. Diction errors include the use of non-standard words and those that are inappropriate in context, while spelling errors include incorrect use of capital letters, inappropriate punctuation, and inadequate writing structure. These findings indicate a lack of understanding among students regarding Indonesian language rules, thus necessitating further guidance.

The fourth research is an article titled "Analisis Kesalahan Berbahasa dan Tanda Baca Teks Berita pada Artikel Detik.com Edisi Februari 2024 sebagai Kelayakan Bahan Bacaan dan Sumber Informasi" by Yesica Mai Tuwanti Br Purba and her team from Semarang State University discusses various forms of linguistic and punctuation errors in online news text of detik.com for the February 2024 edition.

The fifth similar study is titled "Analisis Kesalahan Berbahasa pada Berita Daring Radar Mandalika". Based on the analysis results, the forms of language errors in the online news of Radar Mandalika for the period of July 2020 include errors in the fields of morphology, syntax, lexicon, as well as spelling errors. Referring to relevant research, the aim of this study is to identify and analyze language errors in DetikEdu news about Higher Education on the online media Detik.com based on linguistic categories.

The sixth research in the article titled "Penulisan Berita Pada Majalah Tempo" also has spelling mistakes are also found along with errors in diction. Diction is the precise choice of words to express something. The right words can help the writer accurately convey what they want to communicate to the readers. Word selection must also align with the situation and the context of the usage of those words. If there is a mistake in word choice, it will result in a different understanding for the news readers.

The research involved seventh articles titled 'Analysis of Language Errors in News.' There are several reasons the researcher chose the issue of language errors as the subject of study. First,

to understand the language errors present in a news article. Online news is one type of news that provides information containing events.

The research on the eight analysis of spelling revealed that three news articles published in *kebumen24* contained spelling errors in punctuation use, capitalization, and italicization.

Method

This research uses a qualitative approach with descriptive research type. This approach is chosen because it aims to provide a deep description of the linguistic phenomena found in journalistic texts, particularly relating to language errors in spelling and diction. Qualitative descriptive research allows researchers to depict and interpret data in detail based on the context occurring in the field, in this case in print mass media. According to Sugiyono in Septiyani et al. (2023:477), qualitative research uses objects as the main tool in research. The technique used by the researcher is reading and noting. The researcher reads and notes information related to the data that has been obtained. After reading, they will use data collection methods such as screenshots, which capture data in the form of images.

In this data collection method, a mobile phone is used as a tool to collect data in the form of screenshots. The data used in this research consists of sentences that have diction errors in Tempo's online news. This data is presented descriptively, and a triangulation method is used to verify the validity of the data. The data found in this research is analyzed using appropriate data collection techniques, noting errors in the data, clarifying errors, grouping data based on errors, and justifying incorrect data. The data in this research consists of images used in the screenshot technique. After repeatedly reading the data, the researcher observes the data and then collects it by recording the results of the data review according to the needs of the research.

Result and Discussion

This research was conducted by analyzing and discussing the diction errors found in 3 different news articles on the *Tempo.co* website. The results of the analysis from the researcher are as follows:

1st News: Perkumpulan Wali Murid Tolak Tanda Tangan Komitmen SPMB dengan Dinas Pendidikan Provinsi Jakarta

FGD hanya sekali. Kita kan memberi masukan, memberikan kritik, kemudian coba meminta lebih terbuka gitu. Mereka ya sekedar mencatat apa maksudnya. Tiba-tiba hari ini mereka mengundang kita untuk menandatangani komitmen bersama

Figure 1. Data 1

Table 1. Error in Diction of Standard Language Usage

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	Mereka <u>sekedar</u> mencatat <u>apa maksudnya</u> They are just noting what it means.	Mereka <u>hanya</u> mencatat <u>tanpa memahami maksudnya</u> They only take notes without understanding the meaning.

This sentence shows that the act of recording is done without a deep understanding of the information being recorded. This can lead to misunderstandings or a lack of mastery over the material that should be learned.

Sistem ini mulai diterapkan pada tahun 2025 untuk SD, SMP, dan SMA dan memiliki empat jalur penerimaan, yaitu domisili, prestasi, afirmasi, dan mutasi. Perubahan sistem ini bertujuan untuk mengatasi berbagai permasalahan yang dikeluhkan terkait pelaksanaan PPDB

Figure 2. Data 2

Table 2. Error in Diction of Standard Language Usage

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	<i>Perubahan sistem ini bertujuan untuk mengatasi berbagai permasalahan yang dikeluhkan terkait pelaksanaan PPDB yang selama ini dijalankan.</i>	<i>Perubahan sistem ini bertujuan untuk mengatasi berbagai permasalahan yang dialami terkait pelaksanaan PPDB yang selama ini dijalankan.</i>
	The changes to this system are aimed at addressing various issues that have been complained about regarding the implementation of the PPDB that has been carried out so far.	The changes to this system aim to address various issues encountered regarding the implementation of the PPDB that has been carried out so far.

The word "dikeluhkan" means that the issue has been communicated or expressed as a complaint. In the context of the sentence, a more appropriate word is one that indicates that the problem exists or occurs, regardless of whether there has been an official complaint or not. The use of the word "dikeluhkan" should be replaced with "dialami" so that it reads: This system change aims to address various problems that have been experienced related to the implementation of PPDB that has been running so far.

Sistem ini juga diklaim ingin memberikan layanan pendidikan yang lebih baik dan merata bagi seluruh siswa.

Figure 3. Data 3

Table 3. Error in Diction of Standard Language Usage

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
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1	Sistem ini diklaim ingin memberikan layanan pendidikan yang lebih baik.	Sistem ini diklaim supaya memberikan layanan pendidikan yang lebih baik.
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The word 'ingin' is a misuse of the word; it would be more appropriate to use the word 'supaya', which serves to indicate hope or purpose.

Dinas Pendidikan Jakarta mengundang LSM untuk menandatangani komitmen bersama hari ini. Jumono mempertanyakan mengapa Disdik Provinsi Jakarta meminta komitmen LSM.

Figure 4. Data 4

Table 4. Error in Diction of Standard Language Usage

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	Dinas Pendidikan Jakarta mengundang LSM untuk menandatangani komitmen.	Dinas Pendidikan Jakarta berkolaborasi dengan LSM untuk menandatangani komitmen.

The revised sentence still conveys the same meaning, which is that the Jakarta Education Department collaborates with NGOs in signing a commitment. By eliminating unnecessary words, the sentence becomes clearer, more concise, and effective by removing the phrase 'together today'.

2nd News: “Jones Lang LaSalle Ungkap Bisnis Apartemen Lesu: Investor Wait and See”

Head of Research JLL Indonesia Yunus Karim mengatakan, apartemen yang saat ini ditawarkan di pasar cukup terbatas. **Investor** sebenarnya banyak yang melirik bisnis ini, tapi mereka masih dalam posisi *wait and see*.

Figure 5. Data 5 dan 6

Table 5. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
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1	<p>Head of Research JLL Indonesia Yunus Karim mengatakan, apartemen yang saat ini ditawarkan di pasar cukup terbatas.</p> <p>Head of Research JLL Indonesia Yunus Karim stated that the apartments currently offered in the market are quite limited.</p>	<p>Kepala penelitian JLL Indonesia Yunus Karim mengatakan apartemen yang saat ini ditawarkan di pasar cukup terbatas.</p> <p>Kepala penelitian at JLL Indonesia, Yunus Karim, said that the apartments currently offered in the market are quite limited.</p>
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The sentences in bold are incorrect because they use a foreign language, namely English. In the linguistic rules of the Indonesian language, this is not quite right because it should not involve language transfer. Therefore, it is better to change the phrase 'Head of Research' to 'kepala penelitian'.

Table 6. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	<p><i>Investor</i> <i>sebenarnya banyak yang melirik bisnis ini, tapi mereka masih dalam posisi</i></p> <p>Actually, many investors are interested in this business, but they are still in a wait and see position.</p>	<p><i>Pembeli</i> <i>sebenarnya banyak yang melirik bisnis ini, tapi mereka masih dalam posisi tunggu dan amati</i></p> <p><i>Pembeli</i> are actually interested in this business, but they are still in a wait-and-see position.</p>

The errors found in the sentence fragment in the news article are in the words 'investor' and 'wait and see'. The term 'investor' has become very commonly used in the Indonesian language in this modern era, so the public is familiar with that term. However, in terms of Indonesian language usage, it does not comply with the rules. Therefore, the word 'investor' should be replaced with 'pemberi/penanam modal' or it can also use the word 'pembeli'. Meanwhile, the term 'wait and see' is a loanword from English, so it is better to replace it with 'tunggu dan amati'.

pertumbuhan. Menurut Yunus, para pengembang saat ini lebih banyak menjaga strategi *pricing*. Dengan strategi ini, mereka berfokus meningkatkan penjualan.

Figure 6. Data 7

Table 7. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The Diction Errors Found in the News	Improvement
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1	<p><i>Menurut Yunus, para pengembang saat ini lebih banyak menjaga strategi pricing. Dengan strategi ini, mereka berfokus meningkatkan penjualan.</i></p> <p>According to Yunus, developers are currently more focused on maintaining pricing strategies. With this strategy, they aim to increase sales.</p>	<p><i>Menurut Yunus, para pengembang saat ini lebih banyak menjaga strategi perhitungan/kalkulasi harga. Dengan strategi ini, mereka berfokus meningkatkan penjualan.</i></p> <p>According to Yunus, developers are currently more focused on maintaining pricing calculation strategies. With this strategy, they aim to increase sales.</p>
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Based on the words above, the word 'pricing' is also an adoption from English, so according to the rules of proper Indonesian language, it is not very appropriate. Therefore, it is better to replace it with ' kalkulasi/perhitungan harga.'

3rd News: “Wagub Kaltim Komitmen Perjuangkan Nasib Ojek Online”

INFO NASIONAL – Pemerintah Provinsi Kalimantan Timur menegaskan komitmennya dalam memperjuangkan kesejahteraan para pengemudi ojek online. Hal itu disampaikan langsung oleh Wakil Gubernur Kaltim H. Seno Aji saat menerima aspirasi ratusan driver ojek online, baik roda dua maupun roda empat, di halaman Kantor

Figure 7. Data 8 dan 9

Table 8. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The Diction Errors Found in the News	Improvement
1	<p>Pemerintah Provinsi Kalimantan Timur menegaskan komitmennya dalam memperjuangkan kesejahteraan para pengemudi ojek online.</p> <p>The East Kalimantan Provincial Government has reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for the welfare of online motorcycle taxi drivers.</p>	<p>Pemerintah Provinsi Kalimantan Timur menegaskan komitmennya dalam memperjuangkan kesejahteraan para pengemudi ojek daring.</p> <p>The East Kalimantan Provincial Government reaffirms its commitment to fighting for the welfare of online motorcycle taxi drivers.</p>

The word 'online' is indeed not unfamiliar in the modern era as it is used today, however, according to the rules of the Indonesian language, this is less correct because it is a loanword from a foreign language, namely English. Therefore, the appropriate term is 'daring'.

Table 9. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	<i>Hal itu disampaikan langsung oleh Wakil Gubernur Kaltim H. Seno Aji saat menerima aspirasi ratusan driver ojek</i> This was conveyed directly by the Deputy Governor of East Kalimantan H. Seno Aji while receiving the aspirations of hundreds of motorcycle taxi drivers.	<i>Hal itu disampaikan langsung oleh Wakil Gubernur Kaltim H. Seno Aji saat menerima aspirasi ratusan pengemudi ojek</i> This was conveyed directly by the Deputy Governor of East Kalimantan, H. Seno Aji, when receiving the aspirations of hundreds of motorcycle taxi drivers.
2	<i>online, baik roda dua maupun roda empat</i> online, both two-wheelers and four-wheelers	<i>daring, baik roda dua maupun roda empat</i> online, both two-wheeled and four-wheeled

Besides the word 'online' which should be replaced with the term 'daring', this data also contains loanwords from foreign languages, such as the word 'driver', which is the English term for pengemudi/pengendara, or can also be referred to as supir. Therefore, the word 'driver' should be changed to 'pengendara' or 'supir'.

Seno Aji menyampaikan bahwa dirinya memahami kesulitan yang dihadapi para driver di tengah persaingan ketat dan kebijakan aplikator yang sering kali tidak berpihak pada mitra.

Figure 8. Data 10

Table 10. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	Seno Aji menyampaikan bahwa dirinya memahami kesulitan yang dihadapi para driver di tengah persaingan ketat dan kebijakan aplikator yang sering kali tidak berpihak pada mitra	Seno Aji menyampaikan bahwa dirinya memahami kesulitan yang dihadapi para pengemudi di tengah persaingan ketat dan kebijakan aplikator yang sering kali tidak berpihak pada mitra

The word "driver" is also found in the second paragraph, the second sentence of this news. The word "driver" is a loanword from English. Therefore, it is advisable to replace the use of the word "driver" with "pengemudi/pengendara".

"Ojek online adalah urat nadi perekonomian Kaltim. Kami akan perjuangkan aspirasi ini langsung ke pemerintah pusat, bahkan kepada Presiden," ujar Seno.

Figure 9. Data 11 dan 12

Table 11. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	"Ojek online adalah urat nadi perekonomian Kaltim. Kami akan perjuangkan aspirasi ini langsung ke pemerintah pusat, bahkan kepada Presiden," ujar Seno.	"Ojek daring adalah urat nadi perekonomian Kaltim. Kami akan perjuangkan aspirasi ini langsung ke pemerintah pusat, bahkan kepada Presiden," ujar Seno.

In the third paragraph of this data, the word 'online' is also found, which is a loanword from English that indicates an activity connected to the internet. Therefore, the word 'online' should be replaced with the word 'daring'.

Table 12. Diction Errors in the Use of Foreign Languages

No	The diction errors found in the news	Improvement
1	Ia menambahkan, Pemprov Kaltim melalui Dinas Perhubungan akan segera mengirim surat resmi kepada Kementerian Perhubungan, berisi rangkuman aspirasi dan desakan agar diterbitkan regulasi nasional yang jelas dan berpihak pada driver .	Ia menambahkan, Pemprov Kaltim melalui Dinas Perhubungan akan segera mengirim surat resmi kepada Kementerian Perhubungan, berisi rangkuman aspirasi dan desakan agar diterbitkan regulasi nasional yang jelas dan berpihak pada pengemudi .
2	Lebih jauh, Seno menyatakan siap memfasilitasi perwakilan driver dari Kaltim untuk ikut serta dalam pertemuan nasional yang akan dihadiri perwakilan driver dari 20 provinsi.	Lebih jauh, Seno menyatakan siap memfasilitasi perwakilan pengemudi dari Kaltim untuk ikut serta dalam pertemuan nasional yang akan dihadiri perwakilan pengemudi dari 20 provinsi.

In paragraphs four and five of the news, the word 'driver' is also found, which is an English word referring to someone who drives a vehicle. Therefore, the word 'driver' should be replaced with the word 'pengemudi/pengendara' or it can also be replaced with the word 'supir'.

Based on the analysis results from the three articles on the online news site Tempo, many errors in diction were found, particularly in the use of foreign languages. Additionally, another mistake is the tendency to use everyday language. Diction is a fundamental element in building

the beauty of a language. (Nurminawati, 2024). Although in this modern era the use of 'language mixing' is often encountered, in the context of using good and correct Indonesian language, this is certainly less appropriate. The limited vocabulary of language users, in this case journalists, and the lack of understanding of good and proper language rules are the causes of diction errors in news writing.

The analysis of language errors is a study within linguistics aimed at recognizing and understanding the types of errors that arise in sentence formation. (Waningyun, 2025). Spelling and diction errors in online news writing include careful editing, the use of spelling check tools, as well as training for writers on grammar and appropriate word choice. Furthermore, the application of clear writing guidelines is also very important. Common language errors can obscure information and lead to misunderstandings. (Pertiwi, 2023)

In the study by Yanessupriana (2022) discussing various forms of Indonesian language errors found in outdoor media, such as banners and billboards, in the Jekan Raya and Pahandut areas of Palangka Raya city, 55 errors were found, consisting of 36 spelling errors and 19 diction errors. Spelling mistakes were most frequently found on banners, while diction errors were dominant in other contexts. The research results show that spelling errors are more dominant and can disrupt the effectiveness of message delivery to the public.

Furthermore, in the study by Hidayat et al. (2021), it was found that there are three main types of language errors in writing news at Detik Finance and Detik News: spelling errors, diction errors, and sentence structure errors. The use of a wide vocabulary will enhance the ability to choose the right diction to represent the ideas that want to be conveyed through news (Meirsanda 2024). Spelling errors are most commonly found in italicizing foreign terms, writing numbers and figures, and using capital letters. Diction errors occur due to the use of non-standard or contextually inappropriate words. Meanwhile, sentence errors include sentence fragments (without subjects/predicates), ambiguous sentences, the use of foreign terms without adjustments, and unnecessary question words. These errors are caused by a lack of understanding among journalists of Indonesian language rules, as well as time constraints in news writing. Training for journalists and editors regarding the correct writing rules are very necessary. (Desinta 2025)

Diction errors in online news writing include careful editing, the use of spelling check tools, and training for writers on grammar and appropriate word choice. In addition, the application of clear writing guidelines is also very important. Here are some solutions to avoid diction errors, including:

Editing and Proofreading

Perform meticulous editing before publication to ensure there are no spelling or diction errors. Use available online spelling and grammar checking tools to detect mistakes.

Training and Education Conducting training for news writers on the proper and correct use of the Indonesian language, including understanding spelling and diction. Encouraging writers to read and understand the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI) to become more familiar with the applicable rules. Enhancing writers' understanding of the proper and correct use of the Indonesian language.

Application of Standardized Vocabulary

Educating writers about the importance of using standard forms and avoiding the use of non-standard terms. Encouraging writers to use terms that already have equivalents in the Indonesian language, and to avoid unnecessary foreign terms.

Improvement of Content

Quality prioritizing the selection of precise and careful wording to accelerate the expression of ideas. Avoiding the use of inappropriate idiomatic expressions and ensuring that the sentences

used are clear and effective.

Conclusion

Lexical errors in Tempo's online news often include the use of inappropriate or ambiguous words, as well as spelling mistakes. Research shows that these errors can affect the understanding and meaning of the news presented. To reduce spelling and lexical errors in online news writing, writers need to pay attention to the use of correct grammar, carefully edit their words, and conduct thorough spelling checks. Additionally, training and a good understanding of the Indonesian language are also very important.

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