

# **COMBINING THE USE OF FREEWRITING AND MIND MAPPING STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE WRITING CREATIVITY OF NARRATIVE TEXT**

**SKRIPSI**



Presented to  
IKIP PGRI BOJONEGORO  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of Sarjana in English Education

**By:**  
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**NIM: 21120061**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ART EDUCATION  
IKIP PGRI BOJONEGORO  
2025**

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## **MOTTO**

*“Berjuang dengan niat, bertahan dengan tekad, dan melangkah dengan semangat, itulah proses dari perjuangan”*

*“Jangan pernah Lelah bertekad, sebab disetiap kesulitan Allah titipkan kemudahan”. (QS. Al-Insyirah:6)*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Firstly and foremost, thank to Allah SWT, the Almighty, for the blessings. Secondly, peace and salutations to Muhammad SAW, the final prophet in the world. The author was able to complete the preparation of this thesis. The title of the thesis the author proposes is “Combining the Use of Freewriting and Mind-Mapping to Improve Writing Creativity of Narrative Text, in academic year 2024/2025.”

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My Allah gives a good reply to all. For the sake of further improvement, suggestions and constructive criticism, the authors will be happy to accept. Last but not least, only to Allah, the author, to surrender everything may be useful, especially for writers in general and for us all.

## **DEDICATION**

With deepest gratitude and love, I dedicate this skripsi to:

1. My God, Allah SWT, Who has given me endless blessings and strength.
2. My beloved parents, whom I love dearly and who have always supported me unconditionally.
3. All my family members who never stop encouraging me in every step of this journey.
4. My lecturers in the English department for their valuable knowledge and guidance.
5. My skripsi advisors, whose advice, patience, and support have been invaluable.
6. My dear friends, for their motivation, laughter, and companionship throughout this process.

## STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I, the undersigned below :

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In order to uphold academic integrity, sincerely and without coercion from any parties, I hereby declare that the thesis entitled :

### COMBINING THE USE OF FREEWRITING AND MIND MAPPING STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE WRITING CREATIVITY OF NARRATIVE TEXT

Is the result of my own original work, and all sources of information used have been clearly cited in the reference list according to the scientific and academic code of ethics. I am aware that if any violations of scholarly ethics regarding to the authenticity of this work are found, I personally accept the consequences by the applicable regulations and am prepared to bear legal sanctions.

Bojonegoro, 11 July 2025

A yellow rectangular stamp with a red border. On the left, it says 'Rp10000' vertically. In the center, there is a Garuda emblem and the text 'METRAI TEMPEL'. Below the emblem, the alphanumeric code '2F9DBAMX386426408' is printed. A handwritten signature in black ink is written over the right side of the stamp.

Isroyah

21120061

## ABSTRACT

Isroyah. 2025. Combining The Use of Freewriting and Mind Mapping Strategies to Improve Writing Creativity of Narrative Text. Skripsi, English Education Department Faculty of Language and Art Education IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Lecturer: 1) Dr. Ima Isnaini Taufiqur Rohmah, M.Pd., 2) Ayu Fitriarningsih, M.Pd.

**Key Words:** Freewriting, Mind Mapping, Writing Creativity, Narrative Text.

Writing is a fundamental component of English language education, alongside listening, speaking, and reading. Writing plays a crucial role in helping students develop their ideas clearly and creatively. One form of writing that emphasizes creativity is creative writing, which plays a significant role in the composition of narrative texts. Narrative text is a form of writing designed to convey stories intended to amuse or engage the reader. Writing narrative texts requires creative writing skill so that the stories produced are more engaging and imaginative. However, based on observations in the 11th grade at MA Al-Munawwar, most students experience difficulties in writing narrative texts. Some of the problems include low interest in writing, limited vocabulary, difficulty in developing and expressing ideas, and the lack of effective strategies in the learning process. To address these issues, this research aims to improve students' creativity in writing narrative texts through a combination of freewriting and mind-mapping strategies. This research employs a Classroom Action Research (CAR) approach, using interviews, observations, questionnaires, and tests as data collection methods. The results show that the implementation of the combined strategies is effective in improving students' creativity in writing narrative texts. It has a significant increase in scores, from a pre-test average of 54.32 to 70.33 in Post-test 1, and reaching an average of 82.25 in Post-test 2.

## ABSTRAK

Isroyah. 2025. Combining The Use of Freewriting and Mind Mapping Strategies To improve Writing Creativity of Narrative Text. Skripsi, English Education Department Faculty of Language and Art Education IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Lecturer: 1) Dr. Ima Isnaini Taufiqur Rohmah, M.Pd., 2) Ayu Fitriarningsih, M.Pd.

**Key Words:** Freewriting, Mind Mapping, Kreativitas Menulis, Teks Naratif

Menulis merupakan kemampuan dasar yang perlu diajarkan dalam proses belajar Bahasa Inggris, selain menyimak, berbicara, dan membaca. Kemampuan ini berperan penting dalam mendorong siswa untuk menyampaikan ide secara jelas dan kreatif. Salah satu bentuk menulis yang menekankan kreativitas adalah *creative writing*, yang sangat berperan dalam penyusunan teks naratif. Teks naratif sendiri merupakan tulisan yang mengisahkan suatu kejadian dengan tujuan menghibur kepada pembaca. Dalam penulisannya diperlukan kemampuan *creative writing*, agar cerita yang dihasilkan lebih menarik dan imajinatif. Namun, berdasarkan hasil observasi di kelas XI MA Al-Munawwar, siswa mengalami kendala dalam menulis teks naratif. Beberapa hambatan yang mereka dihadapi antara lain, rendahnya minat menulis, keterbatasan kosakata, kesulitan dalam mengembangkan dan mengekspresikan ide, serta kurangnya strategi yang tepat dalam proses pembelajaran. Untuk mengatasi permasalahan tersebut, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kemampuan menulis kreatif dalam teks naratif dengan menggabungkan strategi *freewriting* dan *mind mapping*. Penelitian ini menerapkan pendekatan Penelitian Tindakan Kelas (PTK), dengan metode wawancara, observasi, questionnaire, dan test. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penerapan kombinasi kedua strategi tersebut efektif dan mampu meningkatkan kreativitas menulis teks narrative pada siswa kelas XI MA Al-Munawwar. Hal ini ditunjukkan melalui peningkatan nilai yang signifikan, yaitu dari nilai pre-test 54.32%, meningkat menjadi 70.33 pada Post-test 1, dan mencapai nilai rata-rata 82.25 pada Post-test 2.

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

Writing is one of the essential skills students need to master in learning English, as the four main language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing has a significant role as it requires an understanding of vocabulary and the ability to express ideas clearly and creatively. Writing serves as a medium to communicate information and express ideas effectively (Qur'ani and Anggraini, 2018). Furthermore, improving writing skills can boost student's confidence and encourage creativity. As observed by (Fitria, 2024), writing allows students to express their thoughts and emotions clearly through appropriate vocabulary and good coherence. Additionally, writing can enhance creativity by generating new ideas and concepts, resulting in more engaging and meaningful works. Hedge 1998, as cited in Dian (2023) divides writing types into six categories, one of which is creative writing.

Creative writing is a type of writing that focuses on the expression of the writer's imagination, ideas, and emotions in a free and original manner. Fitria (2024), creative writing includes the ability to generate new ideas and organize them interestingly and effectively, which makes it an important aspect of creating creative writing. The importance of creative writing lies in its ability to present writing that is not only informative but also has aesthetic and emotional value so that it can arouse the attention and feelings of readers. Creative writing is usually also used in writing narrative text because important elements in narrative texts such as plot,

character, conflict, and setting require creative skill to build a well-structured, interconnected, and interesting story. As explained by Temizkan (2014), as cited by Ahiskali & Maltepe (2023), these elements interact with one another to create a narrative text, so creative writing is the main key to success in composing narrative text.

Narrative text is a type of text that tells a story with the purpose of entertaining or informing the readers or listeners. Through writing narrative text, students can creatively to express their ideas, emotions, and opinions (Sari, Andini, 2024). However, many students experience difficulties in writing narrative texts, especially in putting their ideas into an interesting and coherent form of writing. This difficulty often arises because students do not understand how to organize story elements such as plot, character, and conflict well. In addition, they also have difficulty expressing their imagination and emotions freely, which is an important part of creative writing (Wibowo, 2013). Therefore, students need to understand the structure and function of language in narrative texts to develop ideas effectively and produce stories that can entertain readers. To overcome these difficulties, it is necessary to use appropriate strategies, such as freewriting and mind mapping, which can help students organize ideas and expand their creativity.

Freewriting is an initial strategy in the writing process that allows individuals to freely express their ideas, thoughts, and feelings without worrying about grammar rules, sentence structure, or the outcome of the writing (Sawsen & Sebti, 2022). Meanwhile, mind mapping is a highly effective strategy that promotes creative and critical thinking. It visually organizes and connects ideas around a

central concept, making complex topics more comprehensible according to (Susanti et al., 2023). When used together, freewriting and mind mapping create a dynamic synergy in the writing process. Freewriting helps generate raw, unfiltered ideas, while mind mapping organizes and structures those ideas into a coherent and logical framework. This combination not only enhances creativity but also facilitates the development of well-structured and engaging written work, making it particularly effective for tackling complex topics.

Based on the observations conducted with the English teacher at MA Al Munawwar in the 11th-grade, it was discovered that students faced significant challenges in writing narrative texts. One of the main problems identified was the low interest of students in writing activities, which directly impacted the quality of the texts they produced. Most students perceived writing as a difficult and burdensome task, making it hard for them to start and complete their writing. Several factors cause this problem; First, the limited vocabulary of many students makes it difficult to convey their ideas clearly and effectively. Second, frequent grammatical errors reduce their confidence in writing. Third, students often struggle to determine the main topic or ideas to develop, resulting in poorly structured texts.

These challenges are further exacerbated by the use of teaching strategies that are less engaging and insufficient to help students understand the writing process effectively. The teaching strategies currently employed are considered less varied and fail to motivate students to participate in writing activities actively. As a result, students face not only technical barriers, such as grammatical errors and limited vocabulary but also a lack of interest in developing their writing skills. This

situation highlights the need for innovations in teaching methods that are more relevant and supportive, enabling students to learn to write with greater confidence and focus, especially in the context of narrative texts.

Based on the background described above, it is important to use the right strategies to help students in class XI at Ma Al Munawwar learn to write better narrative text. The combination of Freewriting and mind-mapping strategies are used in this research to improve the writing creativity of narrative text. These strategies help students overcome challenges such as lack of ideas, grammatical errors, and low engagement in the writing process. Through this approach, students are expected to produce cohesive, engaging, and imaginative narrative text while building their confidence in writing. Based on several previous studies have applied either the Freewriting strategy Sinaga et al., (2022) or the mind mapping strategy Susanti et al., (2023) to improve students writing skill. However, there is a lack of research that combines these two strategies to improve students writing creativity, especially in writing narrative textat the Senior Islamic High School (MA) level. Therefore, this research aims to fill that gap by implementation “Combining the Use of Freewriting and Mind Mapping Strategies to Improve Writing Creativity of Narrative Text” (A Classroom Action Research in XI Students of MA Al Munawwar).

## **B. Formulation of the Problems**

1. How is the implementation of freewriting and mind mapping to improve students' writing creativity of narrative text?

2. How is the combination use of freewriting and mind mapping in improving students' writing creativity of narrative text?

### **C. Objective of the Study**

1. To describe the implementation of freewriting and mind-mapping in improving students' writing creativity of narrative text.
2. To examine the impact of the combination use of freewriting and mind mapping in improving students' writing creativity of narrative text.

### **D. Significances of the Study**

The following are several advantages that can be gained from this study including:

#### **1. Theoretical Significance**

In general, the findings of this research are expected to provide theoretical insights on the implementation of freewriting and mind mapping to improve writing creativity in narrative text for 11th-grade students at MA Al Munawwar. This research and effective writing is also expected to enrich the body of knowledge regarding innovative and effective writing teaching methods at the high school level.

#### **2. Practical Significance**

##### **a. For Researchers**

This research can serve as a reference for other researchers in improving creative writing teaching strategy, particularly by combining freewriting and mind mapping to improve student's writing creativity.

#### b. For Teachers

This research can be used as a guide for teachers in implementing the combination of freewriting and mind mapping to teach narrative text writing. The findings of this research can provide input in designing more creative and effective teaching strategies to improve students writing creativity.

### **3. Pedagogical Significance**

This research can assist teachers in determining and applying more effective teaching methods to improve students writing creativity, especially in writing narrative text. The freewriting and mind mapping are expected to help students generate creative ideas and organize their writing in a structured and systematic manner.

## **E. Definition of Key Terminologies**

### **1. Freewriting**

Freewriting is a basic writing strategy that aims to develop concepts, thoughts, and ideas freely without being bound by rules and structures Gay (2016). According to Sawsen & Sebti, (2022) Freewriting has also been an important strategy to improve students' motivation in writing. In line with this, Rahmawati & Sutyono, (2023) stated, freewriting not only assists students in generating ideas and expressing more easily, but also contributes to increasing students' motivation writing in English.

Based on the explanations from several experts above, it can be concluded that freewriting is a useful strategy to help students express their ideas freely, improve writing fluency, and motivate students in writing activities. The purpose of using

freewriting in this research is to help facilitate students in expressing ideas freely in writing narrative texts. This strategy can help the students to clarify ideas and find a more focused direction in writing.

## **2. Mind Mapping**

Mind mapping is a strategy that encourages effective and creative thinking (Susanti et al., 2023). Visually, it helps to organize and connect ideas around the main keyword or main idea to make the topic easier to understand. Polat & Akyol, (2021), explain that the mind-mapping strategy has been used for various purposes, such as connecting the main issues with supporting topics. Furthermore, according to Yeni Susanti et al., (2023), mind mapping is a teaching strategy that can be used in writing activities to help students develop their writing skills and achieve better results.

Based on the several experts' explanations, it can be concluded that mind mapping is an effective teaching strategy that encourages creative thinking, helps organize and connect ideas visually, and supports students in improving writing skills to achieve better learning outcomes. Thus, this mind-mapping strategy helps students organize the writing produced from freewriting and develop ideas and story structures in writing narrative texts in a more structured manner.

## **3. Writing Creativity**

Writing creativity is a form of expression that allows writers to use their imagination to captivate readers (Barton et al., 2024). It involves the ability to produce innovative and imaginative literary works Sari, (2017) where students are encouraged to imagine, express freely and generate unique ideas, especially in

writing narrative text. According to Harper & Kroll (2020), as cited by Fitria, (2024), the goal of creative writing is to entertain in the case of creative nonfiction and to craft persuasive prose.

Based on previous explanation, the researcher concluded that writing creativity is the ability to write imaginatively and uniquely to captivate readers, and in this research, it is aimed at helping students produce engaging and easily understood narrative writing through the implementation of freewriting and mind mapping strategies. In line with this, writing creativity in this research focuses on helping students produce engaging and easily understand narrative writing. To ensure that the students' narrative writing is engaging for readers and easy to understand, the process of writing creativity will be supported by the use of freewriting and mind-mapping strategies.

#### **4. Narrative Text**

Narrative text is a type of text that tells a story with the purpose of entertaining or informing the readers or listeners. Through composing a narrative text, students are able to express their ideas, emotions, and opinions in a creative way (Sari, et. al, 2024). In addition Mulyana, (2022) explained that narrative text is designed to entertain or delight the reader or listener and follows a specific structure, consisting of orientation, complication, and resolution. In general, narrative texts are categorized into two main types fictional and non-fictional texts (Jeffrey, 2016).

Based on the definitions above, it can be concluded that narrative text is a type of text that aims to entertain or convey information through a story, with a clear structure consisting of orientation, complication, and resolution. This text allows

students to express ideas, emotions, and opinions creatively, either in fictional or non-fictional form.