

TEACHING WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT BY USING COLLABORATIVE TECHNIQUE

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Abstract

This paper is aimed to give explanation teaching writing by using collaborative technique. The teacher explains about introduction. The writer reviews some related literature from the expert. Writing is a receptive language process. The successful person in learning the language is determined by how well he or she can express their ideas in this language. To share their ideas students can use writing. Writing is not natural skill because one cannot acquire this ability automatically and easily. The four main elements of writing are planning, drafting, editing, final draft. Descriptive text is usually used in daily life such as, describing place to someone new, describing a person, or describing thing. Many students find difficulties in writing descriptive text. They also find vocabulary and grammatical problems and punctuation problems. To solve the problems that have been mentioned above, the writer tries to give easy way to write descriptive text by using collaborative technique. In this technique, students usually work in groups of two or more, mutually searching for understanding, solutions, meaning, or creating product.

Keywords: *Teaching Writing, Descriptive Text, Collaborative Technique*

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer, discusses background of the problem, the purpose of the paper and the last organization of the paper.

Background of the Problem

English is an international language that is used in all aspect of life in the world. According to Goodwyn (2005:1) 'English' is vitally important and typically described as the most important of all school subjects, principally because reading, writing, speaking and listening are needed to a greater or lesser degree in every other school subject, and for adult life. Most of people know about English language. It has an important part in education in Indonesian. English has been tough from junior high school until university level.

Student should master the four skills of English: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Wallace (2004:7) state that writing, speaking and listening are communication skills that are important in all subject areas in the curriculum. This is so because the students should be able to communicate in the target language in spoken and written language. The successful person in learning the language is determined by how well he or she can express their ideas in this language.

Writing is not natural skill because one cannot acquire this ability automatically and easily. Like Fitzpatrick says that (2005:9) to write well, you must do a lot of thinking, and you must begin reflecting on the topic before you begin to write. To acquire it, the students should get enough writing practices. These practices are supposed to stimulate the student's skill in writing and expressing thoughts in a good passage.

According to Hutchinson (2005:5) writing is just another form expression: skill develop with practice. Without practicing, it is impossible to write well and effectively. There are many kinds of writing. They are paragraph, essay, and

text. Text is one of the most important things in writing.

As mentioned before, writing skill, as one of the language skill, students must be mastered, because writing skill is a comprehensive ability that involves some aspects such as grammar, vocabulary, and media. Nation (2009:113) says that writing is an activity that can usefully be prepared for by work in the other skills of listening, speaking, and reading. Learning to write is important for the students of language. It is also one of significant subjects that are not interesting for some students. Not understanding what the writer means also the factor that causes difficulties for the students to determine what they should write when the teacher asks them to write their own idea. Most of them do not know how to present their ideas clearly and meaningfully in written language.

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter the writer, discuss definition of writing, importance of writing, descriptive text, the collaborative technique.

Definition of Writing

Writing is one of language skill in English. There are some definition of writing offered by many experts. Nation (2009:113) says that writing is an activity that can usefully be prepared for by work in the other skills of listening speaking and reading. According to Oshima and Hogue (2007:3) writing is a kind of writing that we use in high school and college classes. While Nordquist (2010) add that writing is really a process of communication. It means that a written language should be understandable the reader because it cannot directly as for many more information or delivering the message.

Vocabulary and grammar are some aspect that writer should be considered be writing to make the reader understand about the information. In the fact, the students find difficulties when they are writing because poor vocabulary, used the

good structure. In addition, Hasibuan say (2007:127) writing is both process and product. It means the writer should use good grammar and eduquatre vocabulary in making a good writing.

As Harmer (2005:4) states that, there are four main elements (1) planing, (2) drafting, (3) editing, (4) final draft.

1. Planing

Planing is experienced writers plan what they are going to write. In this step, the writer can choose one topic and then gather the ideas to explain the topic.

2. Drafting

Drafting is a process that the writer a rough draft using outlines as a guide. The writer just writes down on a paper what the ideas that she or he gets from her or his mind without attending to grammar, spelling, or punctuation.

3. Editing

Editing is the writers have produced the draft then, usually, read trough what they have written to see it works and where it doesn't.

4. Final draft

Final draft is the writers revise their work and write on the paper.

Based on explanation above the writer conclude that writing is a way to produce language that comes from out though. By using writing we can share ideas, feeling or anything that exist in our mind. Good writing is very important for every student. So that, reader can easily understand what the writer has been written, she can catch writer's idea.

Importance of Writing

Writing is very important for us, it can help good socialization, express our ideas, feeling, and our opinion. We can see the important of writing in daily life and in our social life, for example when we write application letter. Writing can also be hobby for peoples and to spend our time and we can also get money from writing. Writing also as a tool to communicate with other people.

Stiller (2011) says that writing skill is important part of communication and also writing is a valuable skill. According to Wikianswer (2011) the importance to writing are:

1. Writing help us to express our ideas.
2. Writing prepares us for school and employment.
3. Writing can be a great tool to help us know more about the way we think, writing can be solidify ideas and thoughts, and allow us to reflect on them if the ideas remained evolving in our head.
4. Writings one is one of the ways that we translate our thought for other people.
5. Writing assist us with other language task as well, learn how to form language and how to spell.

So why writing is very important? Because it is a very complicated skill structures, idiom and lexical item in a paragraph. And it is also a tool for communication with other besides speaking.

Criteria of Good Writing

According to Davies (2008:96) good writing skills usually develop from extensive reading, some specific training, and a good deal of practice.

Writing involves the following basic skills:

- a. Handwriting or typing
- b. Spelling
- c. Constructing grammatical sentences
- d. Punctuating
- e. In conclusion, writing has four basic skills and all of them is very important to be a good writer. A good writer not only depend of own ability but also many aspect can influence when we are writing.

Descriptive Text

They are thirteen text in English one of them is descriptive text. This text is aimed at giving description of things, animal or human, place or certain place. Blaylock (2006:1) state that in descriptive text, you are writing about what a person,

place, or thing is like. Sometimes you may where a place is located. Pardiyo (2006:163) says that descriptive text is about description of something or someone that consist of characteristics.

Descriptive text has generic structures, they are :

Identification and description. According to Purwati & Marta (2005) , generic structure of descriptive text has two parts: the identification and description.

1. Identification

The identification identifies the phenomenon to be described.

2. Description

The description describes parts, qualities, and characteristics of the person, place or thing to be described.

Therefore descriptive text has identification and description as generic structure. The writer can describe ,picture, place, human, or thing the other.

There are also some language future in descriptive text. According to Sudarti & Grace (2007) there are several language future use in descriptive text:

1. Using simple present

Simple present tense is the activity happen in daily life, and the habitual activity.

2. Use linking verb

3. Use adjective and compound adjectives

4. Use of degree comparison

Collaborative Technique

Collaborative is working with each other to a task and to achieve shared goals. Diaz (2010:1) explained that collaborative learning is instructional method in which students team together on an assignment. It is a recursive process where two or more people or organizations work together to realize shared goals, (this is more the interaction of common goals seen in cooperative ventures, but a deep, collective, determination to reach in identical objective.

Collaboration is more specifically as “mutual engagement of participants in a coordinated effort to solve a problem together. According to Azlina (2010:19) collaborative activities are democratic by nature, which make group members more flexible and eventually replaceable as a group and a learning community that shares knowledge and experiences

The Procedure of collaborative technique

Depdiknas (2004) explains that learning a language is started with two forms, spoken and written from where each cycle consists of four steps:

The procedure of “Collaborative Technique” as follows:

1. Background Knowledge of the Field (BKOF)

The teacher builds the students knowledge about descriptive text. The purpose is to remind the students about the topic which has been learned. The teacher also ask some language focus of descriptive and some characteristic which relate with descriptive text, such as: adjective, noun phrase and verb.

2. Modelling of Text (MOT)

In this stage, the teacher introduces a model of how to use technique and how to implement the technique in teaching writing descriptive text.

3. Joint Construction of Text (JCOT)

In this stage the students work in group or in pairs consists of two three, because they will have class discussion to explain and describe about what they have gotten in their mind.

✓ The teacher asks the students to try it in groups two or three.

✓ The teacher asks student to guess their idea in each group discussion.

4. Independent Construction of the Field (ICOT)

Teacher makes sure the students have understood in making descriptive text. The students will make all of the

description of the animal, thing, person in written form. During this stage, the teacher leads the provide and help the students if find some problems.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF “COLLABORATIVE TECHNIQUE” IN TEACHING WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT

In this chapter, the writer will explain about procedure of teaching writing descriptive text by using collaborative technique. The procedure consist of preparation and implementation consist of preparation and implementation. In implementation consist of pre- teaching activity, whilst teaching activity and post teaching activity.

Preparation

There are many things that teacher has to do in teaching writing descriptive text by using collaborative technique. They are as follows:

- a. Selecting the teaching material

In descriptive text they are about description of place, person and things. It is very important for teacher to select the material that will be used for though and for students in learning writing activity. The select material will help the teacher to achieve the teaching learning goal.

- b. Learning the material

The lesson or materials are presented in interest technique, this can make students understand the lesson. Also in choosing the appropriate at time, it would be better for the teacher to use the technique in the last time with limited time.

- c. Preparing the teaching material

To make the teaching learning process easy, it is better for the teacher to use collaborative technique. The students will be interested in learning descriptive text by describing thing, an animal, or a person by using collaborative technique.

Implementation

In teaching writing, the material is presented in systematic way. There are three parts of teaching wring activities namely, pre-teaching activities, whilst teaching activities and post teaching activities.

Pre- Teaching Activities

The activity that can be done in this stage are kind of warming up activities. Here the teacher asks the students to pray according to their belief before the lesson start. The teacher asks some questions related with the topic. The aim is to prepare the students to the new lesson. This activity trying to catch the students' attention and interested to study.

In addition, this activity can also encourage students schermata or prior knowledge about the lesson that is going to be tough. This activity is usually called brainstorming, where the students can active their existing lesson.

Whilst- Teaching Activities

This stage is as the follow up activity of the prewriting, where the students begin to write the draft of their writing.

1. The teacher asks the students to imagine or describe about someone or something and asks them to write on white board. After that, the teacher ask some questions to students about their writing.
2. Then, the teacher explains about collaborative technique that will be used in teaching learning writing descriptive text.
3. The teacher explores the students' knowledge about material that they discuss and the students pay attention and listen the teacher explanation.
4. Then, the teacher shows an example of descriptive text that had show and asks for students to read and find generic structure and language feature. This is an example of descriptive text of animal that can be shown to the students by the teacher. After all of the

students understand about material that discuss by teacher, the teacher gives exercise, asks the student to write or describe someone or something.

5. The teacher asks the students to do it in group. This case is easy the student to do it.
6. The teacher gives twenty minutes for the students to do their task and asks one of member every their group to write in front of class.
7. The teacher gives a point to the students' performance if the word, grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and punctuation are correct.
8. The teacher and student gives respons for group that had presented in their task.

Post Teaching Activities

This stage is the last step in writing .So, in this activity the teacher can test the student by giving some questions, which measure the students' ability to tell the topic that they learned. In post teaching, there are some steps:

1. The teacher gives opportunity for the students to ask some questions if they still confuse.
2. The teacher ask the student to read the text while reviews the lesson.
3. The teacher lead the students to look at the spelling of each word, the choice of words, the grammar and punctuation used in their writing. If there is any mistake, they should correct it.
4. The last, the teacher lead the students to conclude the lesson.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGESTIONS

Conclusions

Teaching descriptive text by using collaborative technique is helpful for both teachers and students. The students will be interested in learning descriptive text by describing thing, an animal, or a person. Collaborative technique is the best way to

motivate student in learning writing descriptive text.

Beside, in using this technique, it can help students to solve the problems and make them enjoy in learning writing descriptive text. by using this technique gives a good contribution for English teachers to achieve the goals and the purpose of language teaching.

It would be easy for English teacher in teaching a descriptive text, because students work in group to solve the problems when they are writing the descriptive text. the teacher can use these steps a guide in implementation a technique classroom.

Suggestion

In applying technique, it is suggested to an English teacher to apply the " collaborative technique " in teaching learning process because it can be developed the students writing descriptive text at junior high school. This technique is also useful in solving the problems of students in teaching descriptive text because they work in a group. The teacher has to choose some interesting materials in order to increase students willingness in wring descriptive text. One thing that more important is the corporation between teachers and the students in creating the good atmosphere in class to produce the good writing in descriptive text.

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