

**ANALYSIS OF USING COHERENCE IN WRITING ESSAY WRITTEN
BY THE ENGLISH STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG**

THESIS

*Submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements
to obtain a degree of Master of Education*



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ABSTRAK

Reni Septiwan. 19178032. 2022. Analisis Koherensi Dalam Menulis Esai Karya Mahasiswa Bahasa Inggris Universitas Negeri Padang. Tesis. Program Studi Magister Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni Universitas Negeri Padang.

Dalam menulis, para siswa harus mempertimbangkan koherensi terutama dalam menulis esai. Hal ini bertujuan untuk menghindari kesalahpahaman dalam membaca sebuah esai. Koherensi yang tepat memiliki peran penting dalam menulis. Berdasarkan penjelasan di atas, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tipe koherensi yang dominan digunakan mahasiswa dalam menulis esai, tingkat koherensi esai yang ditulis oleh mahasiswa Jurusan Bahasa Inggris, kesulitan mahasiswa dalam menggunakan koherensi dalam menulis esai, dan persepsi mahasiswa tentang kesulitan menggunakan koherensi dalam menulis esai di Universitas Negeri Padang. Selanjutnya, sumber data penelitian ini adalah karangan siswa yang ditulis sebagai ujian tengah semester dalam proses belajar mengajar. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif untuk mendeskripsikan koherensi dalam menulis esai yang ditulis oleh mahasiswa Universitas Negeri Padang. Dokumen dan angket tersebut digunakan untuk mengetahui koherensi dalam menulis esai yang ditulis oleh Universitas Negeri Padang. Sebagai hasil penelitian, analisis yang berkaitan dengan koherensi dalam menulis esai diidentifikasi dan diklasifikasikan berdasarkan beberapa indikator. Untuk menentukan koherensi penulisan esai, terdiri dari pengulangan kata benda kunci, penggunaan kata ganti yang konsisten, penggunaan sinyal transisi, dan urutan logis. Selanjutnya dapat dilihat bahwa tipe koherensi esai yang ditulis oleh mahasiswa Jurusan Bahasa Inggris pada tingkat yang baik, itu mendapat 2,80 dari 4,00. Kemudian, tingkat koherensi esai yang ditulis oleh mahasiswa Jurusan Bahasa Inggris pada tingkat yang baik dengan skor rata-rata 60. Selanjutnya, yang paling sulit dalam menggunakan koherensi ketika menulis esai adalah menyusun ide dalam urutan logis, itu adalah 2,44 dari 4,00.

Kata kunci : Koherensi, Bahasa Inggris, Esai, Menulis

ABSTRACT


Reni Septiwan. 19178032. 2022. Analysis of Coherence in Writing Essay Written by English Students at Universitas Negeri Padang. Thesis. Program Studi Magister Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni Universitas Negeri Padang.

Students must consider coherence when writing, particularly when writing essays. When reading an essay, it aimed to avoid misunderstandings. In writing, appropriate coherence plays a crucial role. Based on the preceding explanation, this study aimed to determine the English Department students' level of coherence in their essays, their difficulties with using coherence in writing essays, and their perception of coherence in essay writing at Universitas Negeri Padang. In addition, the essay that students wrote during a midterm exam as part of the teaching learning process served as the data source. This study was descriptive research which to describe the coherence of the Universitas Negeri Padang students' essays. Document was used to determine the essay's coherence at Universitas Negeri Padang. The study identified and categorized the analysis pertaining to essay coherence based on a number of indicators. The use of transition signals, repetition of key nouns, consistency in pronoun usage, and logical order were all factors in determining an essay's coherence. In addition, it is evident that the students were instructed to use repeating key nouns the most frequently in their essays. It got 2,80 out of 4,00. The English Department students' level of coherence in their essays was good, with a mean score of 60. Last, students rated logically arranging ideas as the most challenging aspect of using coherence in an essay at 2,44 out of 4,00.

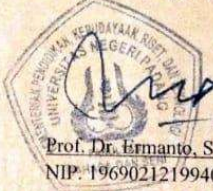

Keywords: Coherence, English, Essay, Writing

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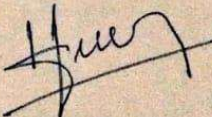
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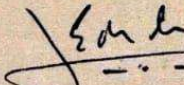
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Saya yang menyatakan

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

One of the methods that people are utilizing to connect is writing. Written communication, on the other hand, is less common than oral communication. Because of its practicality, this phenomenon is rational because people communicate primarily verbally. Nevertheless, this does not imply that writing does not play an important part in human communication. The fact that people can only recall the societies of the past through writing of historical objects is one example of the value of writing. Additionally, people can communicate over the written word regardless of distance or time.

In regards to the crucial role that writing plays in communication, the capacity to write receives a significant amount of discussion at each stage of language learning. Every student, for instance, is required to write an academic paper as part of the undergraduate degree requirements at the university level. A type of writing that focuses on academic subjects is called academic writing. Among other things, it is used to write essays, journals, and articles. This style is also used to write dissertations, theses, and thesis proposals. Then, coherence is one of important aspects of academic writing. As a result, each type of academic writing requires coherence.

Coherence is a characteristic of academic writing. However, academic writers benefit from using coherence to logically and smoothly organize their

ideas. Additionally, it lets readers follow the writers' thoughts throughout their writing. Therefore, coherence is essential for producing high-quality academic writing alongside coherence. As a result, readers and writers alike must pay attention.

Some experts emphasize the significance of these two aspects of coherence in writing. Good writing possesses unity, coherence, and cohesion, according to Boardman (2008). Any kind of writing, but especially academic writing, requires these qualities. Furthermore, Farrugia et al. (in Clare & Hamilton, 2004:41) argue that the research text seeks coherence as one of its essential qualities. Because of their significance, students must therefore comprehend and master these two components in writing, particularly at the university or higher education level.

Regarding the preceding paragraph, for instance, every undergraduate student is required to produce an academic paper as one of the requirements for receiving their degree at the university level. To put it another way, the intellectual capacity of the students can only be acknowledged if they are able to write academically. Additionally, they must adhere to the current writing and grammar rules, which should not hinder their oral communication.

For instance, not only do they encounter the issues outlined above when writing English texts, but their lack of vocabulary also has an impact on their writing. However, since English Department students already possess a sufficient number of words for straightforward writing, a lack of vocabulary

should not be a major issue for them. The exact issue is related to their writing's coherence. Unity and coherence are essential in academic writing, particularly when writing theses. To earn an undergraduate degree, students in the English education department at Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP) are required to write a thesis. However, writing a coherent background for the research issue in their theses is difficult for them. In fact, they have a lot of issues. There could be a number of reasons for these issues. As a result, investigation is essential.

When writing an essay, students encounter a variety of coherent writing issues. The first issue with coherence is not key noun repetition or key nouns as a whole. It happened when key nouns were absent or did not appear repeatedly. The use of pronouns is inappropriate and the second one is lacking. Because no pronouns are used or they were not used, it did not belong. Another issue is the inappropriate or missing use of transition signals. It occurs as a result of a lack of connection between the ideas that formed the foundation of the thesis study. The subsequent issue is absent, and logical order is inappropriate. It happens because writing organization isn't used properly or isn't used at all.

The students have a hard time writing a coherent essay for a number of reasons. Numerous factors could be to blame for these issues. The first one is students' lack of knowledge, which refers to their fundamental ability to write coherent essays. The second one is lack of paragraph writing skills. The ability to write paragraphs is crucial to creating a coherent essay. Additionally, the

essay consists of some paragraphs, which are crucial to the organization of the written ideas. The issue arises when students lack the writing skills necessary to organize their thoughts. Numerous academics have conducted research on coherence due to its significance. Abbas (2017) emphasized unity and coherence in scientific essay writing. Yona, et al (2013) conducted research on the unity and coherence of students' paragraph writing. In addition, coherence research in the national scene column in the Jakarta Post was conducted by Auli (2012). These previous studies shed light on a different kind of academic writing, such as argumentative paragraph, paragraph of writing, and composition of paragraph. It might have coherences that need to be investigated. Therefore, this study has the potential to fill a void in essay coherence research.

A. Identification of the Problem

The first problem that can be identified based on the background of the problem is the students' lack of knowledge, which refers to their fundamental competence in writing coherent essays. Second, the students don't know how to write paragraphs well. The ability to write paragraphs is crucial to creating a coherent essay. Additionally, the essay is broken up into several paragraphs, which are crucial for keeping the ideas organized. The issue arises when students lack the writing skills necessary to organize their thoughts. As a result, the study's primary objective is to investigate the coherence of student essay writing.

B. Limitation of the Problem

The problem of this research was limited to the coherence of essay written by English students at UNP, addressing the background and identification of the problem mentioned above.

C. Formulation of the Problem

Referring to the limitation of this research problem, this research was formulated into the question “how are the coherence of English students’ essay that written at UNP?”.

D. Research Questions

Related to the formulation of the problem above, research questions were stated as follows;

1. How are types of coherence essay written by the English department students at UNP?
2. How is level of coherence essay written by the English department students at UNP?
3. How are the students’ perception related to the difficulties using coherence essay?

E. Purpose of the Research

Based on the research questions that have been formulated, this study is intended:

1. To find out types of coherence essay written by the English department students at UNP
2. To find out level of coherence essay written by the English department students at UNP
3. To find out the students' perception related to the difficulties using coherence essay?

F. Significance of the Research

It is anticipated that this study's findings will theoretically and practically contribute to the study of writing, particularly the writing of a research proposal. Theoretically, the study's findings should improve students' use of coherence in their writing. Practically, it is anticipated that this study's findings will serve as a model for maintaining unity and coherence in writing, particularly when writing a background for a research proposal.

G. Definition of the Key Terms

Several words belonging to the key terms of this research need to be operationally defined. They are:

1. Coherence is a clear, smooth, and logical flow of ideas, such as from one sentence to next sentence that creates meaning for the readers.
2. Essay is one of academic writing that consist several paragraphs.
3. Writing is one of English subject that should taken by English students.