APPLYING PARAPHRASING TECHNIQUE IN TEACHING READING COMPREHENSION AT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

PAPER

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Obtain Strata One (S1) Degree



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2011

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. In the name of Allah, the most gracious and merciful. Syukur Alhamdulillah is praise to Allah SWT, who has given the writer the strength and chance to complete her paper entitled "Applying Paraphrasing Technique in Teaching Reading Comprehension at Senior High Schools". She also sends shalawat and salam to the prophet Muhammad SAW as a leader for human being.

In this occasion, she would like to express her sincere gratitude to her advisor Drs. Zainuddin Amir, M.Pd who gave his time, guidance, valuable advice and support toward the improvement of this paper. Then she also sends her gratitude to Yuli Tiarina, S.Pd, M.Pd and Havid Ardi, S.Pd, M.Hum as her examiners, and Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, M.A as her academic advisor.

Then, she would like to express her appreciation to Dr. Kusni, M.Pd and Dra. An Fauzia Rozani Syafei, M.A as the chairman and secretary of English Department, State University of Padang. She also thanks all lectures of the English Department who have guided her during her academic study.

The writer's deepest gratitude is addressed to her beloved parents, Syafridon and Alya Misnir, for their sacrifice and great love, care, and encouragement over the time. In addition, she also thanks her brother (Syafri Valmi Riko Putra) and her sister (Rilia Selfri Wahyuni), and all of her big family (Nenek, Mak uwo & Pak uwo, Acik, Etek, Sopi, and Tika) for giving support, prays and encouragement in finishing this paper.

Finally, her thanks are also addressed to Hari Azwar, her best friends (opung, butet, cija, sherly (almh), vee, and tuit), and all of her friends at English Department, the 2005 generation.

Padang, Januari 2011

Susi Salfrianti

ABSTRAK

Salfrianti, Susi. 2011. Applying Paraphrasing Technique in Teaching Reading Comprehension at Senior High Schools

Membaca merupakan salah satu kemampuan yang sangat penting bagi siswa SMA, karena dengan membaca mereka akan dapat memperoleh berbagai macam informasi. Oleh karena itu, membaca merupakan aktivitas yang sangat penting untuk perkembangan pengetahuan siswa, akan tetapi kebanyakan siswa SMA ketika membaca teks berbahasa Inggris mereka hanya sekedar membaca, mereka kurang bisa memahami isi teks tersebut. Untuk itu, dalam makalah ini penulis mencoba menguraikan salah satu teknik yang bisa digunakan oleh guru dalam mengajar *reading*, yaitu *paraphrasing technique*. Dalam teknik ini siswa dituntut untuk menceritakan kembali isi teks/bacaan yang telah mereka baca dengan menggunakan kata- kata mereka sendiri, tanpa merubah makna asli dari bacaan tersebut.

Dalam pengaplikasian teknik ini ada beberapa langkah-langkah yang harus dilakukan oleh guru, pertama *pre teaching activities*, dalam kegiatan ini guru akan memberikan beberapa pertanyaan yang berkaitan dengan materi kepada siswa, kemudian *whilst teaching activities*, dalam kegiatan ini guru baru mulai mengaplikasikan *paraphrasing technique* dalam pengajaran *reading*, pertamatama guru menyuruh siswa untuk membaca teks yang telah diberikan, kemudian guru meminta siswanya untuk mencari *main idea* dan kata-kata sulit yang ada dalam teks (perparagraf), dan setelah itu guru meminta siswa untuk membuat paragraf baru dengan menggunakan kata-kata mereka sendiri. Dengan menggunakan teknik ini diharapkan agar siswa SMA dapat memperbaiki kemampuan mereka dalam memahami teks/bacaan yang berbahasa Inggris, karena dengan menggunakan kata-kata sendiri siswa lebih mudah untuk mengingat apa yang telah mereka baca.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Reading is one of the basic skills that should be taught to senior high school students. It can be a tool for gathering information; the students can exchange the information by reading. It is extremely needed since a lot of books and other references are written in English. Besides, the students can achieve knowledge by using their reading abilities.

However, in reality, most students still face many problems when they read. First, they mostly know how to read but they get problems when they are trying to comprehend the text. They often get difficulties to grasp the author's attention in the text. Therefore, they cannot achieve their purpose in reading. Ahn (1999) states that the students were struggling to explain "in their own words" their answers to reading assignments. In many cases, the students would copy answers to their homework assignments word for word from their textbook.

Second, the materials or textbooks that are used. Some reading materials or textbooks are not interesting for senior high school students. Many books have texts with long paragraphs and the students need much time to read them. Then, it is difficult for the teacher to choose an appropriate text for each reading level in order to get the better result in reading. Therefore, the students can't comprehend the text well.

The last problem is the way or technique that the teacher used in teaching. The teacher still uses conventional technique in teaching reading. The

teacher only distributes the texts and asks the students to read aloud one by one. When the students find unfamiliar words, the teacher will ask the students to look for them in dictionary, and if they can't find them, the teacher will explain the meaning of these unfamiliar words. At the end, the teacher asks the students to answer the questions given. The boring techniques used by the teacher will make the students bored and not enthusiastic to follow the lesson. Therefore, it will be difficult for them to catch the meaning, especially in reading a certain type of text.

Here, as a solution the teacher can apply paraphrasing technique in teaching reading comprehension. Through this technique, it is assumed that the students can comprehend the text based on their understanding to the text. By paraphrasing, they will get all information from the text because they do not need to translate all sentences in a paragraph. However, they can restate the text or paragraph by using their own word without changing the meaning of the author's opinion.

Based on the problem above, the writer thinks that paraphrasing technique is one technique that can be apply in teaching reading comprehension. The writer assumed this technique could improve the students' ability in reading comprehension. Paraphrasing technique itself is a technique that restatement of an author's original ideas into the reader's own words when reading a text (Haqin: 2005). Its purpose is to help the students understanding the original text fully.

B. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification problem above, the writer limits the problem on how the teacher applies paraphrasing technique in teaching reading comprehension.

C. Formulation of the Problem

The problem is formulated as follow: how can the teacher apply paraphrasing technique in teaching reading comprehension?

D. Purpose of the Paper

This paper is aimed to explain one technique that can be applied by the teacher in teaching reading that is paraphrasing technique. By using this technique, the teacher can improve students' ability in reading comprehension, and can make the students interested and enthusiastic to follow the lesson. It will discuss in procedure how to apply paraphrasing technique in teaching reading comprehension.