AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' PROFICIENCY IN WRITING EXPOSITORY TEXTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

The education system in Indonesia requires learning English for all students. Teaching English is not easy, especially in a pandemic Covid-19. This makes the government issue a policy that learning must be done at home through E-Learning. This study was conducted to determine the level of proficiency of students in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic.

This study aims to answer the following questions: (1). How is the students' proficiency in writing expository text during the Covid-19 pandemic? (2). What are the obstacles faced by students in writing expository text during the Covid-19 pandemic?. In this study, the writer uses a descriptive qualitative research method that focuses on students' proficiency in writing expository text during Covid-19 pandemic. This research was conducted at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro with 13 students of the English Education Study Program as the sample subject.

In this research the data was collected using Interview, Questionnaire, and Documentation. As for the data analysis technique, the writer uses coding techniques, and data display, to maintain the validity of the data with the triangulation technique. Based on this, the research results can be described as follows: (1). Students have different levels of proficiency in writing expository texts online. There are students who say that they are more proficient in writing expository texts face-to-face. On the other hand, there were students who felt that their level of writing proficiency improved during online learning. (2). The obstacles experienced by students in writing expository texts during online learning, it turns out that there are many obstacles. Starting from the signal, the changing lecture schedule and decreased learning motivation.

Keywords : *students' proficiency, writing, expository text.*

ABSTRAK

Sistem pendidikan di Indonesia mewajibkan pembelajaran bahasa Inggris untuk semua siswa. Mengajar bahasa Inggris bukanlah hal yang mudah, apalagi di masa pandemi Covid-19. Hal ini membuat pemerintah mengeluarkan kebijakan bahwa pembelajaran harus dilakukan dirumah melalui E-Learning. Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui, tingkat kemahiran siswa dalam menulis teks ekspositori selama pembelajaran di masa pandemi Covid-19.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mejawab pertanyaan sebagai berikut: (1). Bagaimana kemampuan siswa dalam menulis teks ekspositori di masa pandemi Covid-19? (2). Apa kendala yang dihadapi siswa dalam menulis teks ekspositori selama masa pandemi Covid-19?. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif yang berfokus pada kemahiran siswa dalam menulis teks ekspositori selama masa pandemi Covid-19. Penelitian ini dilakukan di IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro dengan 13 mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris sebagai sampel subjek.

Dalam penelitian ini data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan Wawancara, Kuesioner, dan Dokumentasi. Sedangkan untuk teknik analisis data, peneliti menggunakan teknik coding, dan data display, untuk menjaga keabsahan data dengan teknik tringulasi. Berdasarkan hal tersebut, hasil penelitian dapat di uraikan sebagai berikut: (1). Kemahiran siswa memiliki tingkat yang berbeda-beda dalam menulis teks ekspositori secara daring. Ada siswa yang mengatakan bahwa mereka lebih mahir dalam menulis teks ekspositori secara tatap muka. Disisi lain ada siswa yang merasa bahwa mereka tingkat kemahiran menulis mereka berkembang selama pembelajaran daring. (2). Hambatan yang dialami siswa dalam menulis teks ekspositori selama pembelajaran daring ini, ternyata ada banyak hambatan. Mulai dari sinyal, jadwal perkuliahan yang berubah-ubah dan motivasi belajar yang menurun.

Kata Kunci : *kemahiran siswa, menulis, teks ekspositori.*

INTRODUCTION

English is an important international language that can connect people with the world in various aspects including educational aspects. The education system in Indonesia itself requires learning English for all students, and is one of the requirements for graduation. Teaching English is not easy, especially in a pandemic. In this case, the author conducted research at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro which implemented online learning during the covid-19 pandemic. However, in its implementation, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro does not always use the online method, but they also occasionally apply face-to-face learning and it is quite successful. Based on these reasons, of course, this situation has never been experienced by students before. This makes the writer want to know whether students' proficiency in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic is growing or actually decreasing. Because writing is one of the skills that must be mastered in learning English. Naidu (2006: 1) says "E-Learning is commonly referred to the intentional use of networked information and communications technology in teaching and learning". In this topic, the writer uses google form media to conduct research. Writing using paper has often been done, but in these difficult times, students are required to adapt to the technology that must be used during E-Learning and face-to-face learning is very limited. Writer conducted research with the aim of knowing the level of proficiency of students in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic. Problems encountered during learning and writing will be investigated further.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, the writer used a qualitative research method. With this type of descriptive qualitative that focused on students' proficiency in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic. This illustrates how proficient students are in writing. Qualitative research is used to determine how proficient the students' ability level in writing expository text is during Covid-19 pandemic. According to Bogdan and Taylor (1975: 5), defining a qualitative methodology as a research

procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and behaviors that can be experienced. In this study, the subjects taken by the writer were English students. Writer took 2nd level 4th semester, and the writer took 13 students as a sample subject students at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro who had fulfilled the expository text course. Because the writer will analyze how the level of proficiency of students in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic.

In this study, primary data was in the form of notes from interviews and direct questionnaire results obtained through interviews and questionnaires that were seen in google form documentation and questionnaires are secondary data sources for the writer. In this research the data was collected using Interview, Questionnaire, and Documentation. In this study the writer uses qualitative data analysis techniques. However, Ary et al (2010: 283) state that data analysis in this study can be broken down into four stages; namely Coding, Data Reduction, Display Data, and Drawing Conclusions or Interpretations. In qualitative research, there are general techniques commonly used in increasing the validity of research data. This technique is called Triangulation. "Triangulation is defined as a data collection technique with a combination of several data sources" (Moleong, 2006: 330). The purpose of triangulation is to increase one's understanding of what has been investigated and researched. In this study, the writer uses triangulation. This is a Triangulation of Data Collection Techniques.

FINDINGS

This chapter presents data presentation and data analysis. This study was conducted to determine the level of proficiency of students in writing expository texts during Covid-19 pandemic. Based on the results of interviews from google form with 13 students as respondents, the writer obtained data that most of the students stated that their learning proficiency regarding the material of writing expository texts decreased during this pandemic. As quoted from the student with the initials SN below. *"Perkembangan menulis yang saya rasakan selama pembelajaran pandemi saya rasa semakin rendah. Karena dari pandemi ini lebih memfokuskan pada digitalisasi.* (The writing progress that I felt during the pandemic study, I think, is getting lower. Because of this pandemic the focus is more on digitization)".

Based on the results of the interview, the writer found that students experienced so many problems during learning during the pandemic. In particular, for materials on writing expository texts. Some students feel that offline learning is more effective than online. *"Saya harap mata perkuliahan kembali normal tidak ada daring, pembelajaran akan lebih efektif apabila dilakukan secara tatap muka bukan tanpa perantara.* (I hope that the lectures will return to normal without being online, learning will be more effective if it is done face-to-face, not without intermediaries)".

No.	Questionare	Scale	Frequency	Percentage
Statements	Statements			

1.	*Menulis teks ekspositori secara daring mempermudah mahasiswa.* (Writing expository texts online makes it easier for students).	4	3	23,1%
		3	8	61,5%
		2	2	15,4%
		1	0	0%
2.	*Penyampaian materi dari dosen membantu mahasiswa untuk menulis teks ekspositori.* (Submission of material from the lecturer helps students to write expository texts).	4	2	15,4%
		3	4	30,8%
		2	6	46,2%
		1	1	7,7%
3.	*Mahasiswa menyukai pembelajaran secara daring daripada luring.* (Students prefer online learning over offline).	4	2	15,4%
		3	7	53,8%
		2	4	30,8%
		1	0	0%
4.	*Pembelajaran secara daring untuk*	4	2	15,4%
		3	7	53,8%

keterampilan menulis	2	4	30,8%
sejauh ini berjalan	1	0	0%
efektif.			
(Online learning for writing skills has been effective so far).			

Among them are students having difficulty finding discussion topics and what is even worse, students' learning motivation during this pandemic is very low. The reasons are various, students say that with online learning, they can do other activities such as work and online learning can save costs, some say it is more effective, more practical because students can participate in teaching and learning activities anywhere without having to come to campus, and learning online can improve students' IT skills. There are pluses and minuses to both methods, namely learning during a pandemic is less effective, but more flexible. Because, students can do other activities. Furthermore, the schedule becomes fluctuating which makes it difficult for students. Meanwhile, from the results of the questionnaire 15.4% strongly agree, 53.8% agree, and 30.8% disagree if online learning during this pandemic is effective.

Based on the results of interviews, questionnaires, and documentation, the writer found that students were less proficient in writing expository texts which were done online. This is in line with the opinion of Imran (2000:17) explaining that according to research conducted by Ismail, Indonesian students' writing skills are the lowest in Asia. Though writing skills have a role in language skills.

CONCLUSION

After conducting research and data analysis, the following conclusions are obtained:

1. How are the students' proficiency in writing expository text during pandemic Covid-19?

a) Student's Profiency

Based on the results of interviews and questionnaires followed by 13 students. It was concluded that students have different abilities, some are proficient in writing expository texts when face-to-face learning is carried out. However, in online learning some are proficient and some are not. Based on the results of interviews, some of them do not like online learning. Because, they find it difficult to find a theme and their learning motivation decreases during this pandemic. On the other hand, there are some students who like online learning. Because it is more flexible and they can do other activities such as working for example.

2. What are the obstacles faced by students in writing expository text during pandemic Covid-19?

a) Student's Obtacles

Students experience many obstacles in learning during this pandemic. Starting from the signal, because not all students live in urban areas. Then the problem of the

schedule that often changes and it makes it difficult for working students to adapt, there are also problems related to student understanding, students find it more difficult to understand the material during online learning. This is because students' learning motivation decreases.

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