

# AN ANALYSIS OF THE ABILITY OF THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF SMPN 3 PADANG IN WRITING AN ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

Era Vika Indra Swari<sup>1</sup>, Welya Roza<sup>2</sup>, Fatimah Tanjung<sup>2</sup>

1Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Bung Hatta

E-mail : [devi.devia860@gmail.com](mailto:devi.devia860@gmail.com)

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## Abstract

There were some problems dealing with writing announcement text especially in making generic structure, language feature, appropriate words and mechanics of announcement text. This research was to describe the ability of the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang in writing an announcement text. The design of this research was descriptive. The population was 160 students. There were 29 students as sample. The researcher used writing test to collect the data. The coefficient of correlation was .96. To analyze the data based on the result of writing test, the researcher presented the raw score. Then she calculated the students' score, the mean, standard deviation (SD), classified the students who got high, moderate, or low ability, and counted the percentage of students' ability. The result of this research showed that in general students' ability in writing announcement text at SMPN 3 Padang was moderate. There were 23 students (79.3%) who had moderate ability. In specific, there was 93.1% got moderate ability to use generic structure, there were 75.86% got moderate ability to use language feature, there were 93% got moderate ability to use appropriate words, and 69% got moderate ability to apply mechanics. Since the result of this research in writing an announcement text was moderate, the researcher gives suggestion to the students to pay attention to use generic structure, using language feature, using appropriate words, and applying mechanics. They should do more exercises in order to improve their ability in writing announcement text.

**Key words:** ability, writing, announcement

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## Introduction

Writing is generally known as a common English skill that should be mastered by students beside speaking, listening and reading. It is used to express our ideas, opinions and suggestions. In writing, we need to clear our ideas to make

our reader understand what we talk about, and it must be reasonable.

When I was practice teaching at SMPN 3 Padang, there were some problems dealing with writing announcement text especially in making generic structure, language feature,

appropriate words and mechanics of announcement text. For example, there were some SMPN 3 students don't know how to write generic structure and language feature of announcement text.

According to English teacher association of junior high school Padang (2013:32), announcement is something that someone says or writes formally or informally to give information for public.

Announcement divided into two, they are spoken announcement and written announcement. Spoken announcement use spoken language. Written announcement tells about title of announcement, event of announcement tells about what happen, time of announcement tells about when does the event happen, place of announcement tells about where does the event happen, and the last one is contact person or people who writes the announcement.

The generic structures of announcement text are opening, content and closing. Opening in announcement text are sentences to greeting reader for first before give information. Content in announcement text include date, time and more information about the event. The last one is closing that is about contact person or the announcer and the additional information about the event.

The language features of announcement text are used the simple present tense.

From the explanation above, the writer can make a simple conclusion that announcement text is a text that someone says or writes formally or informally to give information for public. The generic structures of announcement text are opening, content and closing. The language feature of announcement text use simple present tense.

### **Research Method**

The design of this research was descriptive research. The study was to describe the ability of the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang in writing announcement text. The population of this research was the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang. The population was 160 students. They are distributed into five classes, as shows in table below:

Table of The Number of population

No	Class	Number of Students
1	VII.A	32
2	VII.B	33
3	VII.C	32
4	VII.D	32
5	VII.E	31
Total		160

The researcher chose cluster random sampling to select the sample. Gay (1987:110) states that cluster random sampling technique in which the sample in group is randomly selected, and all number of selected group has similar characteristics. All of the students in first year of SMPN 3 Padang have studied with the same the same curriculum, syllabus, materials, the time allocation from the same teacher.

In choosing the samples, the writer used five small papers. The researcher wrote A, B, C, D, and E as the class on the piece of paper. Then, she put them into a box. After shaking it, she took out one piece of paper from the box. The class was taken became sample. The researcher took class VII.1 as the sample, the number of students was 32, but when the researcher took the data, only 29 students followed the class, they were 19% from the population.

The instrument of this research was writing test. The researcher asked the students to write an announcements text by choosing one of five topics given by researcher, they are:

- English Speech Contest
- Scholarship,
- Biology Practice to Maninjau Lake,
- Your Own Topic.

The researcher asked the students write opening, content, and closing of announcement. The researcher gave the students 45 minutes to do the test. The aspect that the writer wanted to find the students ability in writing opening, content, and closing of announcement text, language feature of announcement text, appropriate words and mechanics.

Before giving the real test, the researcher gave try out test to the students out to the sample. The researcher did try out test because the test was not standard test. Try out test was done on Wednesday, June 12<sup>nd</sup> 2013 at 12.14 pm. The researcher took class VII.2 as the sample of try out test. In this case the researcher wanted to know whether students understand or not about the instruction of the test, and to see whether the time allocation to do the test is enough or not for the students (45 minutes). The real test was done on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 10.00 am. The researcher took class VII.1 as the sample.

A good test should be valid and reliable. It means that a test is valid if it measures what is supposed to be measured (Gay, 1987:128). In order to see the validity of the test, the researcher used content validity. According to Gay (1987:129), one of the characteristics of the test validity is content validity. It

means that, the test was valid if it fixed with the materials that have been given to the students.

According to Gay (1987:135), reliability is the degree to which a test consistently measures whatever it is measured. In order to get the reliability of the test, the researcher used inter-rater method: researcher used two scores method. Then inter-rater technique can minimize the subjectivity in scoring the test. Researcher calculated the correlation of the two scorers by using Pearson Product Moment by Arikunto (2010: 213).

To find out the ability of the first year students SMPN 3 Padang in writing announcement text, the researcher collected the data by doing the following steps:

1. The researcher gave writing announcement text test to the students.
2. The researcher collected the students' works.
3. The researcher copied students' works. The original one is for the first scorer and the other one is for second scorer.
4. The researcher and second scorer read students' work one by one.

5. The researcher gave score in the students' work.
6. If there was different opinion between the first scorer and second scorer about the students' ability, they discussed them and gave score based on the criteria.

In analyzing the data based on the writing test, there were same steps that the researcher used to analyze the data:

1. Presenting the raw data and then the researcher calculated students' grade.
2. Calculating the Mean by Gay formula (1987:361).
3. Then, calculating Standard Deviation, the researcher used Gay (1987:362) formula.
4. The researcher classified the students' ability into high, moderate, and low ability.
5. The researcher determined the percentage of students' ability into high ability, moderate ability and low ability.

## **Result and Discussion**

Students' ability to write an announcement text

Based on criteria of scoring, the highest possible score was 100 and the

lowest one was 17. The result of data analysis showed that the highest score based on students' answer sheet was 73 and the lowest score 47.5. The mean was 61.6 and standard deviation was 7.23. the result of data showed that 0 student (0%) got high ability, 23 students (79.3%) got moderate ability and 6 students (20.7%) got low ability.

#### *Students' Ability to Use Generic Structure*

Based on criteria of scoring, the maximum possible score is 35 and the minimum possible score is 11. The result of the test showed that the highest score was 32 and the lowest score was 21. The mean was 22.24 and standard deviation was 2.8. the result of data analysis showed that 2 students (6.90%) got high ability, 27 students (93.1%) got moderate ability, and 0 student (0%) got low ability.

#### *Students' Ability to Use Language Feature*

The maximum possible score for this component is 25 and minimum possible score for this component is 2. The result of data analysis showed that the highest score of students' ability to use language feature was 14 and the lowest score was 9, she also found the mean was 12.8 and standard deviation was 2.2. after that, researcher found that 0 student (0%) got high ability, 22 students (75.86% got

moderate ability, and 7 students (24.14%) got low ability.

#### *Students' ability to use appropriate words*

The maximum possible score for this component is 25 and the minimum possible score for this component is 1. The result of the data analysis showed that the highest scorer of students' ability to use appropriate words was 24 and the lowest score was 4.5, she also found the mean was 17.8 and standard deviation was 6.8. after that researcher found that 0 students (0%) got high ability, 27 students (93%) got moderate ability, and 2 students (7%) got low ability.

#### *Students' ability to apply mechanics*

The maximum possible score for this component is 15 and minimum possible score for this component is 2. The result of the data analysis showed that the highest score of students' ability to apply mechanics was 10.5 and the lowest score was 6. She also found the mean was 8.6 and standard deviation was 1.2. After that, researcher found 8 students (28%) got high ability, 20 students (69%) got moderate ability, and 1 student (3%) got low ability.

#### *Students' ability to use generic structure*

In this case, the ability of first year students to use generic structure was moderate. It was indicated by percentage

93.1% had moderate ability. the generic structure was opening, content and closing are made by the students was not clear and complete.

For example:

Students' writing:

dear students

tomorrow you'll have on English speech contest. Please prepare your self.

time: 12am – 21 april 2013

place: smp. n. 3. Padang

head master

Ihsan

The correct one:

English Speech Contest

Dear Students

Tomorrow we have English Speech Contest. Please prepare your self.

time: 12am, April 21<sup>st</sup> 2013

place: SMPN 3 Padang

Headmaster

Ihsan

*Students' ability to use language feature*

Another finding of this research was students' ability to use language feature was moderate ability that is indicated by the students who has moderate ability (75.86%).

Students' writing:

English Spech Contest

attention please!!! Tomorrow we are to English speech contest student can going contest en the school please prepare your self.

The correct one:

English Speech Contest

Attention please!!! Tomorrow we are to English speech contest. Students can go to contest in the school. Please prepare your self.

*Students' ability to use appropriate words*

In using appropriate words, the students' ability was moderate that is indicated by 93% students had moderate ability.

Students' writing:

Announ cement

Attention for student. All an announ cement. English. Speech of contest

Pada.

Day=Sunday 12 may 2013

Place=aula. SDN 10 padang

Arretion thank you

10 may 2013

Thanks you for you arretion

Fahmi

The correct one:

Announcement

Attention!!! For all students

English Speech Contest

time: Sunday, May 12nd 2013

place: Hall SDN 10 Padang

Thank you for your attention

Headmaster

Fahmi

*Students' ability to apply mechanics*

In apply mechanics, the students' ability was moderate ability that is indicated by 69% had moderate ability.

Students' writing:

1. dear student
2. tomorrow you'll have on english speech contest
3. Junior Haight School SMPN 3 Padang

The correct one:

1. Dear students
2. Tomorrow you will have an English speech contest
3. junior high school, Padang

**Conclusion**

1. The ability of the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang to use generic structure was moderate. It was supported by the fact that there were 2 students (6.90%) got high ability, 27 students (93.1%) got moderate ability, and 0 student (0%) got low ability.
2. The ability of first year students of SMPN 3 Padang to use language features was moderate. It was supported by the fact that there were 0 student (0%) got high ability, 22 students (75.86%) got moderate ability, and 7 students (24.14%) got low ability.
3. The ability of the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang to use appropriate words was moderate. It was supported by the fact that there were 0 student (0%) got high ability, 27 students (93%) got moderate ability, and 2 students (7%) got low ability.
4. The ability of the first year students of SMPN 3 Padang to apply

mechanics was moderate. It was supported by the fact that there were 8 students (28%) got high ability, 20 students (69%) got moderate ability, and 1 student (3%) got low ability.

### Suggestion

1. Since the result of this study explains that the students' ability in writing an announcement text was moderate, the researcher were still advised to give more explanations and exercises to write an announcement text.
2. The students are expected to increase their attention to the generic structure of announcement text and do more practices in writing an announcement text.
3. The researcher suggests to the next researchers to do the research on an announcement text from different aspects such as : the factors that make students' ability is moderate.

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