

THE EFFECT OF USING PICTURES APPLICATION TO IMPROVE THE STUDENTS' WRITING DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH OF SMP NEGERI 1 LABUHAN DELI

¹ Jontra Jusat Pangaribuan

² Immanuel Silitonga

¹⁻² FKIP Unika Santo Thomas Medan

Corresponding author:

Abstrak

This study deals with the effect of using pictures in writing descriptive paragraph. The objective of this research is to find out whether using picture significantly affect or not in writing descriptive paragraph. This study is conducted by experimental design. The population of this study is 98 students, the eight grade students of SMP Negeri 1 Labuhan Deli. the population is the Second year students of SMP Negeri 1 Labuhan Deli. There are three parallel classes which consist of VIII1, VIII2, and VIII3. Each class is consisted of 35 students. Total numbers of population are 105 students. The data are acquired by using written test. Based on the findings and analyzing the data that are presented in the previous chapter, the researcher tries to conclude this research that focus on the students' ability in writing descriptive composition through pictures. It can be proved by applying the t-test formula both in experimental and control group, the $t_{obs} > t_{table}$ ($p = 0.05$) with df 68; $5.28 > 2.000$ ($p = 0.05$) with df 68. It means that H_a is accepted. Based on the result of the research, it means that H_a is accepted. It can be concluded that there is a significant effect of picture application in writing descriptive paragraph

Kata kunci: Pictures Application, Writing, and descriptive Paragraph

INTRODUCTION

English is the most important language in this world. It is one of the major languages that is used by more than two thirds of the world's population. Language is a human system of communication that uses arbitrary signals, such as voice sounds, gestures, or written symbols. Nowadays, English is used in work, technology advances, especially in the world of education. So, it is important to be learned in order to improve the quality of the social life. Dealing with the facts that English is a global language, to create a competitive generation in all aspects of life, Indonesian education includes English subject in the curriculum of elementary school up to senior high school. It means that English becomes an obligatory subject and students are supposed to learn English since the early ages. . It is one effort to make students master English with its four skills; listening, speaking, reading, and writing; to create a generation of innovation. The most frequent form used is writing.

Nunan (2003:89) states that "writing is the most difficult skill among the four skills." In mastering writing, students need to master knowledge of linguistics elements such as grammar and vocabulary. Writing is considered as the most difficult one to study for many students by the reason that it is so difficult for them to generate the ideas that they have in mind. Viewed from the students' perspective, many teachers have difficulties in teaching students how to write because it involves many components such as structure, vocabulary, punctuation, and spelling. Therefore, many teachers nowadays only give the subject material, explain it briefly, and then ask their students to write. In writing will also find many kinds of texts; one of them is descriptive text. Many teacher also consider that descriptive text is an easy material, but in contrast, it is difficult because they have to explain about the thing that exist and the thing that does not exist, something that can not be seen, felt, smelt, or even touched. Because of this condition, it really needs creative efforts from the English teachers to conduct the process of teaching-learning. In teaching writing, teachers must be able to make an innovation and interesting media of teaching, to make their students easy to express their idea and write it become paragraph.

According to (Wright, 1989: 2-4), picture is one media which is suggested for helping the success of teaching learning. By using picture, the teacher will be easy to transfer the material. For the students, it will increase their interesting so that they can complete writing task well especially in writing descriptive paragraph. It helps students to be inspired to have more creative ideas. By the detail pictures, students are able to write good sentences which are arranged into good stories effectively. Therefore, the researcher would like to conduct a research entitled "The Effect of Using Pictures Application to Improve the Students' Ability in Writing Descriptive Paragraph of SMP Negeri 1 Labuhan Deli"

DISCUSSION

This research is an experimental research. It is conducted to acquire the effect of applying picture technique in writing descriptive paragraph. Experimental research can be roughly divided into five phases: (1) Identifying a research problem; (2) Planning an experimental research study; (3) Conducting the experiment, Analyzing the data; and (4) Writing the paper/ presentation describing the findings. This research is an experimental research. It is conducted to acquire the effect of using picture in writing descriptive paragraph. It means that in conducting the experimental research, the sample will be defined into two groups, namely experimental group and control group.

Population is all the subjects of a research (Arikunto, 2006:130). The populations in this study are all the numbers of students to whom the researcher wished to get the data. Thus, the population is the second year students of SMP Negeri 1

Labuhan Deli. There are three parallel classes which consist of VIII1, VIII2, and VIII3. Each class is consisted of 35 students. Total numbers of population are 105 students.

According to Arikunto (2002: 126), instruments are some tools used when a research is conducted in a particular method. The instrument for collecting the data is designed in order to gain the result of the study. The instrument used for collecting the data is a test. The type of the test is writing. The test is given by asking the students to write descriptive paragraph based on the topic which is seen from the picture. The test is applied for pre-test and post-test. The pretest is aimed at finding out the prior writing of the students; while post-test is aimed at finding out the students' writing skill after treatment was given (teaching with pictures and with conventional method). This activity is also intended to find out whether the students still keep holding of the materials after the treatment.

A test is said to be good if it is valid and reliable. To ensure that the test is already good, both its validity and reliability should be established. Arikunto (2006:168) states the validity is a measurement which shows the levels of the instrument's validity. The concept of the validity is referred to the next measure. The validity is the extent to which it measures what is supposed to measure.

Arikunto (2006:178) says that reliability shows an instrument that can be trusted used as a tool of collecting the data because it has already well enough. Reliability was one of the characteristics of good test. It referred to the consistency of the measurement. A good instrument will not be tendencies to lead the respondents in choosing certain answers. If the data is appropriate to the fact, the result will be the same although it is exercised many times. It means that reliability refers to the consistency of the measurement.

In getting the data in this study, three procedures were taken by writer namely: pre-test, treatment (teaching presentation), and post-test. Before the treatment (teaching presentation), a pre-test was administrated to the experimental group and control group. The pre-test was used to find the mean scores of each group. The experimental group and control group was taught by using same materials but different instrument. In the experimental group, the writer used picture application in writing descriptive paragraph, and in control group the writer did not use picture applications. The treatment was consisted of six meetings include pre-test and post-test. Having given treatment, post-test was given to each student. This post-test was exactly the same with the pre-test which had been used in order to know the mean score of experimental group and control group. The result is corrected accurately in order to find out if the effect of using pictures on students' ability in writing descriptive paragraph is significant or not.

There are some important indicators which are considered in scoring the students' result in writing descriptive paragraph. In giving the score for the students' writing test, it is needed some indicators to give the score. There are five components that must be paid special attention in scoring descriptive writing, namely social function, generic structure, and lexicogrammatical features. The data of this result are the students' descriptive writing achievement that are done twice, in pre-test and post-test. The students are divided into two groups namely experimental and control group. Both experimental and control group were given an essay writing. The data in this research is the scores of the students both in experimental and in control group. The students' scores are obtained by the writer after pre-test and post-test are applied in experimental and control group.

Before using the test to collect the writer's research data, the writer made a try out to the students. The reliability of writing test can be calculated by using Pearson Product Moment. The formula is as follows:

$$r = \frac{N(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{[N\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2][N\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}}$$

$$r = \frac{32(126281) - (1973)(2024)}{\sqrt{[32(123317) - (1973)^2][32(130238) - (2024)^2]}}$$

$$r = \frac{4046992 - 3993352}{\sqrt{[3946144 - 3892729][4167616 - 4096576]}}$$

$$r = \frac{53640}{\sqrt{[53415][71040]}}$$

$$r = \frac{53640}{\sqrt{3794601600}}$$

$$r = \frac{53640}{61600}$$

r = 0,87

By having the calculation above, it was known that the reliability of the test is 0,80. Based on the level of reliability of a test, the reliability of the test is very high. This research conducted the content validity in which the writer made a try out to check the clarity of the test and to measure the validity of the test. The try out was given to other students at the same level which consists of 32 students. The data are obtained by giving writing test to the students in order to know their ability in

descriptive writing. It is calculated by using the scores of writing test in both of experimental and control groups. The analysis is intended to get the significance between using picture application and using conventional technique in writing descriptive paragraph. The data of pre-test and post-test by the two groups are computed by using t-test formula. To find out whether the picture application has significantly affect on students' descriptive writing achievement, the result of the t-test is calculated by using t-test formula. The formula is as follows:

$$t = \frac{Mx - My}{\sqrt{\left\{ \left(\frac{X_2 + Y_2}{N_x + N_y - 2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{N_x} + \frac{1}{N_y} \right) \right\}}}$$

Note:

Mx = The Average scores of the experimental group

My = The Average scores of the control group

X2 = Deviation of the experimental group

Y2 = Deviation of the control group

Nx = Number of experimental group

Ny = Number of control group

The calculation showed that:

Mx = 15,34

My = 7,08

X2 = 2127,88

Y2 = 778,74

Nx = 35

Ny = 35

$$t = \frac{Mx - My}{\sqrt{\left\{ \left(\frac{X_2 + Y_2}{N_x + N_y - 2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{N_x} + \frac{1}{N_y} \right) \right\}}}$$

$$t = \frac{15,05 - 7,17}{\sqrt{\left\{ \left(\frac{1875,89 + 774,97}{35 + 35 - 2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{35} + \frac{1}{35} \right) \right\}}}$$

$$t = \frac{7,88}{\sqrt{\left\{ \left(\frac{2650,86}{68} \right) \left(\frac{2}{35} \right) \right\}}}$$

$$t = \frac{7,88}{\sqrt{(38,98)(0,057)}}$$

$$t = \frac{7,88}{\sqrt{2,22}}$$

$$t = \frac{7,88}{1,49}$$

$$t = 5,28$$

As stated before, the objective of this research is to find out whether the picture application significantly affect on students' descriptive writing achievement or not. Based on the calculation, the result of the research which was tested by using t-test formula, the t-observed is 5 and t-table is 2.00 (p = 0.05). It is obtained that t-observed > t-table. It means that the alternative hypothesis (Ha) is accepted. In other words, picture application is significantly effect in writing descriptive paragraph.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and analyzing the data that are presented in the previous chapter, the researcher tries to conclude this research that focus on the students' ability in writing descriptive composition through pictures. It can be proved by applying the t-test formula both in experimental and control group, the $t_{obs} > t_{table}$ (p = 0.05) with df 68; 5.28 > 2.000 (p = 0.05) with df 68. It means that Ha is accepted. Based on the result of the research, it means that Ha is

accepted. It can be concluded that there is a significant effect of picture application in writing descriptive paragraph.

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