THE USE OF ONLINE MAGAZINE IN TEACHING WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT

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Abstract

Writing is one of the skills that must be learned in addition to other skills. Considering that, this research aims to apply writing instruction using an online magazine and to know the students' response to the instruction of writing using an online magazine. The researcher used descriptive qualitative. The research subject is the students of class X MAN Sidoarjo. The researcher used several instruments, namely observation data check, field notes, and questionnaire. Data from observation is analyzed using descriptive analysis. The results of the learning show that the application of writing instruction using an online magazine during the teaching-learning process. Before the activity, the teacher gives students warm-up and explains how to use an online magazine for material descriptive writing. After that, the students...
proses pengajaran, guru menjelaskan materi menggunakan majalah online. Dan pada akhir pengajaran, guru memberikan tugas kepada siswa. Berdasarkan hasil dari angket, siswa-siswa yang menjawab ya sebesar 59%. Ini berarti lebih dari 50% dari siswa-siswa menyukai belajar bahasa inggris menggunakan majalah online khususnya untuk materi teks deskripsi. Siswa-siswa yang menjawab tidak sebesar 41%. Ini berarti dibawah 50% tidak menyukai belajar bahasa inggris menggunakan majalah online. Untuk saran, guru dan siswa harusnya mengerti cara menggunakan majalah online untuk pembelajaran menulis. Untuk peneliti selanjutnya, peneliti menyarankan agar penelitian ini dapat menjadi rujukan bagi penulisan penelitian yang lainnya.

Kata Kunci: Menulis, Teks Descriptif, majalah online

Abstract

Writing is one of the skills should be taught besides the other skills. Considering it, this research aimed at implementing teaching writing descriptive text using online magazine and knowing student’s responses about teaching writing descriptive text using online magazine. The researcher used descriptive qualitative. The subject of the research was the tenth grade students of MAN Sidoarjo. The researcher used some instruments, they were observation checklist, field note, and questionnaire. The data from the observation analyzed using descriptive analysis. The result of the study demonstrates that implementation of teaching writing descriptive text using online magazine during teaching and learning process. The pre activity, the teacher gave students warming up and explained how to used online magazine for
descriptive text lesson. After that, the while activity, the teacher explained the lesson using online magazine. And the last post activity, the teacher gave task to students. Based on questionnaire, the students answered yes were 59%. It meant, more than 50% of students liked studied English using online magazine especially for descriptive text lesson. The students answered no were 41%. It meant, under 50% of students did not like studied English using online magazine. For suggestion, the teacher and the students should understand how to use online magazine for teaching writing. For further researcher, the researcher suggest that this research can be reference in writing the other research.

*Keywords*: Writing, Descriptive Text, Descriptive text
Introduction

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool of communication among the nation in all over the world. As an international language, English is very important and has many interrelationships with various aspect of life owned by human being. In Indonesia, English is considered as the first language and taught formally from elementary school up to the university school. The communication can be done through spoken or written language.

Based on the statement by (Klimova, 2013, p. 9) much of writing are used as professional communication such as proposals, memos, reports, applications, preliminary interviews, and e-mails.

Writing is one of the crucial skills in learning language. It is the last indicator of learners’ success in mastering a second language after the mastering skills of listening, speaking and reading. In line with this, Nation and Newton (2009:113) stated that with writing, as with the other
languages skill, it is useful to make sure that learners are involved in meaning-focus use, language-focus learning, and fluency development. Learning writing gives much benefit for students and chances to practice their English. Students can express their ideas, develop their vocabulary and grammar and communicate their goals through writing. Huy (2015:55) confirms that developing students’ vocabulary and grammar, improving their ability to use language and supporting other language skills can be done through writing activity. In addition, Javed, Juan and Nazli (2013:129) conclude that writing skill has a significant role to improve students’ exposure and ability with the goal of communication and interaction. In the context of teaching English in senior high school in Indonesia, teaching writing focuses on three text types: descriptive text, narrative and recount text (Depdiknas, 2006). In this case, teachers must be able to encourage students’
ability in writing with a suitable strategy that can improve students’ interest and motivation, so the learners will give the response by spending their energy to be productive in this skill. In learning descriptive text, according to teacher in MAN Sidoarjo, students have difficulties in learning writing descriptive text. Student confuses what to write although they know the topic which has been given by the teacher. Meanwhile Pardiyono (2008:33-34) states that description is kind of written text which has the specific function to give description about an object (human or non-human). The conclusion from two experts that descriptive text is a text to retell about person, thing, and place detail.

The writer chooses descriptive text because describes person, place, thing, or idea using concrete in details. Based on Zumakhsin (2008:54), descriptive text is text to describe what we see. In fact, when the researcher visited at
tenth grade of MAN Sidoarjo, she found that the students still did not understand what the descriptive text is, and how to describe the generic structure of descriptive text using online magazine.

An online magazine is a magazine that published on internet, through bulletin board systems and other form of public computer networks. One of the first magazines to convert conventional format to being online only was the computer magazine.

An online magazine provide many features with a blog and online newspapers, but can usually be distinguished by approach to editorial control. Magazines have editors who review submissions and perform a quality control to ensure all material engaged with the expectations of publishers (people that invest time or money in production) and the readership.

The researcher choose flipsnack.com as a references to blended learning. Learning how to write a descriptive text by using online magazine can give
powerful energy for students better than using conventional ways. As Crystal (2001:195) said, weaving the Web provides a characterization of this element of the internet which truly strains the notion of “situation” and accompanying concept of a “variety” of the internet language. Meanwhile, Cahyono and Widiati (2007:190) mentioned that studies general worry the use of internet service to help students explore their English proficiency. Lestari’s (2004) stated that online chat is effective to make students more active involved in English written communication. Based on all of those facts, this research will focused on the using of online magazine in teaching writing descriptive text to tenth grade students of MAN Sidoarjo.

Research Method

The type of the research was qualitative. Qualitative was a strategy of enquiry which moved from the underlying philosophical assumption to the research design and data.
This research used qualitative research design because it was appropriate with objectives of the research which focused on teacher's problems in teaching writing, the possible causes of the problems in teaching writing descriptive text using online magazine were faced by students. The result of research emphasized more toward the data interpretation found in the field. The result reported in the form of figures and tables with statistical measures, but illustrated in the form of described words to the result.

**Finding**

The researcher took the data of the research from field note and observation checklist from the process of teaching writing descriptive text by online magazine. The pre activity, the teacher gave students warming up and explained how to used online magazine for descriptive text lesson. After that, the while activity, the teacher explained the lesson using online magazine. And the last post
activity, the teacher gave task to students.

The teacher distributed questionnaire about implementing teaching writing descriptive text using online magazine. The students’ responses collected from result of answered questionnaires. Questionnaire administered find out the students’ responses for each student. The questionnaire contained responses towards the using online magazine in the classroom.

Based on the result above, the researcher changed the result into percent so that the reader easily understood the data. The researcher used formula based on Arikunto, 2005 as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Sum of Student’s Response</th>
<th>X 100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Number of The students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

The counted percentage students’ responses Yes/No questions in the following formula:

a. The students answer Yes:

\[
\frac{214}{360} \times 100\% = 59\%
\]

b. The students answer No:
Based on questionnaire, the students answered yes were 59%. It meant, more than 50% of students like studied English using online magazine especially for descriptive text lesson. The students answered no were 41%. It meant, under 50% of students did not like studied English using online magazine.

Conclusion

Online magazine was one of media which appropriate and useful in teaching writing descriptive text for tenth grade students. The media solved the
problems and difficulties of the student, developed social skills, and helped each other solved the problem in doing exercise for making a descriptive text. Besides, the media made comfortable to students engaged with lesson and made them focused during teaching learning activity in the classroom.

From the data found by the researcher, they showed that there were differences of students’ ability after using online magazine. The students’ writing topic descriptive text more varied. Then, the researcher concluded using online magazine gave contribution to student in understanding the lesson is given by teacher.

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