

**Using Word Webs Game in Teaching Writing Descriptive
Text at Junior High School Students**

Paper

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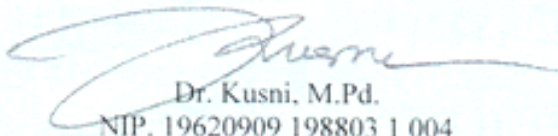
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Abstrak

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Menulis merupakan salah satu bagian terpenting dalam pelajaran Bahasa Inggris. Tujuan dari pengajaran keterampilan menulis ini adalah untuk membantu siswa dalam menulis dan memahami teks tersebut. Berdasarkan Kurikulum yang dipakai di Indonesia (Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan), siswa kelas VII SMP harus memiliki kemampuan dalam memahami dan menulis teks desriptive dan beberapa jenis text lainnya. Namun pada umumnya siswa mengalami kesulitan dalam memahami dan menulis teks desriptive ini. Salah satu penyebabnya adalah siswa kurang mampu menyampaikan ide mereka dalam bentuk tulisan. Dalam mengatasi masalah tersebut, penulis mencoba membahas tentang teknik pengajaran dengan menggunakan *word webs* sebagai teknik untuk meningkatkan kemampuan siswa dalam menulis khususnya dalam teks desriptive. Dalam kegiatan ini, guru terlebih dahulu menjelaskan langkah-langkah yang akan dipelajari dan guru memodelkan langkah-langkah dalam menulis teks desriptive dengan menggunakan teknik *word webs*. Sebelum pembelajaran dimulai, guru menyiapkan beberapa gambar yang berfungsi sebagai *word webs* game. Setelah itu guru menyuruh siswa untuk membuat sebuah teks desriptive berdasarkan langkah-langkah yang telah dimodelkan guru sebelumnya dalam bentuk kelompok. Kemudian guru menyuruh dua kelompok untuk menulis tulisan mereka di papan tulis. Setelah itu guru membuat kesimpulan tentang materi yang telah dipelajari. Melalui *word webs* ini, penulis berharap dapat membantu siswa dalam menulis sehingga mudah bagi siswa untuk menuangkan ide kedalam bentuk tulisan. Penulis berharap agar guru menggunakan teknik ini dalam pengajaran menulis khususnya dalam teks desriptive sehingga siswa mudah menyampaikan ide mereka dalam bentuk tulisan sehingga menghasilkan sebuah teks desriptive yang baik.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

HALAMAN JUDUL

HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN MAKALAH

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN MAKALAH

ABSTRAK i

AKNOWLEDGMENTS ii

TABLE OF CONTENTS iv

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem	1
B. Identification of the Problem	4
C. Limitation of the Problem	4
D. Formulation of the Problem	4
E. The Purpose of the Paper	4

CHAPTER II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. The Nature of Writing.....	5
B. Teaching Writing to Junior High School Students.....	7
C. The Concept of Descriptive text	8
1. Type of descriptive text	8
2. The generic structure of descriptive text.....	10
3. The Language Feature of Descriptive Text	10
D. The Concept of the Word Webs Game	11

CHAPTER III. DISCUSSION

A. Teaching Preparation For The Applying Word Webs Game in Teaching

Descriptive Writing 14

1. Selecting Material 14

2. Media 14

3. Lesson Plan 15

B. Teaching Preparation 15

C. Teaching Procedure 16

1. Pre - Teaching Activity 16

2. Whilst – Teaching Activity 17

3. Post – Teaching Activity 20

D. The Advantages of Using Jumbled Sentences 21

E. The Limitation of Application 21

CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions 23

B. Suggestions 23

BIBLIOGRAPHY 25

APPENDIX 27

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the problem

English is an important part in education. In Indonesia, English is one of the subjects learned in educational institution. English is taught from Elementary school until university level. When the students learn English, they should master four skills. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. One of the important skills is writing. By writing, the students not only can communicate with other people but also express their idea, feeling, thought and experience. In addition, by writing the students try to communicate with other people who are not present, not listening and not looking at their gestures of social expression. Besides that, by writing the students can also think critically and logically. It causes they have to write sentences correctly in order to be easy to understand by the reader.

In School Base Curriculum or *Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan* (KTSP in 2006), the students are required to be able to communicate both in oral and written competence by using many kinds of the texts. In this case, the first grade students of Junior High School learn various types of text. The texts that should be learned by them are narrative, news item, procedure, recount and descriptive text.

Among these texts, descriptive text is one of the texts that should be understood and be written by the students in the English subject at Junior High School. Descriptive text is a text that describes about the specific thing or specific person. It is designed to persuade the reader to imagine the object being described

clearly. To write a descriptive text well, the students have to know some information about the object that going to be described. Descriptive text has two generic structures, which are identification and description. In identification the students have to identify what is going to be described and in the description, they have to describe the specific thing or person clearly, in writing descriptive text, the students need to use present tense, noun, noun phrase, adjective and others.

During the conduction of student teaching program it was found that at SMP N 4 Padang Panjang. Descriptive text is a simple text to write but many students in junior high school still get problems in writing a descriptive text. The problems in writing descriptive text can be caused by several factors, the students and the teacher. From the students' side, first, they are not able to organize their idea, so they do not know how to start writing. If the students have the problem in beginning, they do not able to finish it well. Second, the students also do not understand the generic structure and language feature of the descriptive text. Third, the students are not able to write an assignment and get distracted easily during writing task. Fourth, they suffer from mental fatigue and tiredness while writing and in consistent legibility in writing. Furthermore, the students also have other problems such as poor vocabulary and find difficulty with sentence structure and word order.

Beside the student's problem in writing descriptive text, the problems also come from the teacher. First, the teacher does not give clear explanation of a descriptive text and the examples of the text. Most of the teacher only teaches the students by using English textbook; sometimes the students do not have enough background knowledge about the topic in the text book. Second, in teaching

learning process, the teacher does not use the media that appropriate with material. Third, the teacher does not give more practical- exercise to the students. The last the teacher does not give a feedback to the students about the material that they have learn.

Because of the conditions above, the teacher has to be able to handle those problems in order to help the students in teaching writing, especially in writing a descriptive text. The teacher is expected to be more active in facilitating their students with interesting materials and giving variation in teaching process.

Harmer's (2004) state that there are four stages in writing, there are planning, drafting, editing and the result is final draft. In making of their writing, the students are prepared to write, how to draft their writing, how to reflect and revise and produce their final writing. The problem occurs when the students are not able to start their writing, to draft and to edit it. During the making of their writing, they are also not able to relate their ideas of each sentence and develop it to become a good descriptive text as well as to use correct grammatical words.

In order to face a technique which is supposed the writer offer a technique which is supposed to be able to improve students' writing namely through the word webs game. Word webs game is a game that combines words with each other, like trees and word webs factor of this game may attract the attention of students to pay attention and be able to remember vocabulary. In short, using word webs in teaching writing descriptive text will be a valuable way because it will help the students in making a good descriptive text.

Related to the problem above, the teacher should develop good techniques in order to make students able to write and interested in writing a descriptive text.

It is hoped that the writer can help the teacher in teaching writing a descriptive text by using word webs to junior high school students.

B. Limitation of the problem

The paper is limited to the application of using word webs game to teach writing descriptive text at junior high school students.

C. Formulation of the problem

The problem of this paper is formulated as follow: “how does the teacher use word webs game in teaching writing descriptive text at junior high school?”

D. Purpose of the paper

The purpose of this paper is to describe the activities in order to develop student’s writing by using the word webs game in English. This paper is aimed to give another contribution for teaching writing. Beside that it gives a useful insight and new teaching media for foreign language for students and teacher to enrich their writing development.