IMPROVING STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING PROCEDURE TEXT

USING REALIA

(A Classroom Action Research with Students of Grade VIIG

at SMP N 18 Semarang In the Academic Year of 2010/2011)

Thesis

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement

for Degree of Bachelor of Education

in English Language Education

By:

NURIA ULFI HIDAYATI

063411030

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING DEPARTMENT

OF TARBIYAH FACULTY WALISONGO STATE INSTITUTE

FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES SEMARANG

2010

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A Background of The Study

       Language is used as a means of communication in society. Language can be regarded as a human criterion only human being speaks a language. People use language to convey the message each other, also they believe that language is the way to introduce their social identity to the other[1]. Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary stated that "language is the system of sounds and words used by humans to express their thoughts and feelings". [2]

       There are many kinds of language in our life. Nowadays, English has become a very powerful language in the world. As one of international language, most communities in the world use English in communication. As the most important foreign language in Indonesia, English is one of the compulsory subjects taught in Junior High School (SMP), Senior High School (SMA), university, and now days English also is taught in Elementary school and even in the kindergarten. Moreover, English plays important role for all aspects because the development of science and technology is mostly transferred through it.

       Within his signs are the creation of earth and languages. So that, by using the language, we can know each other. The Quran also stated in Ar Ruum verse 22, it is stated as follows:

[Arabic Quranic verse rendered in symbol font]

---

[1] Janet Holmes, *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, (Longman : Pearson Education, 2001),2ndEd.,p.1.

[2] A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary,* (NY: Oxford University Press, 1987), p.662.

"And of his signs are the creation of heaven and earth and the diversity of your tongues and colours. Surely there are signs in this for all mankind[3]".

Based on the explanation above, it is impossible that Islam is called as the backstop religion of progress of science and technology. It is also incredible that Islam forbids the Moslem to learn English which has position as International Language.

The development of science and technology is mostly transferred through English. It gives many benefits and also backwash for us. So, our government hopes through master English, the students can acquire science and technology. Based on real situation, Learning English is not easy for Indonesian learners, because we know that English has become a lingua franca. A lingua franca can be defined as a language widely adopted for communication between two speakers whose native languages are different from each other and where one or both speakers are using it as a second language[4].

Recently there are many new information which is transferred using discourse or article from the Internet. It is become a fact that writing skill has crucial role. Writing is one of the four language skills that can be measurement of literacy development in a country. It is taught at least partly for educational, rather than solely linguistic reasons[5]. By the time, he reaches the advanced stages of learning English. The learner is exercising his powers of expression, persuasion, imagination, rhetoric, and using correct English as a vehicle for these achievements rather than as an end in itself. The researcher knows that the English writing is difficult; also it has language complex skills. A large number of research show that all this time teaching English writing only focuses on the theory of grammar or writing concept. The researcher

---

[3] Mahmud Y. Yazid, *The Quran : An English Translation of The Meaning of The Quran,*(Beirut : Dar Al Chopro, 1980), p. 297.

[4] Jeremy Harmer *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, (Longman: Pearson Education, 2001), 3 th Ed., p. 1.

[5] Peter Strevens, *New Orientation in The Teaching of English*, (Great Britain : Oxford University Press, 1977), p.64.

thinks that it doesn't enough to support the students in writing especially genre.

Each genre is characterized by a distinctive schematic structure, that is, by a distinctive beginning, middle and structure through which the social function of the genre is realized. While some purpose for writing remains constant across culture, the way in which these purpose are realized vary. Thus, it is likely that there will be considerable variation of genre between cultures. The "New Rhetoricians", they are Freedman and Medwey , prefers to see genres as typical expressions of rhetorical action. They define genres as[6]:

> Systems of complex literate activity constructed through typified actions – typified so that we were all to some extent aware of the form and force of these typified actions …. By using these typified texts, we are able to advance our own interests and shape our meanings in relation to complex social systems (Bazerman, 1994: 79).

The students usually find some difficulties when they are learning about genre and its writing. They cannot sit quietly and pay full attention during the lesson without doing anything, especially in procedure text. Because in this text type, the students are hoped can describe how something is accomplished through a sequence of actions or steps. So, it will be better if they can practice it, for example "how to make something". But many students have difficulties in writing procedure text. In SMP N 18 Semarang especially with students' of seventh grade, the students have difficulties in writing procedure text because sometime the teacher only explains what are the social function, generic structure and the lexicogrammatical function. So, the students have difficulties when they must write a procedure text based on their imagination and experiences only.

Regarding to those phenomena which is usually found in English teaching, especially in learning of writing procedure text. The research intends to use realia as an aid in this material. Realia is the real things true. She means

---

[6] Ken Hyland , *Teaching and Researching Writing,* (Great Britain: Pearson Education, 2002),p.10.

that the teacher use the real things to demonstrate how to make or operate something during learning process at procedure text material. Moreover, if the students also practice it and bring the real things to practice directly. So, they don't need imagine because they can practice it in the classroom using real thing. The researcher thinks that it will be better and more effective if she can apply it at Bilingual Class of SMP N 18 Semarang, because the students are not too much. Usually most of them have seriousness to study about English.

B. Reasons for Choosing The Topic

There are three main reasons why the researcher takes this topic to study:

1. Writing is a difficult language skill for the Junior High School students, and on the other hand writing has little portion in English teaching learning process. Thus, need to be researched based on the practical conduct in the classroom.

2. The researcher believes that using realia will improve students' ability in writing procedure text. Because realia as an aid that can be found in our surrounding.

3. The teacher can get optimal result of students in teaching writing through realia as an aid of teaching a procedure text.

C. Research Questions

Based on the problem that has been stated above, there are some problems that will be investigated through this study. The problems are:

1.How is the implementation of realia in teaching writing procedure text?

2.How can realia improve students' ability in writing procedure text?

D. Objectives of The Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the use of realia in teaching writing procedure text.

2. To describe the improvement of students' ability in writing procedure text after they have taught using realia.

E. Significance of The Study

This study is hoped can give some positive contributions to the English language learning context and will be beneficial for many sides such as for; students, teacher and for the next researcher:

1. For students

   The result of this study may help the students to improve their ability in writing procedure text. Besides that, it may help them to disappear their bored in learning.

2. For teachers

   Every teacher may apply realia as a media to improve students' ability in writing procedure text.

3. For the school

   It will make a right decision to use some media for support teaching and learning process.

4. For the readers

   They will get more information and experience from this research.

5. For the writer or the researcher

   She will get new knowledge and experience in teaching, writing procedure text using realia.

F. Scope of The Study

The scope of English study is so broad. We may not be able to reach all the aspects to be studied as a whole. Particularly in English learning context, there are so many components that may become the concern of the study such as the students, the textbook used, the materials, the process of teaching and learning, etc. Thus, the boundary of this study specifies on the teaching of writing focusing on:

1. The research subjects of this research are the students of grade seventh of SMP N 18 Semarang in academic year 2010/2011.

2. Realia as an aid that can be used to apply teaching writing procedure text.

3. The improvement of students' ability in writing procedure text.

C. Definition of Key Terms

1. Improving Students' Ability

Improve is defined to advance in value or good qualities; as a good education improves the mind and the manners[7].Improve can be meant to use or employ to good purpose; to make productive; to turn to profitable account; to use to good advantages[8].

Students are person, who are studying at a college or university, or person studying at secondary school or any person interested in a particular subject[9]. Ability is power to do (something physical or mental) or it can be meant as the state or quality of being able[10].

Students' ability can be meant something (power to do physically or mentally) that students who is studying at a college have, especially here is ability to write procedure text.

Thus, from the explanation above improving students' ability is advance in value or good qualities to students who is studying at a college.

2. Writing Procedure Text

Writing is usually thought to be the most difficult skill to acquire and should only be taught after students have learned the other skills[11].In many school, writing is principally conducted to demonstrate a knowledge of decontextualised facts with little awareness of a reader beyond the teacher – examiner.

---

[7] Simon and Schuster. *Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary*. (Unabridge: Noah Webster, 1972), 2nd Ed. p.917.

[8] Ibid.

[9] Oxford, *op.cit*, p.1187.

[10] Simon and Schuster.*op.cit*. p.4.

[11] Jack C. Richard and Willy A. Renandya, *Methodology in Language Teaching: An Anthology of Current Teaching*, (Cambridge: University Press), p.304.

Procedure text is a piece of text that gives us instructions for doing something. The purpose is to explain how something can be done[12].

Writing procedures help us do a task or make something. They can be a set of instructions or directions e.g. step by step method to germinate seeds.

3. Realia

According to Richards, Platt, and Platt in the Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics book, in language teaching Realia is actual objects and items which are brought into a classroom as examples or as aids to be talked or written about and used in teaching [13].

Realia is a term used in library science and education to refer to certain real – life object. In education, realia are objects from real life used in classroom instruction.

---

[12] Anderson, Mark and Kathy Anderson, *Text Types in English 1*, (South Yarra: Machmillan Education Malaysia, 1997), p.50.

[13] Bryan Smith, *"University of Arizona Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Tucson, Arizona 85721- virtual realia"*, Retrieved in Monday, December 25 th 2009 at 09.07 o'clock from http://iteslj.org/Articles/Smith-Realia.html