HEDGES USED IN THE BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY SECTIONS
OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT THESSES: A CASE STUDY AT DIAN
NUSWANTORO UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRAK

The thesis is entitled Hedges Used in the English Department Theses of Dian Nuswantoro University. It has
two objectives. First, it aims at classifying the types of hedges used in English Department Theses of Dian
Nuswantoro University. Second, it aims at describing the functions of hedges used in English Department
theses of Dian Nuswantoro University.

The method used in collecting the data was the documentation one. The data were taken from introduction
sections of English students theses in Dian Nuswantoro University in academic years of 2010 to 2012. The
steps to analyze the data are reading the data, identifying the types of hedges, calculating the relative
frequency of each type of hedges to know which one of those types was mostly used in the thesis, classifying
the types of hedges, and describing the function of hedges.

The result shows that the types of hedges mostly used in those theses are modal auxiliary verbs as many as
108 times (77.69%) that consist of modalities may, might, could, will, would, should and must. The other
types of hedges belong to modal lexical verbs used as many as 4 times (2.87%), adjectival, adverbial, and
nominal modal phrase used as many as 3 times (2.15%), approximators of degree, quantity, frequency, and
time used as many as 19 times (13.66%), if clause used as many as 2 times (1.43%), and compound hedges
used as many as 3 times (2.15%). The functions of hedges found in the introductions of the thesis are
function towards proposition and function towards the writer.

Kata Kunci : functions of hedges, hedges, thesis, types of hedges
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Keyword : functions of hedges, hedges, thesis, types of hedges