An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na’im

Helisa*, Masrul1
1 English Language Education Department University of Pahlawan Tuanku Tambusai

ABSTRAK
This research consists of problems research objective methods research findings and conclusions. This research focused on students’ ability to write descriptive text. Descriptive text included in the type of text that are not too difficult but still found some difficulties faced by students when writing the essay, this is the background of researchers doing this research. The purpose of the study is to analyze students’ ability to write descriptive text. In collecting data, researchers used the writing test as an instrument. This research is a quantitative descriptive study. The components analyzed are idea development, organizing ideas, grammar, vocabulary, mechanisms, content, and punctuation. Researchers analyzed students’ writing abilities based on five categories: very good, good, sufficient, weak, lacking, and very lacking. This research was conducted at MTS Darun Na’im class IX. The results of this study illustrate that students face difficulties in organizing and developing ideas. They are not able to develop ideas on the text they write. Whereas the grammar component found no fundamental difficulties. The vocabulary component also found some difficulties in applying good English vocabulary and still using Indonesian vocabulary. For the punctuation component, no significant errors were found. Based on the result of this study the teacher is advised to pay more attention to the teaching of descriptive text structures in the development of ideas, idea content, organizing, vocabulary, grammar, mechanisms. Teachers are also expected to provide more examples and exercises on descriptive text to students so that educational goals are achieved well, especially in English subjects.

Keywords: Students’ writing Skill, Descriptive Text.

INTRODUCTION
Language is very important as a tool of communication with other people to share the human moods. Fauziati (2009) says that language is very critical to human lives and its main function is for communication. We know that without language, people cannot interact with each other. People can share their experiences, their feelings, and their needs to each other by speaking and writing using language. There are many languages in this world. Almost every country and every city have a different language. One of the languages in the world is English. English as one of languages is very important in the world because it has become an international language.

Harmer (1998:24) states most adults can learn a language without studying it, providing they are in the right kind of contact with it. They may have more trouble with
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na’im

pronunciation and grammar than younger learner. However they may still be able to communicate fluently. It means that English is an international language which is not only students or younger people want to learn it but also the adults. Today English is very important and every kind of jobs needs someone who masters it. English is certainly important for all people to learn. All of people in this world and also Indonesian people have to learn it because we know that almost all of the book of science knowledge and international business are in English. The refore 4 Indonesian people must master English to improve the quality of education and the quality of progression of Indonesian itself.

Globalization era has made English be taught at school. The Indonesia Government curriculum has informed that all school in Indonesian have to teach English. Indonesia is a developing country which uses English as foreign language but not all of citizen can speak English although English has already been studied by Indonesian people from kindergartens until university. According to Cohen (1998:4) “foreign language is the language being learned, not spoken in the local community”. In addition English has to be mastered by students and it causes government of Indonesia to make English not only as lesson which must be learnt by students of Indonesia, but also as one of subjects in National Examination in Indonesia.

In practicing English there are four skills which must be mastered by the students. Brown (in Al-Khasawneh: 2008) states that languages consist of main four skills: reading, listening, writing, and speaking. Learners should be exposed to the all the mentioned skill to successfully master English. Writing is placed in the last among the four skills. The stage of the skill shows that students have to be familiar with the first three skill. Writing is the production of the written word in the form of text and it must be read and comprehended in order to communicate (Murcia,2001: 142). Writing is an important skill for the learners to enter science and technology. So students will get so many difficulties when they do not master English well. The main problem of Indonesian students in learning writing is that they have little chance to practice writing English. Therefore they still think that writing is not more important than the other skills. Some years ago it might be true. But now when the international language is be I the key to enter science and technology writing is very important to be learned by the English learners.

As Harmer (2001: 79) states that “By far the most important reason for teaching writing, it is a basic language skill as important as speaking listening and reading students need to know how to write letters how to put written repost together how to replay to advertisements and increasingly how to write using electronic media. They need to know some of special writing conventions (punctuation, paragraph construction, etc). Just ask they need to know how to pronounce spoken English appropriately. Part of our job is to given that skill.

Writing is considered by language learners as the most difficult skill science it that requires a lot of lexical a syntactic knowledge as well as principles of organization. The difficulty is not only due to the need to generate and organize ideas using an appropriate choice of vocabulary, sentence, and paragraph organization but also the necessity to turn such ideas into a readable text (Barli, 1995: 76). There are some reasons why writing skill is considered difficult for most students. One of them lies in Indonesian culture, which traditionally uses a lot of spoken language so that writing is not a way of expressing oneself. Furthermore, the task of writing will become more difficult when they have to write in
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na’im

foreign language, like English. The methods are used by teachers to manage the class also play an important role in the teaching and learning activities. Based on the observation, the English teacher still uses teacher-centered approach instead of student-centered approach. The teaching and learning activities are still dominated by the teacher. So the students usually just copy their friends answers. The students do not have any intention to do the writing task because the students think that writing English is very difficult. It means that the students’ motivation in learning English especially in writing skill is low.

The purpose of teaching English for MTS Darun Na’im class students is to develop communicative competence or spoken and written form to achieve the literacy level which can be realized through four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Depdikbud2006:367). In writing skill for students of the tenth grade High School for the first semester are given genre text such as only descriptive text. Based on the research in the tenth grade students of MTS Darun Na’im, one kind of writing type which is still difficult to be mastered by students is descriptive text. The students thought that to write a descriptive text is still difficult. The problems experienced by most students in creating appropriate writing text have encouraged the researcher to conduct this research.

The research was interested to analyze the worksheets of the students in composing Descriptive text an MTS Darun Na’im. The research intends to conduct research entitled “An Analysis of Students’ Writing Skill in Descriptive Text MTS Darun Na’im in the Academic Year (2019-2020).” The research would check the students’ worksheets in writing descriptive text of the tenth grade of MTS Darun Na’im.
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na’im

1. Content

Content is one of the important aspects in writing that should be noticed by students when they are writing. Content in writing deals with the ability to give clear information related to the topic of writing. Furthermore it belongs to the important aspect in writing because it also refers to the clarity of the paragraph. Brannan (2003:46) states that clarity is a crucial component in writing as it includes an explanation about examples reasons and word choice. To have a good content in writing writer need to write clearly by completing their explanation with the additional information to make the readers more understand to the idea of writers. For example if the writers want to write about herbivores they need to give the example of the animal that include to herbivores explain the reason why the animal mentioned belong to herbivores category and pay attention to word choice. To conclude the content of this research refer to the students’ writing ability in composing descriptive text which was relevant to assigned topic. The students were required to write a descriptive text with good content in which all sentences of a text relate to the topic describe the topic and tell about their experiences. Moreover they had to write a good content of descriptive text by giving clear information and explanation of their experiences relating to the topic that chose by students.

2. Organization

Organization skill refers to the ability to organize the ideas in logical sequence paragraph (Hartfield et al, 1983: 74). The sentences in the paragraph should be organized in logical sequence to make united contribution to whole paragraph. According to Kanar (1998: 74), a well organized paragraph should have unity and coherence. In addition, Oshima and Hongue (1991: 17) state that a good paragraph also has the elements of unity and coherence.

3. Grammar

Grammar is needed for the students to arrange correct sentences in conversation both in written and oral forms. Grammar is defined as a systematic way of accounting for and predicting an ideal speaker’s or hears knowledge of the language. This is done by a set of rules or principles that can be used to generate all well formed or grammatical utterances in the language (purpura 2004:6 ). Moreover Nelson (2001:1 ) states that grammar is the study of how words combine to form sentences. Thus from statement above can be concluded that grammar is a needed for the students to combine correct sentences in conversation both in written and oral forms.

4. Vocabulary

In writing vocabulary deals with the choice of words. Langan (2008: 439) states that the writer should choose the word carefully in writing. This statement describes that students need to pay attention on the words they use when they are writing because each word may represent a different meaning. For example the use of words listen and hear in a sentence is different although both of them are the same verbs that involve sense of hearing. It can be illustrated in the following sentence but the “present verb” it change into “past verb”. It helps the learner understand the different meaning of those words in the form of sentence.
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na’im

METHOD

The subject of this study was the students class at tenth grade high school Simpang Kubu. This setting was chosen since this school is one of favorite high school in Simping Kubu. The participants involved in this study were a teacher and a class (IX) consisted of 4 students. All Students’ writing s were collected but only ten texts from five students from low, and from high achiever from were analyzed in terms of schematic structure and languages features. texts sample were chosen since in qualitative design the quality of the samples is more important than the number of samples DePaulo (2000).

Based on the view Creswell (2009: 178) the techniques of collecting the data in qualitative research involve four basic types. These are observation interview documentation and audio-visual material. The object of the research is writing ability in descriptive text.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.6</th>
<th>The Recapitulation of Mean Score of Total Frequency Rang Ability in Test 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>STUDENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>M. Farhanllhaq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Hermasnsyah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>M. Iqbal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Raudnatullannah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.1</th>
<th>The Percentage of the Students’ Writing Skill of Descriptive Text of Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score / Rang</td>
<td>Ability level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 100</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70- 79</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 69</td>
<td>Fairly Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 – 59</td>
<td>Weak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 -49</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An Analysis on Students' Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na'im Class

Based on the table above could be seen that are students were obtained fairly good 1 or 25% they got good level they were main idea state fairly and accurately change of opinion statement some weak. In calculating of the data the weak 1 or 25% score of the students' writing of descriptive text of Poor is 1 or 25% It mean the students' writing skill of descriptive text of content is weak level. Good is 1 or 25% It mean the students’ writing skill of descriptive text of content is Poor level.

**Figure 4.1**
The Percentage of the Students' Writing Skill of Descriptive Text of Content

Based on the Figure above could be seen that are 1 or 25% students were obtained good level they got good level they were Main idea state fairly and accurately change of opinion relatively clear. 1 or 25% students were obtained Fairly good they got good level they were main idea state fairly and accurately change of opinion statement some weak. In calculating of the data the mean score of the students' writing of descriptive text of content is 50. It mean the students’ writing skill of descriptive text of content is weak level. Content is 0-49 It mean the students’ writing skill of descriptive text of content is weak level.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the result of students score and questionnaire of writing skill of descriptive text. The result of test of the students was low. Score the range showed that the mean score of the test 1. The test 1 of the students are categories excellent both poor. It mean the level of excellent is not students or 0% students. The weak is 1 or 25% students, The poor is 1 or 25% students. From the discussion above the level of students in the test are low or poor. The students problem in writing skill of descriptive text are: the students were lack of vocabulary, it is indicate the students did not brought a dictionary when learning process and the students think that English vocabulary hard to be learned. The students should be always bring dictionary when English learning.

**REFERENCES**


Sukarding (2007 : 134 ) test is systematic procedure in where individual being tested is represented by a set of stimuli their answer that can demonstrate to the figures.

Brookes & Grundy (1991 : 3 ) state that the purpose of writing for each person are different
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na'im


Byrne (1997: 6-7) gave the reasons of teaching writing in the early stages. Based on Zumakshin and Mufarichah (2004:9) Brookes & Grundy (1991: 3) ( Barli 1995: 76 ) There are some reasons why writing skill is considered difficult for most students.


Chanderasegaran (2002 : 14 ) indicates, *A problem to be expected in the writing classroom* is that students take longer than others to write the required parts of the essay. Chanderasegaran( 2002 : 14 ) indicates

Cohen Manion and Morrison , 2005 ) According to Arikunto ( 1993 : 92 ) *the other terms for document analysis are content analysis or informasi analysis.*


Huberman (in Sutopo 2002:95) ( Harris 1993 : 56 ) Drafting allows writer to start producing their writing by developing their ideas.

Harmer ( 1998: 24 ) states most adults can learn a language without studying it providing they are in the right kind of content with it.

Hornby ( 1995 : 1109 ) *skill is the ability to do something well.*

Hartfield et al,1983 : 74 ) the sentences in the paragraph should be organized in logical sequence to make united contribution to whole paragraph.

Sugiyono ( 2010 : 341 ) stated that the most frequent from of display data for qualitative researcher data in the past has been narrative text.

Kanar (1998; 74) *a well organized paragraph should have unity and coherence.*

Kennedy ( 2003 : 59 ) clarifies words into eight different words that are familiar for most people.

Langan (2008 : 439 ) states that the writer should choose the word carefully in writing.

Moreover Nelson (2001: 1 ) states that grammar is the study of how words combine to form sentences.

Miles and Huberman ( 1992 : 16 ) states that the data reducing can be interpreted as the process of selection simplification and transformation of the data to the field note.

Ghaith in Nur Rahman ( 2008 : 12 ) *states that writing is an intellectual activity in appropriate formats for the rhetorical presentation of ideas as well as mastery in all areas of language.*

Richards, 1997 : 101 ) *A more specific explanation about the purposes of written language is proposed by McMahan et al (1996:8) According to him language is used for these following purpose*
An Analysis on Students’ Writing Skill Class IX at MTS Darun Na'im


Oshima and Hongue (1991: 17) state writing as a progressive activity.

While Sari (2007: 63) says that writing is a complex process in which the authors can reveal all in their mind to be something real.

Author Information:

Helisa:
Email: helisha0808@gmail.com English Language Education Department, Faculty of Education at Universitas Pahlawan Tuanku Tambusai. Tuanku Tambusai Street, No. 23, Bangkinang City, 28412, Indonesia.

Masrud:
Email: masrulm25@gmail.com; English Language Education Department, Faculty of Education at Universitas Pahlawan Tuanku Tambusai. Tuanku Tambusai Street, No. 23, Bangkinang City, 28412, Indonesia.